



*Margaret Moorehead Presents...*

## Perfect Little Purse



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## Perfect Little Purse

### Basic Supplies

Sewing/Embroidery Machine with minimum hoop size of 140mm x 225mm

Software and Transfer device to load designs

Rotary Cutter, Mat, Ruler

Scissors

Shears

Thread snips

Iron and ironing surface

Press Cloth

Fabric Marker of your choice (pen, pencil, chalk...)

General Sewing Supplies

Microtex size 80 or 90 needle or your favorite needle for embroidery

Machine Feet (These are recommended but not required)

Stitch in the ditch foot (narrow edge stitch foot)

Stabilizers:

Tear Away

Embroidery Thread

Construction Thread

Bobbins (wound with light weight bobbin thread, I use pre-wounds) and bobbins with construction thread

Embroidery Design "Fun Snowflakes" by Margaret Moorehead

Outside of Purse Fabric

A. Purse: Two 12"H x 18"W fused with batting

B. Band at top of Purse: Two 3 1/2"H x 16"W fused with batting

C. Straps: Two 4"W x 25"L fused with batting

Lining Fabric

D. Purse Lining: Two 15"H by 17 1/2" wide at the bottom and 15 1/2" wide at the top

E. One Pocket: Two 10"W x 5 1/2"H

Bow Fabric

F. One bow: Two 6 1/2"H x 12 1/2"W

G. Center part of bow: One 6 1/2"H x 6"W





## Perfect Little Purse

### Embroidery

Mark your fabric for design placement

On one of the 12"H x 18"W pieces of fabric measure in 5 1/2" from the left and mark a vertical line

Measure up 6" from the bottom and mark a horizontal line

Where these two lines intersect is where the center of the Fun Snowflakes design will be.

Using tear away stabilizer and thread of your choice stitch out the embroidery design

I recommend hooping one layer of stabilizer and "floating" on layer under the hoop

Note: "Floating" the stabilizer is simply placing a piece of stabilizer under the hooped project so it just

"floats" on top of the feed dogs

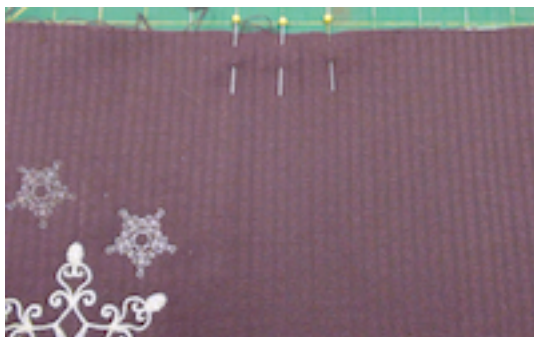
Remove excess stabilizer one layer at a time

### Constructing the Purse

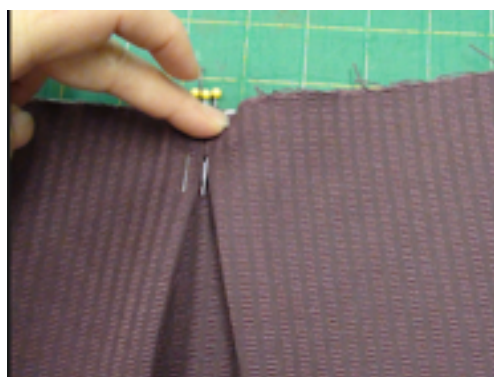
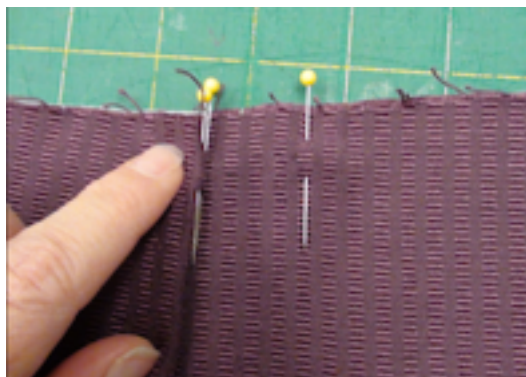
#### Making the Pleats

Find the center of the top (18" side) of both "A" pieces and mark

Measure out 1" on each side of the center and mark



Fold the outer mark (pins) into the center pin to form the pleat



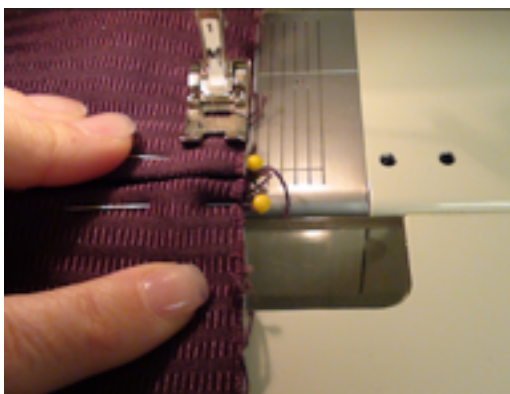




## Perfect Little Purse

### Construction Continued

Press and then stitch to hold the pleats in place



Note: A pleat is made on both "A" pieces of fabric. (The front and back of the purse)

**Attach a band "B"** to the top of each pleated purse piece "A" using a 1/2" seam



Press the seam allowance up toward the band of the purse



## Perfect Little Purse

### Construction Continued

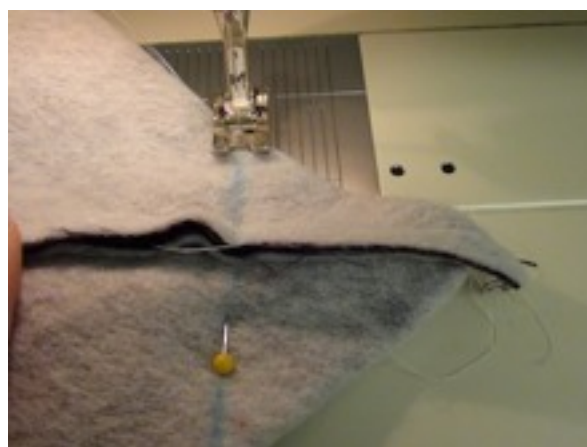
Stitch the front of the purse to the back of the purse using a 1/2" seam allowance

### Squaring the Corners of the purse

Line up the bottom seam of the bag with one of the side seams so you form a little triangle at the bottom of the purse.



Measure in 2 1/2" from the tip or raw edge of the fabric and mark  
Draw a straight line at this mark and then stitch across the marked line



Repeat for other side of purse



## Perfect Little Purse

### Construction Continued

#### Lining Pocket (optional) and Lining

Place both of the pocket pieces on top of each other right sides together and stitch around all sides leaving an opening to turn it right side out.

Turn right side out through the opening and press.

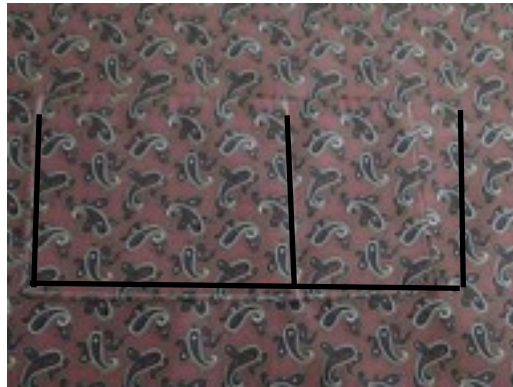
Placement of the pocket is a personal choice. I centered mine from right to left, and then down about 4 1/2" from the top of the purse lining.

Pin the pocket in place with the opening at the bottom so the opening that was used to turn the pocket right side out will be stitched closed when you attach the pocket to the lining.

Stitch the pocket to the lining using the edge stitch foot.

If desired stitch to create two smaller pockets by simply stitching from the bottom of the pocket to the top so you have two smaller pockets instead of one larger pocket (Black line indicates stitching lines)

Note: By stitching from the bottom to the top you will generally get slightly better results.



Stitch the lining pieces together along both sides and the bottom, leaving the top open  
(Right Sides together using a 1/2" seam allowance)

Square the corners of the lining just as you did for the purse

Fold down the top of the purse and the lining to the wrong side about 1/2" to form a nice finished edge

Place the lining inside the purse wrong sides together and pin together along the top edge of the purse.

Note: I like to leave about 1/8" to 1/4" of the folded down purse just peeking above the lining on the inside of of the purse to give it a nice professionally finished look





## Perfect Little Purse

### Construction Continued

#### Creating the Bow

Piece "G" will form the "Center" part of the bow  
Fold so you have a 3 1/4"W x 6"H Piece of fabric  
Stitch along one short edge and the one 6" edge (1/2" seam)  
Turn this little piece right side out and press  
Form a circle with this little strip of fabric and zig zag to hold the circle shape  
This is the strip that forms the "center" part of the bow



Stitch the two "F" bow pieces together using a 1/2" seam, right sides together leaving an opening for turning.  
Turn right side out.  
Edge stitch around all 4 sides closing up the opening that was used for turning right side out as you do so  
Press

Finger Pleat the bow and insert into the center "G" cylinder piece





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### Construction Continued

#### Straps

Press one long edge in about 1" so the raw edge is at the center of the 4" wide strip  
Press the other long edge in about 1" so it is also at the center of the 4" wide strip.  
The raw edges should just meet at the center but not overlap and your strap will be about 2" wide

Now fold that long 25" strip in half again so it is about 1" wide by 25" long

Edge Stitch along each long edge through all the layers

I used the edges stitch foot and adjusted the needle position to get the results I wanted

Note: If your machine can not stitch through all these layers you might need to use a different method to create your straps, such as folding your fabric in half long way, right sides together and stitching, then turn right side out and topstitch each long edge.

On your purse, from the right side, measure from your side seam toward the front 3" and mark. Now measure from the side seam toward the back and mark. Repeat for other side seam.

You will have 4 marks (two on the front and two on the back)

Insert the handles (straps) between the lining and the purse at these marks, so the bottom of the handle extends below the seam where the bag and the lining meet.

I like extend beyond the seam about 1/2" and measure for accuracy so my handles turn out to be the same length when they are finished.

Stitch around the top of the purse attaching the lining to the purse, and catching the handles as you go Smooth out the lining from the top to where the band and the purse meet and pin accurately.

Top stitch through the seam allowance where the band meets the purse, the purse and the lining.

This holds the bulk of the seam allowance in place, gives extra security to the handles/straps and holds the lining so you have a nice neat finish, all while giving you a custom designer detail

Tac the bow in place by stitching through the bow and the back of the center strip that holds the bow  
(I like to do this on both sides of the center cylinder strip of the bow)

Tac the top of the bow in place near where the handles are attached to the purse also

Hand stitch the snap in place and

**Enjoy!**