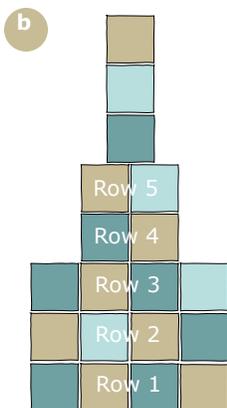
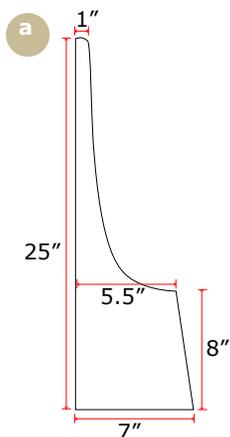


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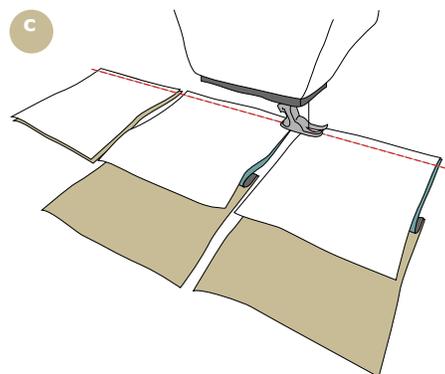
Süße Sac (Sweet Bag) Tutorial



Süße (sooseh) means "sweet" in German. And a sweet bag like this just begs you to make at least one!

1. First, you need to make a pattern. I drew mine on tracing paper, but yours could be on newspaper or a brown paper bag, or whatever you have handy. The dimensions in figure **a** make a shoulder bag, but you can shorten the handles for a handbag if you wish. The curve is not critical; draw what pleases you.

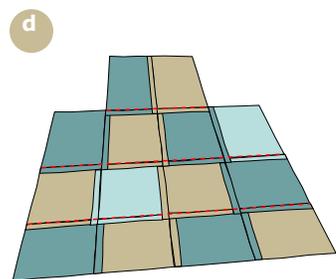
2. Choose a fabric or two for the interior of your bag and fold over at a little more than 7". Place your pattern piece with the long edge on the fold and cut out one interior piece. You can make your second piece out of the same fabric, or out of a coordinating fabric, in the same manner. You need to also cut one piece for the solid half of the exterior of your sac. You now have three purse shapes cut out of fabric, although the fabrics may not all be the same, depending on your tastes.



3. Cut out 17 squares of coordinating fabrics for the patchwork side of the bag (figure **b**). They should be 4" square, although the ones in row five can be a little narrower.

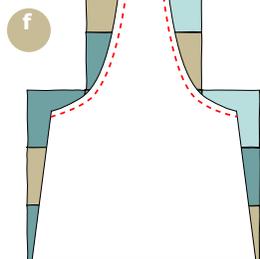
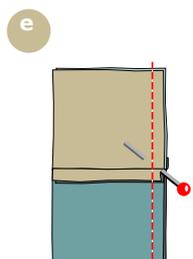
4. Sew the squares together in rows using a 1/4" seam allowance. You can sew right off the end of one pair and onto the next to save you and your machine the hassle of all those long thread ends from pulling out each finished pair and starting the next from scratch. (Figure **c**. This is called chain piecing.)

5. Press the seam allowances in each row in the same direction. Press each row in alternating directions.



6. Now sew the rows together (figure **d**). Butt the opposing seam allowances together and pin at an angle facing away from the direction you will sew. This will ensure that the corners of your squares will line up nicely and you can sew right up to the seam before you have to take the pin out (figure **e**).

7. Place one of your interior pieces face down on the patchwork (which is face up) and pin in place. Use the solid piece of fabric as a pattern to cut the same shape out of the patchwork. Keep the pins in place and sew the two pieces together, only along the curved side, using a 1/4" seam (figure **f**).

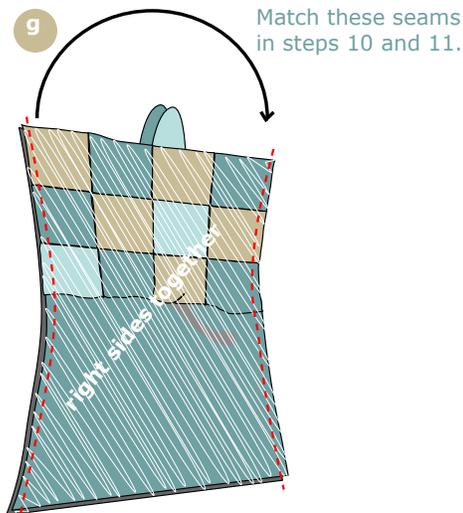


8. Sew the other interior piece and the solid exterior piece together, also along the curved side. Notch the curves and then turn the pairs right sides out and press smooth.

9. Open up the pairs and place them right sides together, making sure to match interior fabric with interior fabric and exterior to exterior (figure **g**). Sew the side seams using a 1/4" seam and pivoting as necessary when you get to the handle seams. You can butt the handle seams here as well to avoid bulk. Press side seams open.

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Süße Sac Tutorial (continued)

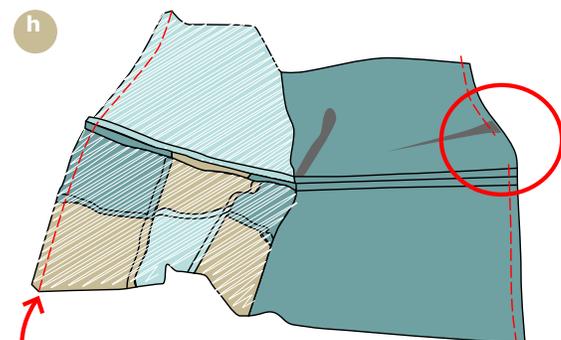


10. Match the side seams on the exterior pieces so they are now in the **center** and right sides are together. If you would like to add fringe to the bottom of your bag, insert it now, with fringe facing inward. Sew the bottom of the bag with a 1/4" seam allowance.

11. Match the seams on the interior pieces in the same way and sew the bottom interior seam. Be sure to leave an opening a few inches long to turn the bag inside out through. The arrow points to the completed exterior bottom seam and the circle shows the opening in the bag interior bottom seam (figure **h**). Really, the whole purse can be pulled through a small opening.

12. After you have pulled the purse through, hand sew the opening shut.

13. Topstitch the bag around the handles and opening. I like to use a sewing machine foot especially made for topstitching, but careful sewing with a normal foot works well too.



14. Tie the handle ends together and your purse is finished!

You can stop now, or embellish your Süße Sac with yo-yo flowers. To make yo-yos, cut out circles twice the diameter of the size you want your finished yo-yos to be.

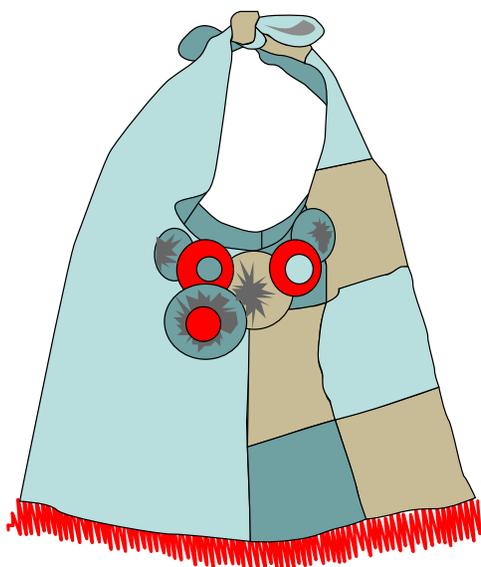
Fold over about 1/8" to 1/4" at the edge of your fabric circle and sew down with a running stitch. This does not have to be perfect, just utilitarian. Fold and sew in one inch or so sections until you have sewn all the way around the circle.

Pull your thread tightly to gather the circle.

Tie your thread off when your yo-yo is sufficiently gathered. I always use a neutral or matching thread because inevitably a little does show. Smooth the yo-yo into a round "patty."

Cute, huh? And easy. Now make a bunch more. Make a few extra to sew onto a T-shirt, or sew a bunch to make a doily or a bed-cover!

Now Sew your yo-yos onto your bag. Add a few buttons, if you'd like. Beads would be pretty too.



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