

Gift Bags - Joyce Goddard's instructions.



These gift bags always sell well and we often have kits at gatherings but here are the instructions so you can raid your own stash and whip some up. Instructions also available on the PATTERNS page of the web site.

Each bag uses two pieces as follows:

Small: 11 to 13" x 16 to 18"

Med - 12 to 14" x 20 to 22"

Large - 14 to 16" x 22 to 25"

Wine bag - 6.5 x 17 to 18"

All seam allowances are 1/4 inch.

FINISH THE EDGES

Begin by finishing all the edges with zig zag on your sewing machine unless you are assembling the bags with your serger.

ASSEMBLY

- (1) Lay the two measured and cut pieces with right sides together and sew with a 1/4 inch seam allowance, backstitching at each end. Press seams open unless you are using your serger for construction.
- (2) Sew the bottom seam, backstitching at each end.
- (3) To make mitered corners on the bottom of the bag, pull out the sides on both sides of the seam allowance making little points. Measure the miter line up from the point using measurements as follows:
 - Wine bag - 1"
 - Small gift bag - 2"
 - Medium gift bag - 3"
 - Large gift bag - 4"

Sew perpendicular to the side seams on both sides (see photos below).



Trim if you wish.

- (4) Turn the bag right side out. Press under 1/4 inch around top edge.

DRAWSTRING TOP

- (1) Turn a hem on the top of the bag as follows:
 - Small gift bag and wine bag - 1"
 - Medium gift bag - 2"
 - Large gift bag - 3"Press in place but do not sew yet.
- (2) Pull the top hems out flat and make a buttonhole on a centre vertical line making sure it will fit inside the intended stitching lines for the casing. The buttonhole size should accommodate the cord or ribbon being used.
- (3) Fold the hem in place and stitch the top and lower lines for the casing.
- (4) Thread the cord or ribbon through the casing and secure with a few stitches at the centre back.

DONE!

OR Tie the cord or ribbon omitting steps 6 & 7. Sew the hem in place and fasten the tie at the centre back. DONE AGAIN!