

Class Title: Smocked Patchwork Liberty Shoulder Bag

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Area of Study: SMK

Class Hours: 6

Class Type: Project

Skill Level: Able to use a pleater, and can smock Cable Stitch and multi-step Waves

Brochure Description:

Add together wonderful Liberty fabrics, a dash of smocking, and mix them up in a patchwork of 4" (10cm) squares, for an easy to smock and construct shoulder bag ready to hold your keys and purse, or your sewing.

Learn to "pleat without seams", a very useful technique to know, before smocking the centre four squares on the front of the bag to create a smocked patchwork diamond.

Stitch using Stair-Step Waves in one or two colours, maybe some Four Step Wave Diamonds, or try Triple Surface Honeycomb on the back for a subtle and totally textural look. Perhaps a combination of right side and back smocking is your preference. Whatever you decide, all of the smocking stitches and techniques will be taught in class.

We will lay out the fabric squares and pin the seams for the correct stitching order, because the final construction at home should be just as easy and enjoyable as the smocking!

For the keen patchworker with an abundance of floral fabrics the kit can be offered without fabric and silk thread so you can bring your own fabric squares and embroidery thread.

Finished bag 10"x 10"x 6½"(25cm x 25cm x 17cm)

Kit Cost: \$40

Kit Contents:

German interfacing, “Shikaku Bag” pattern by Patchwork Mariko Japan, Comprehensive notes, #8 crewel and #7 darning, 3 cards of Cascade Silk Thread (choose in class).

Liberty Fabric: 18 of 4” (10cm) squares with 4 larger pieces (each 4”x12”, 10cm x 30cm) seamed and ready to pleat; Liberty fabric for lining. Fabric packs available in pink mix or blue mix, please email judith@statusthimbles.com 8 weeks prior to class to request your colour choice.

Leatherlook shoulder straps in black and blue/grey available in class (\$10 for 40”, 1m)

Student Requirements:

24 Row pleater and 20 needles, dowel, one spool of fluorescent orange thread or bright purple, and white thread for pleating (choose a colour that is visible when used with your florals, could be white thread if all dark backgrounds), scissors, pins, padded board (if small and easy to bring).

Required to complete bag but NOT needed in class: fusible fleece 18” x 28” (45cm x 70cm) and 2 strips each 1” x 27” (2.5cm x 70cm) if making fabric handles; fabric for handles, 2 strips each 3” x 27” (7.5cm x 70cm), lining fabric 18” x 28” (45cm x 70cm) unless getting Liberty kit.

Pre class Preparation:

ONLY if bringing your own floral fabric: Choose 6 to 8 fabrics or more if you wish, and cut a total of 18, 4” (10cm) squares. With 4 of the chosen fabrics cut one additional piece each 4” x 12” (10cm x 30cm) and using a ¼” (7mm) seam join the 4 longer strips of fabric together in pairs, joining them along one LONG edge only. Use a medium length machine stitch, not tiny. Bring one skein of Stranded Embroidery Thread that goes with all fabrics, and 2 other skeins.

Choose Fabric Color Schema (actual fabrics may vary from those in photo):

Blue/Red: Left bag in photo

Pink/Aqua: Right bag in photo