

## YOUNG QUILTERS

### Stripy Bag

#### Requirements (Kit contains)

#### *measurements*

2 x pieces thin cotton wadding	12" x 6" (30cm x 15cm) support for striped panel
2 x pieces plain fabric	12" x 4.5" (30cm x 12cm) side tops
2 x pieces plain fabric	12" x 6" (30cm x 15cm) side bottoms
10 x multicoloured fabric strips	12" x 1.5" (30cm x 4cm) stripes
2 x cotton lining fabric	12" x 15" (30cm x 35cm) lining
4 x multicoloured fabric strips	12" x 3.5" (30cm x 9cm) handles

Finished bag size: width 11" x height 14" (23cm x 35cm) approx.

#### Instructions

##### 1. Make the two handles

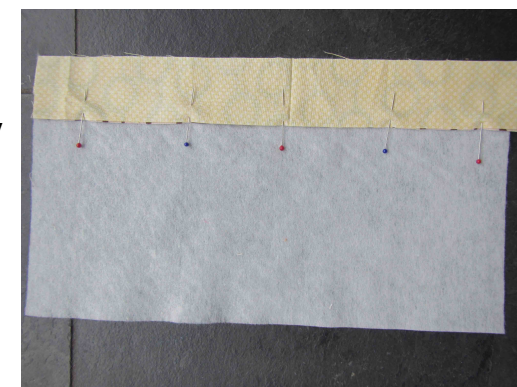


Join two of the handle pieces 12" x 3.5" (30cm x 9cm) together across one of the short ends and repeat for the second handle. Press the seam to one side. Fold each handle in half lengthwise and press with the right sides together. Pin and stitch along the raw edges 1cm from the edge to make a tube. Turn right-side out and press flat with the seam in the centre of one side. Put the finished handles to one side.

##### 2. Make the stitch and flip panel of stripes

Lay one of the strips on top of another, right-sides together and lay them on top of the wadding, lines up to one of the long edges, pin in place and stitch through the three layers as shown (ie. not close to the edge of the wadding).

Open up the strips and use your fingers to press it open to make it flat.



Lay the third strip on top of the second strip, right-sides together and stitch again.

Repeat until all five strips are stitched and press them flat with the iron.

Make the other side the same, you can change the order of the stripes if you like.

If the wadding is larger than the stripy panel, trim the edges to neaten before the next stage.



### **3. Attach the top and bottom bag pieces to the stripy panel**

Attach one top piece and one bottom piece to each end of stripy pieces and repeat to make two bag sides with stripes in the middle. The bottom pieces are larger than the top pieces. Open the seams and press them flat with the iron.

### **4. Attach the handles to the bag sides**

Pin the handles to the top of each bag side, make sure that the seam of the handles is facing up so you have the bag and the handle right-sides together.

You will need to measure to make sure the handle ends are equal distances from the centre point of the side of the bag. The one in the picture is 1.5" (4cm) from the centre so there is a 3" (8cm) gap in between the inner edge of the handles.

Once you are happy with your handle location and each side matches, place a lining piece face down on top of the right-side of the bag, trapping the handle between. Pin across the top and stitch the top seam.



Open the seam and press it open, then press the lining towards the inside of the bag.

### **5. Neaten the edges of each bag side**

If the lining and bag are not exactly the same size, trim so they are. Make sure both sides of the bag are the same size too.

Pin the bag side to the lining on the sides and base and use a large zigzag stitch down one side, across the bottom and up the other side, on each piece to neaten the bag and lining pieces and attach them together.

## 6. Attach the two bag sides together

Place the two bag sides with the right-sides together and the handles at the top, and pin the sides and base together. Stitch down one side, across the bottom and up the other-side. Make sure you secure stitch the beginning and end stitches, you don't want the bag to fall apart!

## 7. Shape the bottom of the bag

Turn up one bottom corner by 1.5" (4cm) and pin, as shown. Machine stitch along the seam line, through all the layers. Secure stitch at each end for strength.

Flip the bag over and turn up the other bottom corner the same, but on the other side, and stitch the same as before.

You will have one corner turned up to the front of the bag and the other to the back, creating a twist in the bag bottom. It will look strange!

Turn the bag right-side out and poke your finger into those turned up corners to make them nice and square. Fold in the pleat you have formed at the bottom and give it a good press.

**I think you have finished! Well done.**

