

To start:

Cut 2 pieces of outer fabric, and 2 pieces of lining fabric the size you want the bag to be, plus seam allowance. I cut them 11.5" x 19.5" and used a ¼" seam allowance.

Cut 2 pieces of fabric for the handles. I used a piece that was 19" x 3".

Cut a backing piece out of muslin that is the same size as the bag pieces. (This is optional is and discussed later.)

Make a template to create the window for your image, by cutting a piece of paper to size.



Fold the template in half one way and then the other. Open. The center of the template is where the lines cross. Do the same with your front piece of outer fabric.

Fold template in half and hold up to the vertical line of the folded fabric, lining up to the horizontal lines of template and the fabric.

Pin in place and cut around the template, to create the frame for your image.

Position the frame over the image. Pin in place. Stitch around the frame using a ¼" seam allowance. Fray the edges up to the stitch marks. Place the Muslin backing behind the image and stitch around the frame again. You can either stitch directly over the first stitch, which is what I did. But if you have the ability to do a decorative stitch, you could do that instead.



Frayed Edges, stitching



Muslin backing



Stitch front to back on three edges, the sides and the bottom, leaving the top open.

Clip Corners.





Turn right side out.



Stitch lining front to lining back, leaving the top open.



Stitch the long sides of the handle with right sides facing. Turn right side out. Iron and stitch along long edges with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



Position the handles on the outer edge of the bag. Place the side of the handles that you want to show when the bag is done, face down along edge of one side of bag. Then do the same on the opposite edge of the other side of the bag.



Place bag with handles inside the lining, so the right sides are facing. Pin top edge, and stitch, leaving an opening to allow you to turn the bag right side out.



Turn right side out. Insert lining into the bag and stitch the upper edge using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance to keep the lining in place and to stabilize the handles.

