



In this tutorial we will teach you how to make a simple handbag.



For all those of you who enjoy owning a variety of bags that you can use to match your mood; today we will teach you how to make a simple handbag. And for those of you who yearn to own bags in prints that you love – this is the perfect time for you to follow through on this lesson. By the end of it, if you are enterprising you will be creating bags not just for yourself but will also be selling them to those whose design sensibilities match yours!

For our lesson, we have chosen this colorful paisley printed fabric.



To make the perfect handbag you will need a piece of printed fabric measuring 18 x 30 inches, two bag straps of 26 inches each, matching thread, measuring scale, marker, pins, and a pair of scissors.

Begin by folding the piece of fabric in half like this with the right sides facing together. Align the edges.

Keeping some distance from the edge, pin both the open sides in place, as shown. Three pins on each side should do.

Remember to leave the top open.

Place the fabric on the Sewing Machine.





Turn the Stitch pattern Selector to A and set the stitch length selector between 2 and 3. Begin Sewing. Ensure you lock the stitches using the reverse stitch lever. Sew along the edges and continue till the end. Don't forget to lock the end. Trim the thread Repeat the same, to sew the opposite side. Remember to remove pins once you have sewn both sides.



Shape one of the edges into a triangle – like this and pin it in place. Repeat the same on the other side. Measure and mark 2 and ½ inches from the pointed edge of the triangle. At the marked point draw a line horizontally, as I have done. Do the same on the other side. Stitch along the marked lines on either end. Remember to lock the ends, using the reverse stitch lever. Trim the thread.



Cut out the corners beyond the sewn line on both sides, leaving some margin. This gives it a neat shape and reduces bulk.

Next, fold the edge of the open side by about an inch. Pin it in place.



Measure and mark five inches from both ends to attach the bag straps. Do the same on the other side.

Place one end of the bag strap on the marking, aligning it to the center. Pin it in place. Make sure the strap is straight and pin the other end of the strap aligning it with the other marking on the same side. Pin it in place.

Repeat the same with the second strap on the other side of the bag.

Take the bag to your machine.





Turn the Stitch pattern Selector to C for zig-zag stitch; and set stitch length at 1.5. Sew both the edges of the bag, one after the other, as shown.

Now turn the Stitch pattern Selector to A for Straight Stitch; and set stitch length at 2.5.

Sew the folded edge of the bag that you had pinned, along with the bag strap. Do remember to take out the pins as you sew.

To ensure that the strap is stronger and give it a neater finish, stitch just along where the fold lies, starting from the seam.

Turn the bag inside out to the right side and your bag is ready. Cool isn't it...and also so easy!

Go ahead and make a few more – one can never have too many handbags. Add a quirky #MadebyMe tag and flaunt them. Soon you will have friends queuing up with requests and they even make great gifts too, not to forget they help prevent to use of plastic bags. So go ahead make your statement bag now.

