

QUILT TUTORIALS BY *Nancy Murty*

holiday gift bags



www.beecreativestudio.com

© 2010 Nancy Murty



holiday gift bags

Small bag finishes to 7" x 6" x 3"

Wine bag finishes to 12" x 6" x 3"

Skill level: Experienced Beginner

These bags are a great way to add a little something extra to any gift, whatever the occasion. Add a festive touch to a hostess gift, fill with chocolate for a "just because" gift or use as a unique way to package any item such as jewelry, make-up or socks.

Bag is reversible.

fabric requirements:

Yardage is based on 42" wide fabric.

- 1/4 yard each of 2 fabrics for the wine size bag
- 1/4 yard of 1 fabric or a fat eighth of 2 fabrics for the small size bag.
- 1 1/3 yard cording or ribbon for drawstrings
- 2 decorative beads with large center hole (optional)

cutting directions:

All measurements include 1/4" seam allowance and are based on 40" of useable fabric. All strips are cut across the width of the fabric (wof), selvage to selvage, unless otherwise stated.

For the small gift bag cut:

- (1) 7" x 18" rectangle from both fabrics for a total of **two** cut rectangles

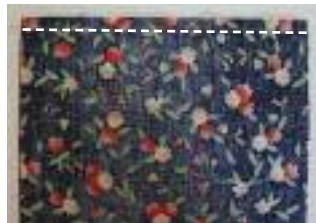
For the wine gift bag cut:

- (1) 7" x 29" rectangle from both fabrics for a total of **two** cut rectangles

assembly:

All seams are 1/4" unless specified otherwise.

1. With right sides together, sew the two rectangles together – short side to short side. Backstitch at the begin-



ning and end of each seam to secure stitching. Repeat for other end, sewing remaining two short sides together. Press one seam allowance toward fabric A and the remaining seam allowance toward fabric B.

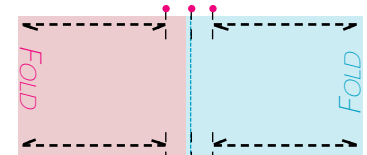
2. With right sides together, bring the 2 seams together, butting the seam allowances together. Pin to secure.



3. Measure 1 1/2" from the seam on each side and mark with a pin, pinning through both layers of fabric. Repeat for the opposite side.



4. With the right sides together, sew from the folded end up each side to the first pin.



Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam to secure. Repeat for the other end of the bag.

5. To create the bottom of the bag – bring the side seam and bottom fold together. This will create a triangle shape. The seam should run down the middle of the triangle.



6. Lay the triangle flat. Position a ruler across the triangle with the 1 1/2" mark on the seam line. Slide the ruler along the seam until the end of the ruler and the 3" mark are on the outside edges of the triangle. With chalk, draw along the edge of the ruler to mark the sewing line. Pin to secure.



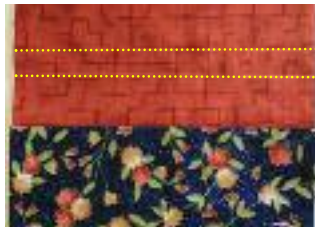
Hint: I like to use Clover's Chaco Liner Pen, available in blue, pink, yellow, silver and white, to mark sewing lines. The wheel at the end makes it very easy to mark a fabric.

7. Sew on marked line, sewing across the triangle. Repeat for all four corners to create the bottom of the bag. (Sew two seams at each end for a total of four sewn seams.)

8. Turn the bag right side out through one of the side openings. Press the raw edges under 1/4" along both side openings.



9. On the lining fabric, measure 1" from the seam, draw a chalk line along the edge of the ruler to mark a sewing line. Measure 1 1/2" from the seam and mark a second sewing line. Repeat to mark the other side of lining.



10. Push the lining fabric inside the bag. Press across the top seam. Sew along the drawn lines to create the casings for the drawstrings. Be sure to backstitch at the beginning and end of each stitched line.



11. To finish the bag, top-stitch along the two sides and across the top of the bag. Stitch close to the outside edge of the bag.



adding the drawstring:

1. Cut the 1 1/3 yards of decorative cording or ribbon in half creating two lengths of ribbon each about 24" long.

2. Insert a safety pin into the end of one ribbon.



3. Insert the safety pin into a casing at one side of the bag. Push the safety pin through the casing, continue by passing the safety pin through the second casing. Both ends of the ribbon should be on the same side of the bag.



4. Repeat steps 2 & 3 for the second ribbon this time starting the ribbon on the opposite side of the bag.



5. Tie the two ends of the ribbon together on each side of the bag. For a more decorative look, pass the ends of the ribbon through a decorative bead before tying a knot.

I hope you enjoyed this project and it puts a smile on your face.



The directions of this pattern are written with the assumption that the quilter has a basic knowledge of quilting. There are many great books and talented teachers available at local shops, quilt guilds or among our fellow quilting friends. And there is nothing as good as hands on help, so you may want to look to one of these sources for any help if needed.



Be sure to visit www.becreativestudio.com to see the great patterns available and fabrics designed by Nancy Murty.

You can connect further with [NancyMurty](#) on Twitter and join [Bee Creative Studio](#) on Facebook.

For a sneak peek into the studio, visit nancymurty.typepad.com to read Nancy's blog.