

Free Spirit 



Featuring Winter Joy by Cori Dantini

Eco-Friendly Gift Bag

Gift bags made with beautiful fabrics that can be re-cycled - a gift within a gift!

Technique: Pieced | Skill Level: Advanced Beginner



Eco-Friendly Gift Bag

Supplies

Fabric Requirements for one bag

(2) Fat Quarters; select one as the outside fabric, one as the lining fabric.

Additional Recommendations

100% cotton thread in colors to match Removable fabric marker

Cutting Instructions

From both fat quarters, cut:

For a Large Bag:

- (1) 3" x 22" strip, set aside for bag ties.
- (2) 11" x 15" rectangles

For a Small Bag:

- (1) 3" x 22" strip, set aside for bag ties.
- (2) 8" x 10" rectangles

Instructions

1. Outside Fabric: On both 15" sides; measure down 2" from top; mark a line the width of your seam allowance, $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Repeat again, this time $3\frac{1}{2}$ " from top.
2. Snip seam allowance at the marks. Fold in that edge and topstitch. Do this on each outside fabric piece.
3. Place outside fabric pieces, RST, aligning top edges and side openings. Sew from top edge to top of side opening. Start again on other side of opening, and continue around edges of bag. Continue sewing to bottom of opening on other side. Start again on other side of opening, and continue to top edge.
4. Working with lining pieces; on one 11" side, mark opening in center, 2" apart. This will be the bottom of the lining. **Do not** sew between these two marks; this will be the opening to turn the bags right side out, in Step 7. Sew two lining pieces, RST, starting at top on one side and sew down the side and across the bottom to the first mark. Start again at the next mark, and continue to sew around to the top.
5. Make boxed corners on both the outside piece and lining. Using a ruler, draw a 2" box on the left and right corners of the outside piece. Cut out square on both sides. Finger press all the seams open, about 2" on either side of the opening. Starting on left corner, bring side seam to bottom seam, matching seam lines. Sew opening, starting and stopping at each end, using the same $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Repeat on the right corner. Do the same on the lining piece.
6. Turn outside piece right side out. Keep lining piece inside out and place outside piece within the lining, RST. Position two bag pieces so corners and side seams line up. Align top raw edges; sew.
7. Using opening in the bottom of the lining piece, turn bags right side out. Sew opening of lining closed, either by hand or machine. Position lining inside the bag.
8. Lay bag flat and press. To make channel for ties, mark two lines on outside fabric, using an erasable fabric marking pen, all the way around top of the bag aligning the lines with the side openings.
9. Sew on each marked line.
10. Finish bag by top stitching $\frac{1}{8}$ " from top edge of bag.
11. To make bag ties, press each strip in half, length wise, fold each long edge to the middle. Press. Sew around each end and the long edge, about $\frac{1}{8}$ " from edge. Feed through openings of the bag, and you're ready to go!