

Bucklebee by Me First Class Zipper Top Handbag Supply List and Pre-class Preparation

Hello sewists! I am looking forward to spending the day with you on November 16. This handbag is fun to make, beautiful, easy to carry, and makes a fantastic gift. During this class, you'll learn some non-traditional methods that you'll be able to apply to other projects. The finished bag is 12" tall, 14" wide at the top, and 4" deep at the base. The interior features a phone pocket, a flat divided pocket, and a zipper pocket.



Supply List:

Fabric

For the upper body of handbag: 3/4 yard Suitable fabrics include quilt weight cottons, canvas, linen, lighter-weight upholstery fabrics (tapestry is too heavy), denim, twill

For the base of the bag: 1/4 yard Suitable fabrics include the same as above. Your fabrics need not be the same weight, but the bag looks best if the heavier fabric is on the base. Cork fabric also looks fantastic on the base of this bag.

For the little bit of micropiping between the upper and lower sections: a width of fabric strip 1.25 inches wide, lightweight fabric. This is an optional detail. I typically use a solid or stripe cut crosswise. Sometimes the bag doesn't need this detail at all, but we're all about options.

For lining and interior pockets: 3/4 yard quilt weight cotton. For a contrasting zipper pocket bag, bring enough fabric to cut two 10" squares.

For straps and carriers: 1/4 yard of solid quilt weight cotton or non-stretch cotton twill. NOTE: I often use purchased handles on my bags. I will have some with me, available to purchase at my cost. The handles I prefer are high-quality microfiber, and come in black, brown and gray.

Interfacing: 1 1/2 yards Pellon 809 Decor Bond. Dress weight interfacing is NOT appropriate for this project. You may substitute Pellon 808 Craft Fuse, but you'll need twice as much because it's only 22" wide.

Interlining: 1/2 yard of single-sided fusible foam. I like Bosal In-R-Form or Pellon FF7812 Flex-Foam. You may also use Annie's Soft and Stable or automotive headliner and machine baste it in. If you cannot get single-sided fusible foam, double sided will work, just make sure you let me know you're using it.

One 22" inch zipper (or longer.) A dress weight zipper is just fine. You can also use a sport-weight zipper. It doesn't matter if you have a separating zipper or not; the color is the most important thing. Since the zipper is exposed, think of the zipper color as an accent detail. I often match it to the micro-piping between the base and upper body.

Thread to match bag body and lining, straps and carriers- wind bobbins ahead of time

12" dress weight zipper, nylon or poly, to match or coordinate with bag lining, for zipper pocket

A 9" circle template. A cake circle, dinner plate or pie plate all work just fine.

A hardware kit and paper pattern are included with your registration fee.

Other supplies:

Rotary cutting supplies, fabric clips or binder clips, seam sealant such as Fray Check, basic sewing supplies. An iron. You will need a removable fabric marker that shows on your zipper tape. Something to take notes with.

Sewing machine in good working order. Don't forget your power cord and pedal!! (Yes, it happens more often than you think!) We'll use an all-purpose foot and a zipper foot. A quarter inch foot with a flange comes in handy if you have one. Put a size 90 microfiber or jeans needle in your machine, and bring a spare just in case. A universal needle is not the right needle for this project. NOTE: I will not have time to troubleshoot or adjust/repair your sewing machine during class time. If you're bringing a machine that you don't use often, give it a test run before class and address any issues beforehand. (Yes, this happens, too.)

Pre-class Preparation

Cut the following pieces from fusible interfacing. Cut TWO of each piece, and **label them in pencil on the upper left corner of the un-fusible side. This labeling is important. Just write the words as given. They won't show through. Promise.**

Exterior Top: 10 x 16

Exterior Base: 6 x 16

Lining: 15 x 16

Flat Pocket: 11 x 16

Phone Pocket: 6 x 6

Zipper Pocket 10 x 10

Straps: 1 x width of fabric

For a big jump start, fuse the lining and pocket interfacings to your lining fabric. Fuse your zipper pocket interfacing to the fabric you've selected for your zipper pocket bag. Do NOT fuse any exterior or strap pieces before class.

Our class will be fast-paced and fun. We'll start promptly at 9AM. Pack a lunch! I believe there is a refrigerator available on-site. I will have some especially useful and definitely unusual Bucklebee Toolbox tools with me available for purchase, but you'll have great results with the supplies listed above. Don't hesitate to ask any questions along the way; that's what I'm there for. I can't go as fast as the fastest sewer, nor as slow as the slowest, but I'll do my best to make sure everyone leaves with a beautiful, professional handbag!

If you have any questions about this list or the pre-class prep, please email me directly at bucklebeebags@gmail.com. Bucklebee will be a vendor at the Undercover Quilters Show in Brookhaven, PA October 11-12, and at the Lebanon Valley Quilters Show at the Lebanon Convention Center November 9-10. If you're at the show(s), stop by and say Hi!

See you soon! --Joan