

Chertsey Museum and Fun With Fabric Slouch Bag

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This is very loosely based on this bag <https://sewcanshe.com/easy-sling-bag-free-sewing-pattern/>

I have made changes to the original design, size and method. Benta@SLIKstitches.co.uk

YOU WILL NEED:

- Enough main fabric to cut 2 x pattern pieces. NB cut on fold instruction, and take care to ensure directional fabric is the right way up
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- (*You will be left with enough oval to make an internal pocket if required)

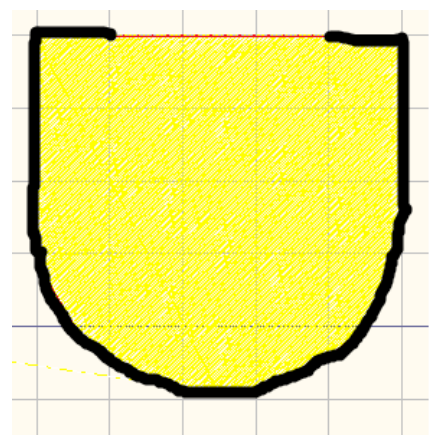
Cutting:

- Cut 2 x pattern of choice from main fabric and 2 x lining. NB If you want to use the wide strapping you will need to adjust the pattern: The straight top needs to be $\frac{1}{2}$ strap width plus $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. See Benta

PREPERATION:

****If you want an interior Slip Pocket***

- *Fold the oval piece in half (right sides facing) . Check for size against lining piece, shorten if necessary: It should be centered with the top edge below the top U-shape edge of the lining piece, and not extending beyond the cut out corners of the lining fabric*
- *Starting near a corner, sew to the corner, continue to the last corner, sew to a bit beyond the last corner, tie off thread leaving 3" opening on one side for turning.*
- *Clip the corners to reduce bulk.*
- *Topstitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from the straight edge to make the top of the pocket.*
- *Pin the pocket to a lining piece as trialled in first pocket instruction. Stitch around the side and bottom edges of the pocket, $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edges to sew the pocket to the lining and close the turning opening at the same time.*



Straps

- Cut appropriate length of webbing for the strap (start with 38" but see if you want longer or shorter before you cut). If preferred you may be able to make straps from off cuts: See Benta

Assemble the Bag

- Pin the two lining pieces (right sides facing) along the side and bottom edges.
- Sew the straight side edges. Sew the bottom edge, **leaving a 5-6" opening for turning the bag later.**
- **Do not sew the cut out squares at the bag corners.**
- To form the boxed corners, flatten the bag with the side seam against the bottom seam so the opening makes a straight line. Pin. Sew across the opening.
- Repeat steps 1-4 above to sew the bag exterior pieces together – except do not leave an opening in the bottom.
- Turn the bag exterior right side out.
- Place the bag lining over the bag exterior so that the two are right sides together. Match up the side seams and the U-shaped edges. Pin or clip along the U-shaped edges.
- Place webbing / handle between inner and outer pieces and poke out at the straight top but about ½ inch.
- Start to stitch (about 1/2 " seam allowance) just **after** an empty strap opening strap. Stitch curved edge to next strap, adjust stitch line to match the strap width and stitch across the strap (check with Benta). Continue to empty strap opening. Pin strap with safety pin.
- Turn bag the right way round and check strap position and length (and that it's not twisted). If all is good, turn bag inside out again and sew in final strap
- Trim corners
- Turn bag right way out, poke corners square
- Pin or clip top joints neatly and top stitch
- Sew opening on lining closed
- Add magnetic closure using pliers (wrap fabric around pliers to protect your fabric)

