

Laurie Wisbrun

pattern and textile design



Scarlet Fig

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<http://scarletfig.etsy.com>

Materials:

- ½ yard fabric for bag (I used my original Couches fabric in red)
- cut 1 piece 17" x 27"
- ½ yard of lining

I would use something 'slippery' so it's easier to slide your mat in/out of the bag

- Cut 1 piece 17" x 27"

½ yard of contrast fabric for strap and bottom of bag

- Cut 2 pieces 2-1/2" x 38" for strap
- Cut 2 piece 2" x 38" for tie
- Cut 1 piece for bottom of bag (see below)

To cut the circle piece for the bottom.

I just stood my rolled up mat on the fabric and traced a circle approx. 1" from the edge of the mat.



To sew the straps.

Place the (2) 2-1/2" wide pieces right sides together. Sew ¼" seams all the way down both long sides. Turn the strap right side out. You can use a safety pin as something to hold onto as you guide the strap back through itself. Iron the strap flat. Use a zig zag stitch and sew down both long sides.



To sew the tie.

Place the (2) 2" wide pieces right sides together. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams all the way down both long sides. Turn the strap right side out. You can use a safety pin as something to hold onto as you guide the strap back through itself. Iron the strap flat. Fold it in $\frac{1}{2}$ and sew a straight seam as close to the open edge as you can.

Now you're going to start sewing the bag. Take your fabric and fold in $\frac{1}{2}$ so it's still 27" long. You need to make sure you leave enough space to make your drawstring pocket. Measuring from the top edge you're going to make 2 marks. The first will be at 2" and the second will be at 5". Start sewing from the 2" mark and go all the way to the bottom. You will now have a tube.



Now you're going to attach one end of your strap. Feed the strap up into the tube. Take the strap and fold over by $\frac{1}{4}$ at the end. Take that fold and line it up so the top of the strap is 3" from the opening you left in the previous step. Pin the strap onto the right side of the bag so the top of the strap is 3" from where the seam starts. (You can check where 3" is by looking on the wrong side of the bag and finding

the mark you made earlier. Sew the strap to the bag, making sure you're reinforcing your stitches. You could use a zig zag here to make it look pretty.



Your bag should still be wrong side out. Pin the circle to the bottom opening. Once you have everything lined up and pinned, take out 1-2 pins so you can feed the other end of your strap through so you have ¼" of the strap peeking out. Make sure your strap isn't twisted by looking inside the tube and making sure everything in there is straight. Sew ¼ from the edge along the circle.



To make the channel where the tie will go.

With bag still wrong side out, fold down a 1/4" edge. Sew a seam close to the fold.



Turn bag right side out. Lookee! A bag! Almost done....

Sew the lining

Sew long edges of lining together, right sides facing each other. You will have a tube. Leave the tube right sides together. Slip the lining inside the bag.

Attach the lining to the bag and make the channel for the tie

Take edge of bag and fold in 1". Pin down on top of the lining. Now sew around the edge right on top of the ¼ seam you sewed earlier.

(Note: These pictures don't show the seam you sewed in the previous step. You should see a seam right above the point in the yellow pin. My pictures got out of order when I was sewing. Sorry!)



Now you need to secure the bottom of the lining to the bottom of the bag. Turn the bag inside out. In the seam allowance, sew a few stitches to tack down the lining. I just sewed 5 or 6 stitches at 12, 3, 6 and 9 (if you were looking at a clock.) Just make sure you are sewing in the seam allowance to make sure it doesn't show through to the other side.

