



Tie a Ribbon

Your Cause,
Your Ribbon Colour



Tie A Ribbon

By Brenda Miller

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Intermediate level

Measures 9" x 7" without strap.



Fabric Requirements

Bag Base/Strap 8 pre-cut 2 1/2" strips/or 1/4 yard, .10m of 8 assorted colours

Ribbon Colour 2 pre-cut 2 1/2" strips or 1/4 yd., .2m of the same colour

Top of Bag 1/2 yard, (.4m)

Inner Pocket 1/4 yard, (.25m)

Pellon Thermolam Plus Fusible Fleece 1/2 yard, (.4m)

Notions: 14" ABQ Bag Zipper, thread to match, 40" of 1/2" wide grosgrain ribbon, 90/14 needle, Jean-a-ma-jig™ or Hump Jumper™, sewing supplies, rotary rulers and cutters.

Optional: 1/4 yd (.25 m) Pellon Peltex 70 Ultra Firm Stabilizer for base, walking foot.



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Tie A Ribbon Bag

By Brenda Miller, Among Brenda's Quilts & Bags

Visit www.amongbrendasquilts.com for more great patterns!

Bag measures 9" wide by 7" high not including strap

Based on 40" wide fabric

All seams are $\frac{1}{4}$ " unless otherwise mentioned

All seams are sewn right sides together unless otherwise mentioned

WOF = Width of Fabric

Cutting

Multi Coloured Strips

If you are using 2 ½" strips:

Set aside two strips the same colour for the ribbon.

Trim 6 multi-colour strips: to measure 2 ½" x 20"

From the remaining 2 strips:

Cut (1) 1" x 40" - accent strip, front of strap

Cut (1) 2 1/2" x 40" long - back side of strap

If you are cutting from yardage cut the following:

(6) assorted 2 ½" x WOF strips, trim to 2 ½" x 20 - base of bag

(1) 2 ½" x 40" strip - strap back.

(1) 1" x 40" strip - accent colour for strap

(2) 2 ½" x WOF strips - ribbon

Top Section of Bag and Lining

Cut (2) 4 ½" x 12 ½" - top of bag

Cut (2) 12 ½" x 11" - bag lining

Inner Pockets

Cut (2) 7 ½" x 9".

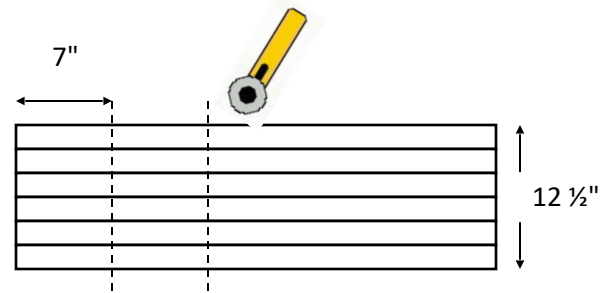
Pellon Thermolam Plus Fusible Fleece (foam stabilizer could also be used for this project)

Cut one strip 1" x 40" - strap

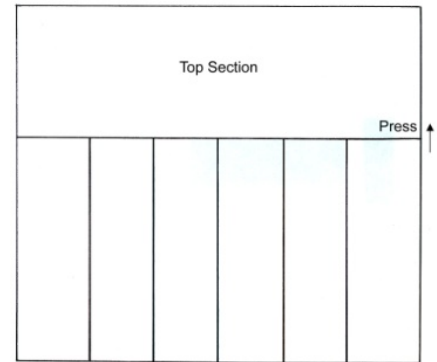
Cut (2) rectangles 12 ½" x 11" - top of bag

Instructions

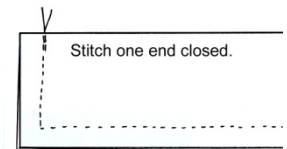
1. **Front and Back of Bag:** Sew (6) of the multi coloured 2 ½" x 20" strips together. Press the seams in one direction. Cut (2) 7" x 12 ½" sections from this unit.



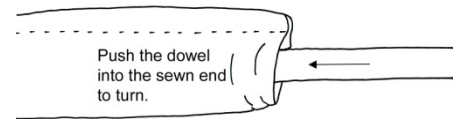
2. Sew a 4 ½" x 12 ½" top of bag section to one of the strip sets. Repeat to make 2 exactly the same. The colour sequence of the strips is the same left to right on both units. Press towards the top section.



3. Trim off the selvages of the ribbon strips and fold right sides together along the length. Stitch along one short end and the length leaving the opposite short end open. Backstitch at the ends and clip the corners. Repeat to make 2.

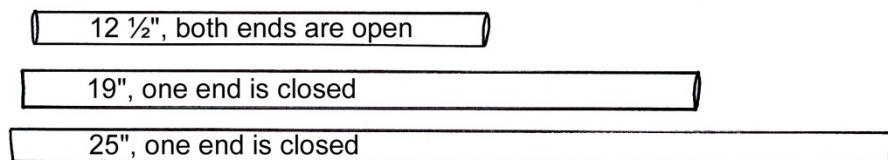


4. Turn right side out using a dowel or the eraser end of a pencil. Repeat for the other ribbon. Press flat.

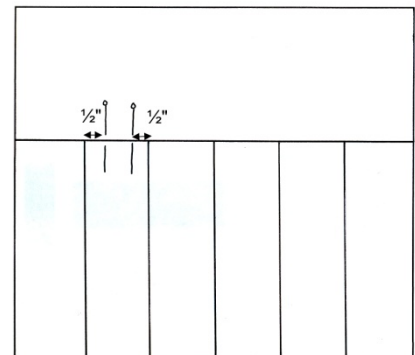


5. Cut the two ribbons into 3 sections 12 ½", 19" and 25" long.

NOTE: The 12 ½" section has both short ends open. The 19" and the 25" sections have one end stitched closed. Save the leftover ribbon for later.



6. **Bag Front:** Place a pin ½" from both edges of the 2nd strip as shown. This will be the bag front.

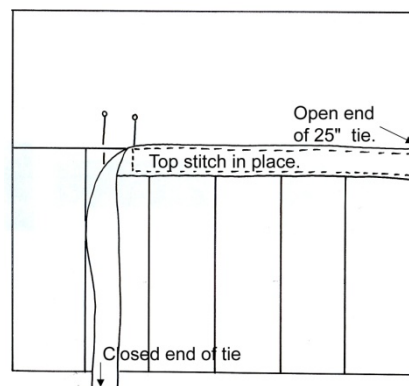


7. Pin the 25" long ribbon to the right side of this unit as shown.

Edge stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge of the ribbon. Pivot at the pin on the right and continue to stitch around the ribbon leaving the long end free.

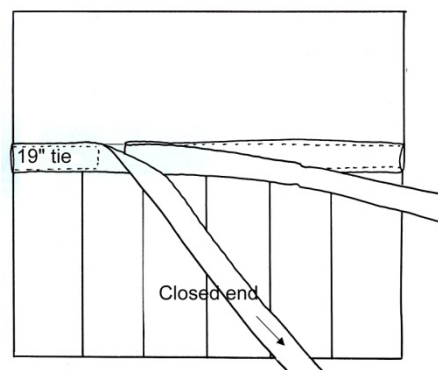
Note: The raw edge of the ribbon is at the side edge of the bag. The closed end of the ribbon hangs down.

Tip: If you pin the ribbon just slightly above the seam line on the bag it will completely hide the seam.



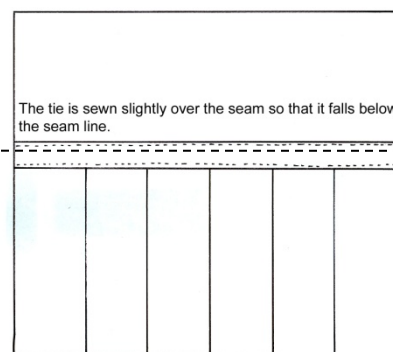
8. Pin the 19" long ribbon to the unit stopping at the pin on the left. Topstitch in place like before leaving the long end free.

The raw edge of the ribbon is at the side edge of the bag. The closed end of the ribbon hangs down.



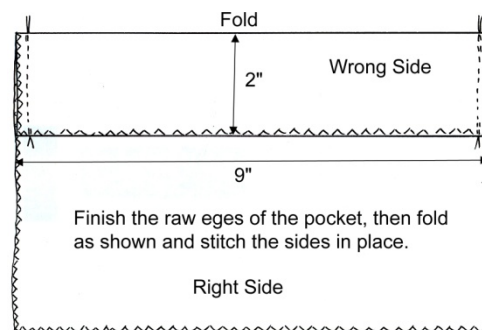
9. **Bag Back:** Topstitch the $12\frac{1}{2}$ " long ribbon section in place on the back side of the bag. Again, hide the seam allowance by placing the ribbon just over the seam line. Test your placement, the ribbon lines will line up if the two bag units are placed side by side.

Seam line of outer bag.

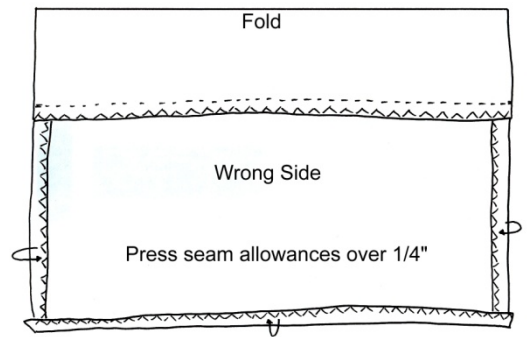


10. **Pocket:** Finish all edges of the $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x 9" pocket with a zigzag stitch, or serge the edges. With right sides together, fold 2" down along the top 9" edge of the pocket. Stitch down the top side edges to create a cuff backstitching at ends. Turn to the right side.

Repeat to make 2.

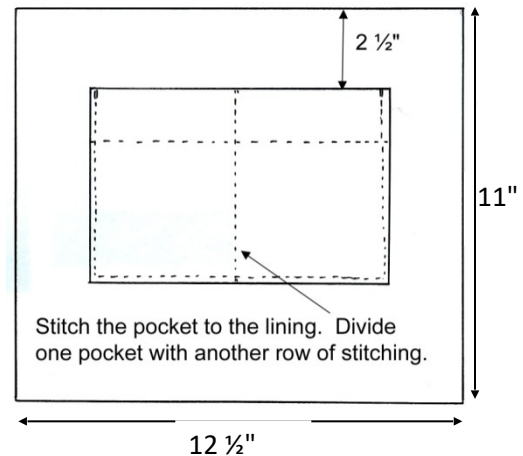


11. Press the cuff flat. Press $\frac{1}{4}$ " over to the wrong side along the sides and bottom of the pockets. Stitch along the lower edge of the cuff.



12. Working on the right side of the lining and using an erasable marking tool, draw a line $2\frac{1}{2}$ " from the top edge. Center the top of the pocket along this line. Sew along the side and bottom edges backstitching at ends. Divide one or both of the pockets with a row of stitching as desired.

Tip: Fold the pocket and lining in half and finger press to find centre.



13. Place a 11" x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " fusible fleece rectangle on your worktable with the adhesive side up. Place either a back or front unit on top right side up. Fuse following the manufacturer's directions. Trim away any excess fusible fleece. Repeat for the remaining bag unit.

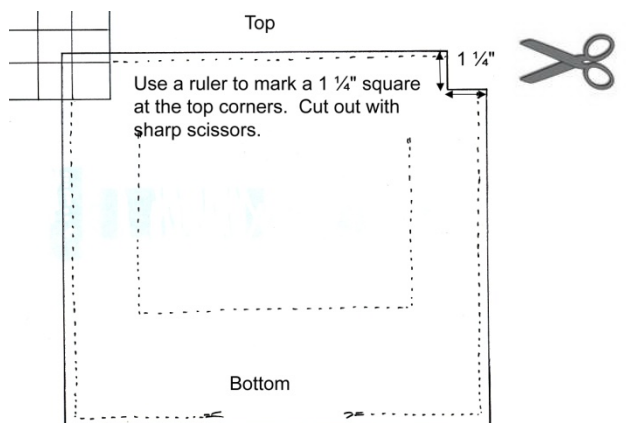
Pin the long ribbons ends to the centre of the bag front to keep them out of the way.

14. Place the bag back right side up on your worktable so that the striped section of the bag is at the bottom. Place a lining section on top so that right sides are together. **Make sure the pocket opening is at the top.** We are going to sew these two pieces together and you don't want the pocket upside down! Align and pin the edges together.

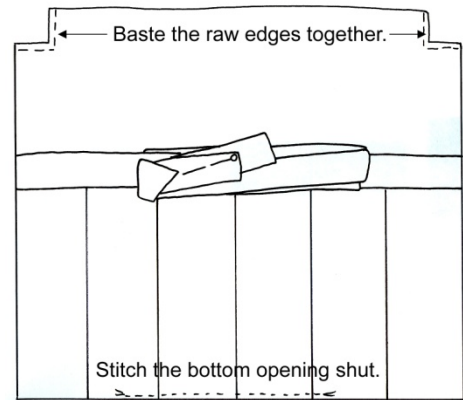
Sew all around the unit using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam and leaving an opening of about 5" along the **bottom** edge. Backstitch at beginning and end points. Repeat for the other side of the bag. Do not turn the units to the right side just yet. Press the seams at the bottom openings back.

15. Mark $1\frac{1}{4}$ " squares at the **top corners of the bag front**. You are drawing on the wrong side of the lining fabric. Using scissors, trim to remove. Repeat for the bag back. Press back the seam allowance at the opening.

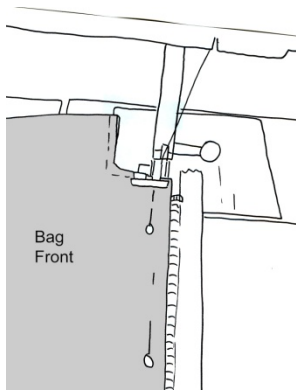
Trim the bottom corners. Turn both units to the right side.



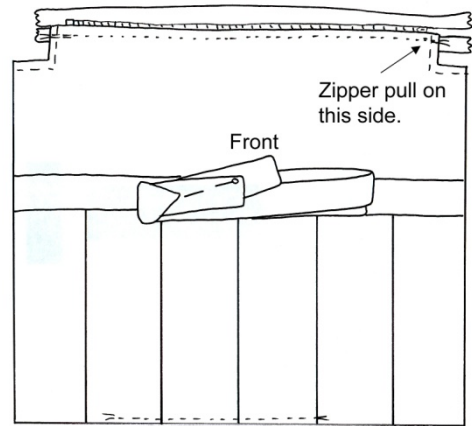
16. Hand slip stitch or machine stitch the opening shut.
Baste the raw edges of the top notched corners together with a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.



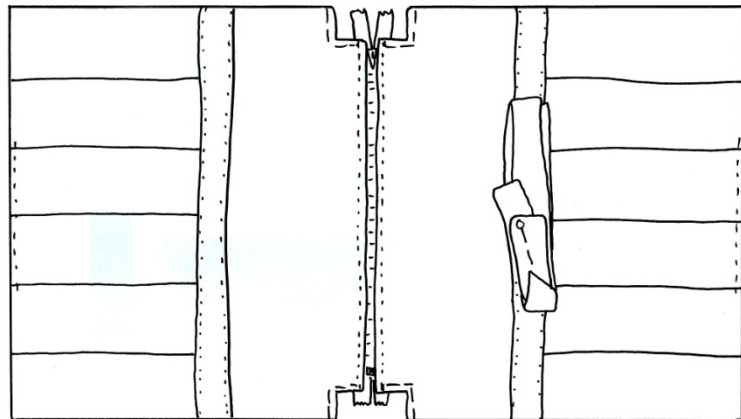
17. Center the 14" ABQ Bag Zipper along the top edge of the front. The stop and the pull ends extend a couple of inches beyond the side edges. Pin. Stitch in place a using your zipper foot. Backstitch at both ends.



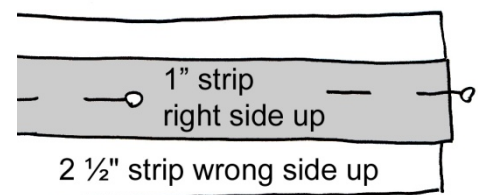
Hint: If you line up your pins as shown in the diagram at left you can pull them out as you sew along the edge of the zipper.



18. Pin the opposite side of the zipper tape to the back of the bag as shown keeping the edges even. Stitch the zipper in place like before backstitching at both ends. Replace the zipper foot with your regular sewing foot.

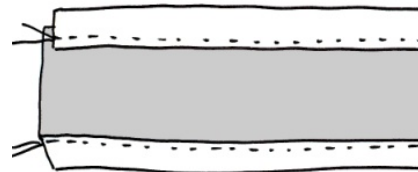
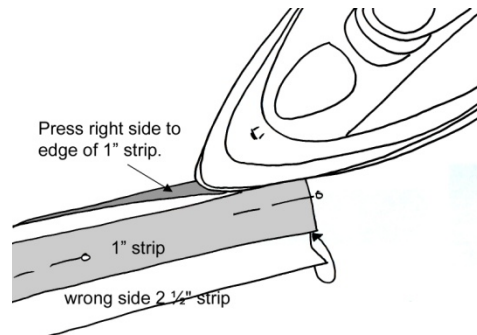


19. **Strap:** Fuse the 1" fusible fleece strip to the wrong side of the 1" wide accent strip. Pin $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide grosgrain ribbon to the back so the pins are on the front (ribbon gives the strap support). Lay the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide back strap strip on your table wrong side up. Place the 1" strip



right side up on top . Centre it and re-pin. Baste in place along the centre. A walking foot is ideal to sew the layers together.

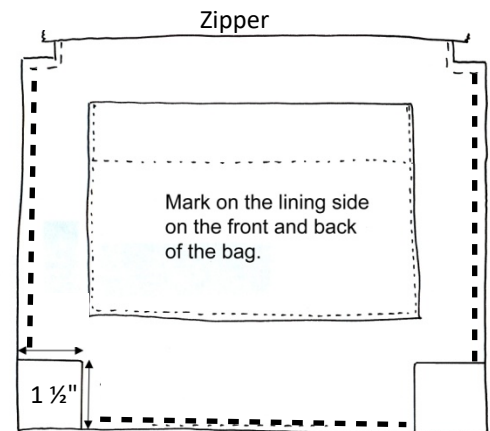
20. Fold the raw edges of the strap to meet the edges of the accent strip and press. Fold over again so that the back of the strap is over the accent strip hiding the raw edges. Press flat. Edge stitch along both sides. Remove basting and set aside.



21. Place the bag front and back unit on your worktable lining side up. Draw an accurate 1 1/2" square on the lower corners of the front and back of the bag.

Trim out the squares.

22. Open the zipper. Pin the sides edges rights sides together matching the ribbon edges. Sew the sides. Press the side seams open. Repeat to sew the bottom edges together matching the strips. Press using a tailors ham or a towel firmly rolled and placed inside the bag.

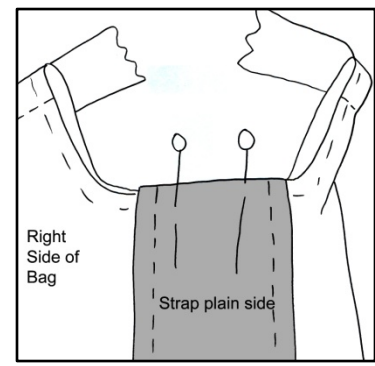
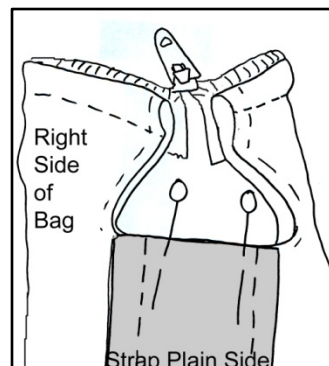


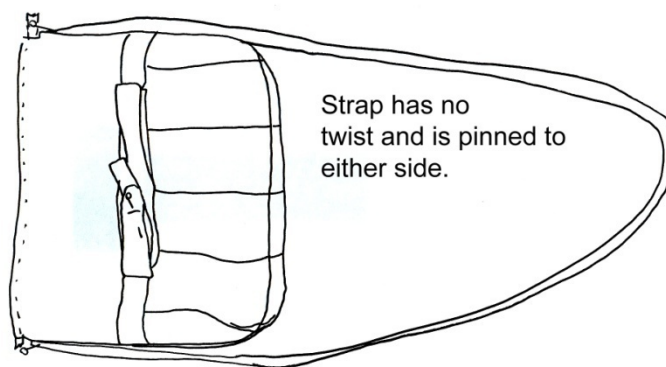
Tip: To ensure smooth stitching, use a **Jean-a-ma-jig™** or **Hump Jumper™** at the beginning of seams and when crossing over the thicker areas. Loosen your tension and sew slowly should you have any trouble.

23. Pinch the corners together matching the seams and stitch across using a 1/4" seam.

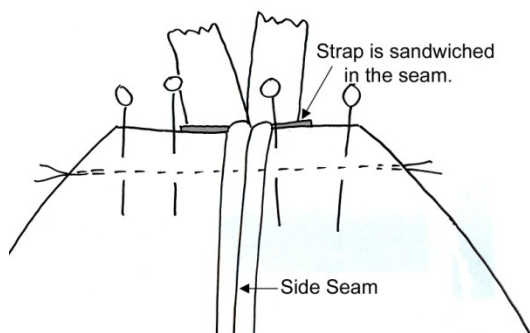
24. Wrap the raw edges with the leftover ribbon from step 5 and secure using hand stitching. Or finish the raw edges with zigzag stitching or serging. Turn to the right side.

25. Pin the strap to the right side of the bag at the openings made by the cut out area. **The 2 colour side faces down.** Pin to centre the strap over the side seams.





26. Open the zipper. Carefully turn the bag so that the lining side is out. Push the strap inside the bag out of the way. Close the zipper so the pull is in the bag area but leave it open about 5". Pinch a top corner together. Center the side seam to the zipper tape. The strap is sandwiched in the middle.



Sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam with the zipper side facing up under your presser foot. Backstitch at the ends. Trim the zipper tape even to the seam. Finish the raw edges as you did for the lower corners.

27. Optional Bag Base: Cut a 8" x 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " piece of Pellon Peltex. Using scrap fabric from the project, cut (2) 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 4" pieces. With right sides together, sew around leaving a 5" opening along one long side. Clip the corners. Press the opening back then turn to the right side. Insert the Peltex and pin the opening shut. Hand or machine stitch the opening closed. Insert the base into the bag.

28. Tie the ribbon and enjoy your bag.