



## ACCESSORY - BEACH BAG

### Make Your Beach Bag Instructions

#### **1. Preview of Completed Beach Bag**

Play this video and check out this great beach bag that YOU will make!



#### **2. Tools and Resources Required**

- 1) Paper pattern (printed from PDF file downloaded to your computer)
- 2) 7 x 20 inch (18 x 50cm) cotton, poly-cotton, cotton drill, etc.
- 3) 12 inches (30cm) cord or ribbon for top tie
- 4) Matching thread
- 5) Decoration Optional – 10 inches (25cm) lace, ribbon, trim.
- 6) Paper scissors
- 7) Fabric scissors or Rotary Blade & Cutting Mat
- 8) Clippers/snips
- 9) Safety pin
- 10) Tape measure or ruler
- 11) Pins

#### **3. Preparing Paper Pattern**

- 1) Check the 'Tip' measurement is correct.
- 2) Cut out paper pattern pieces following the solid line.



#### **4. Cutting Out Fabric**

- 1) With fabric in a single layer, fold one edge over 5 ½ inches (17cm) and place Pattern Piece #1 (Sides) onto the fabric, taking note to place the marked side on the 'fold of the fabric'. Pin in place. Place Pattern pieces #2 & #3 onto the single layer of fabric taking note of the grain line marking. Pin in place.
- 2) Cut around the paper pattern with fabric scissors or rotary cutter. Remove pins.

#### **5. Make Strap**

- 1) With right sides of fabric together fold the strap in half lengthways matching raw edges. Pin along the raw edge.
- 2) Sew ¼ inch (6mm) seam down the long side of the strap securing beginning and end with reverse stitches.
- 3) Turn strap to right side.
- 4) Press strap.

#### **6. Prepare Sides**

- 1) Place trim about 1 inch (2 ½ cm) up from the raw edges of one of the long sides. This will become the bottom edge. Pin in place.
- 2) Stitch trim in place.
- 3) Sew two rows of gathering stitch along the bottom edge (below the trim), starting and finishing about ½ inch (12mm) from the ends. Sew one row less than ¼ inch (6mm) from raw edge and the second row more than ¼ inch (6mm) from raw edge so that when you sew your ¼ inch seam you will stitch between the two rows of gathering stitch.
- 4) Turn top raw edge down ¾ inch (18mm) towards the wrong side of the fabric. Pin and press. This will become the top casing for your cord.
- 5) Turn raw edge of this casing up into the casing ¼ inch (6mm). Pin and press. Remove pins.



## 7. Sew Side Seam

- 1) Turn the fabric so you are looking at the right side.
- 2) On one end where you will sew the side seam, measure down from the top raw edge (unfold the casing you have pressed) 1 ½ inches (4cm). Place one end of your shoulder strap at this point matching the raw edge of side seam with raw edge of shoulder strap. Pin in place.
- 3) On the same end of your fabric, measure up from the bottom raw edge 1 inch (2 ½ cm). Place the other end of the shoulder strap at this point making sure that the strap is not twisted and again matching raw edge of side seam with raw edge of strap. Pin in place.
- 4) Using a zigzag stitch overcast the raw edges of both ends of your bag. We are finishing the raw edges before sewing the side seam as we are separating the seam allowance in this pattern and it is easier to do this now. In this step, you will be stitching over the ends of the shoulder strap and securing the strap in position.
- 5) With right sides together, match the finished edges of your bag. Pin side seam.
- 6) Using a straight stitch and starting at the top of the bag, Sew ¼ inch (6mm) seam down for ½ inch (12mm). Reverse stitch to the beginning and then forward stitch to this point again. Lift the presser foot and move forward ½ inch ( 12mm) i.e. skip over this section without sewing so that there is a hole to thread the cord through. When you start sewing again, do some forward and reverse stitches to secure the stitching just as you do at the beginning and end of a seam. Continue down to the end of the seam and finish off with some reverse stitches.

## 8. Attach Sides to Bottom

- 1) On the sides of the bag, mark a point half way around the bottom edge (the edge with the gathering threads).
- 2) Take Piece #2 (bottom) and fold in half. Mark both ends of the fold with a pen or pin.
- 3) With right sides together, match one mark on the bottom piece with the seam of the sides of the bag being careful to have the seam allowance open. Pin. Match the second mark on the bottom piece with the half way point of the sides of the bag. Pin.
- 4) Pull the gathering threads to gather the sides of the bag in until it is the same size as the bottom of the bag. With right sides together and matching raw edges, pin the sides of the bag to the bottom of the bag ensuring that the gathers are even.



- 5) With the gathering on top and using a straight stitch, sew a ¼ inch (6mm) seam attaching the sides to the bottom of the bag securing beginning and end with reverse stitches. Remove gathering threads.
- 6) Finish raw edges with a zigzag stitch.

## **9. Hem Top**

- 1) With the side seam allowance separated, fold the top edge down into the wrong side along the fold we pressed earlier (¾ inch or 18mm from the top). Fold the raw edge up ¼ inch (6mm) into the casing along the other fold we pressed earlier. Pin.
- 2) Using a straight stitch start at the seam allowance and sew close to the bottom fold of the casing. Start and finish sewing with reverse stitches.
- 3) Turn bag to right side.

## **10. Thread Cord**

- 1) Using a safety pin or bodkin, thread the cord through the hole in the casing. Tie the two ends of the cord together.

## **11. Congratulations You Did It!**

Celebrate! YOU made a great little beach bag for your doll. Well done!