

READY FOR ANYTHING

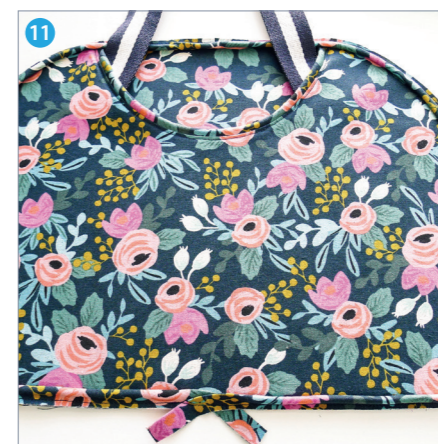
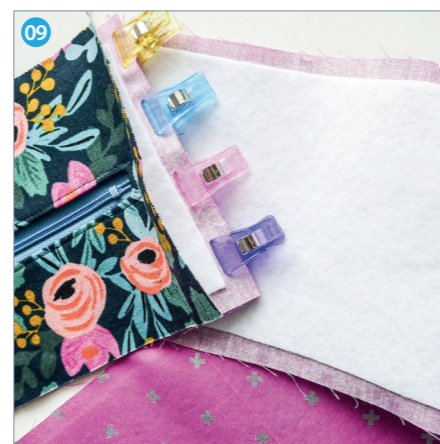
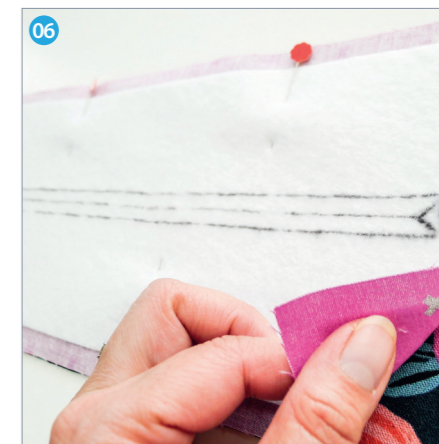
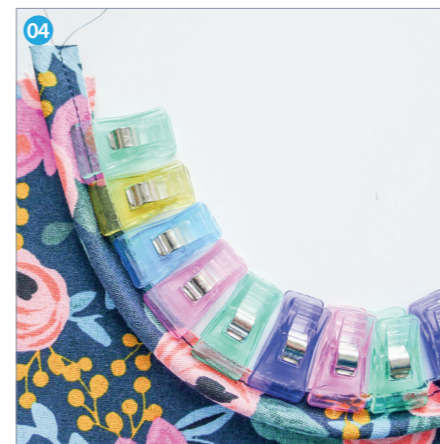
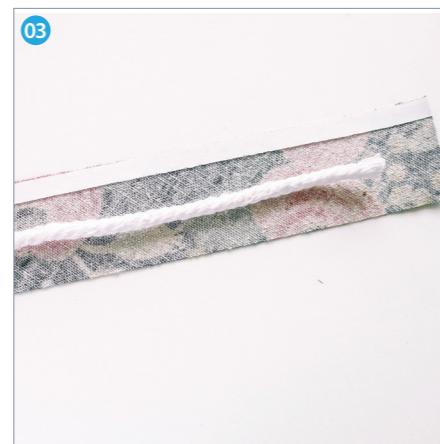
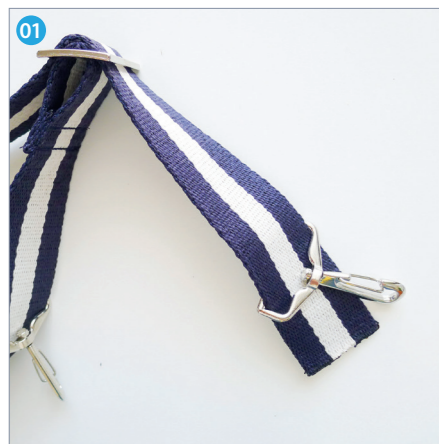
Carry all you need for busy weekends (and even busier workdays) in Lisa Lam's retro bowling-style bag.



READER OFFER!

GET 10% OFF
at U-handbag.com
with discount code
SSBA2*

*Code valid at www.u-handbag.com until 31st October 2018. One use per customer only.



YOU WILL NEED

- Outer fabric: 115x125cm (45x49in)
- Lining fabric: 115x100cm (45x40in)
- Iron-on woven interfacing: 100x90cm (40x35in)
- Iron-on fleece: 100x115cm (40x45in)
- Firm fusible interfacing: 50x99cm (19¾x1yd)
- Zip: 61cm (24in), for the bag closure
- Zip: 30cm (12in), for the pocket
- 2 D-rings: 38mm (1½in)
- 2 trigger hooks: 38mm (1½in)
- Rectangle slider: 25mm (1in)
- Webbing: 38mm (1½in) x 3m (3.5yds)
- Piping: 5mm (¼in) wide x 3.6m (4yds)
- Sewing clips
- Piping or zip machine foot
- Matching thread
- Basic sewing kit

FINISHED SIZE

- 43cm (W) x 33cm (H) x 15cm (D) (17x13x6in).

NOTES

- The seam allowance is 1cm (¾in) unless otherwise stated.
- All interfacing and hardware used is from www.u-handbag.com

CUTTING OUT

Step one Cut out the templates.
Step two From the main fabric cut:
Outer pocket: cut two using the template.
Front/back body: cut two using the template.
Top panel: 68x15cm (26x5¾in).
Base: 70x15cm (27¾x5¾in).
Pocket trim piping: cut two strips measuring 36x3.5cm (14¼x1¾in).
Bag front and back piping: cut 3.5cm (1¾in) wide bias strips to create a 145cm (57in) long strip.
Step three From the lining fabric cut:
Outer pocket: cut two using the template.
Front/back body: cut two using the template.
Top panel: 68x15cm (26x5¾in).
Inner pocket: cut two 28x24cm (11x9½in).
Base: 70x15cm (27¾x5¾in).
Step four From the iron-on woven interfacing cut:
Outer pocket interfacing: cut two.
Step five From the iron-on fleece cut:
Outer pocket interfacing: cut two using the template
Front/back body interfacing: cut two using the template.
Top panel: 65x12cm (25½x4¾in).
Base: 67x12cm (26¾x4¾in).
Step six From the firm fusible interfacing cut:
Front/back body interfacing: cut two using the template.
Base: 67x12cm (26¾x4¾in).

INTERFACING THE PIECES

Step one Following manufacturer's instructions, centrally press the medium-weight interfacing onto the wrong side (WS) of the main fabric outer pocket pieces and top panel.
Step two Centrally press the iron-on fleece onto the WS of the outer pocket lining, front/back body lining, base lining and top panel lining pieces.
Step three Press the iron-on firm interfacing centrally onto the WS of the main fabric front/back body and base outer pieces.

MAKING THE HANDLES

Step one Cut two 56cm (22¼in) pieces of webbing for the handles.
Step two Fold one of the handles in half by bringing the long edges together and stitch a 13x1cm (5¼x¾in) box in the handle centre. Stitch over the box twice for strength. This stitching reinforces the handles and makes them more comfortable to use.
Step three Repeat for the other bag handle.

MAKING THE STRAP

Step one Cut two 7.5cm (3in) lengths of webbing for the shoulder strap tabs. Thread a D-ring onto one of the webbing pieces, fold the webbing in half over the ring and stitch the ends together 5mm (¼in) from the edge to secure. Repeat with the other D-ring and

webbing piece.

Step two Cut a 150cm (59in) length of webbing for the adjustable shoulder strap. Thread one end of the strap under the first bar of the slider, over the central bar and back under the last bar, so that 7cm (2¾in) of the webbing extends from the slider.
Step three To hold the slider in place, first fold the end of the webbing you just threaded through the slider over to the WS by 2cm (¾in). Secure this folded edge to the webbing strap on the other side of the slider to create a loop around the centre bar with two lines of stitching 1cm (¾in) apart, stitching over the lines a few times for added strength.
Step four Thread one of the trigger hooks onto the other unsewn end of the strap, and then thread this end of the strap through the slider, then finally thread it through the other trigger hook and stitch this into place as for the slider, ensuring the strap is not twisted as you go. 01

MAKING THE PIPING TRIM

Step one Join the bias strips to make a strip 145cm (57in) long. 02
Step two Cut two 31cm (12¼in) lengths of piping cord. Find and mark the center of both pieces. Take one of the pocket trim bias strips and fold in half by bringing the long edges WS together. Press the fold and open out. Fold in half again by bringing the short edges WS

together and marking the center of the long edge onto the WS.
Step three Matching the centre points, lay the cord along the centre of the WS of the bias strip. To reduce bulk at the piping ends, the cord is slightly shorter than the bias strip. 03
Step four Fold the bias strip in half over the cord and stitch the long edges together 0.5cm (¼in) from the edge.
Step five Cut two 146cm (57½in) pieces of cord for the bag front and back trim and use the remaining bias strips to make the piping for the bag front and back.

MAKING THE OUTER POCKETS

Step one Mark the centre point of one of the pocket trim piping pieces. Repeat with the curved top edge of one of the interfaced pocket outer pieces.
Step two Match the centre points of both pieces then use sewing clips to attach the piping to the curved edge of the right side (RS) of one of the outer pocket pieces. You may notice the piping trim is slightly too long for the curved edge – this is deliberate to allow for ease. 04
Step three Using a zip or piping foot, stitch the piping in place 5mm (¼in) from the edge and trim off any excess.
Step four Pin or clip the pocket lining and outer pieces RS together, matching the curved edges.
Step five With the lining side facing up, trace

your fingers over the piping so you can see and feel the piping underneath. Using a zip or piping foot, stitch the pocket pieces together along the curve with a 1cm (¾in) seam allowance. Stitch as close to the piping as possible without stitching onto the piping.
Step six Turn the pocket RS out and press the curved top edge underneath the piping.
Step seven Repeat to make the other pocket.

ATTACHING THE HANDLES

Step one On both of the outer pockets, mark 2cm (¾in) in from both ends of the curved piped edge.
Step two Take one of the outer pockets and handles. Line up the ends of the handle with the pocket curved edge, with the outer side edges of the handle aligned with the 2cm (¾in) markings on the outer pocket from the previous step. Pin the handle ends in place just to hold.
Step three With the handle in position, turn the pocket over to the lining side. Using an erasable fabric marker, mark the handle outer and inner edges on the piping at both ends of the handle. Unpin the handle and use a seam ripper to unpick the curved seam between the markings. Slide the handle ends in between the pocket lining and outer through the holes you have just made and pin the handle into place.
Step four Ensure the lining raw edges are neatly tucked to the inside at both of the handle ends

THE BOWLING BAG

and then topstitch all the way along the RS of the pocket curved edge below the piping, 3mm (1/8in) from the curved edge. You may wish to use different bobbin thread to match the lining.

Step five Lift up the pocket outer layer. Using matching thread, stitch the handle ends to the lining fabric only, sewing twice for strength. **05**

Step six Repeat for the other pocket and handle.

MAKING THE TOP PANEL

Step one Draw a 61x1.5cm (24x5/8in) rectangle in the centre of the WS of the top panel lining. Draw a line along the centre of the rectangle, and then draw a small triangle at both ends of the rectangle, with the points of each triangle meeting this central drawn line.

Step two Place the top panel and top panel lining pieces RS together. Match raw edges and pin. **06**

Step three Stitch around the rectangle.

Step four Cut along the central drawn line inside the rectangle and into the diagonal lines at the rectangle ends.

Step five To reduce bulk, trim the lining fabric, cutting close to the seam.

Step six 'Post' the lining fabric through the hole and press so that the edges are crisp.

Step seven At the end of the zip where the tape splits open, hand-stitch the tape ends together.

Step eight Apply double-sided tape to the long edges of the zip tape then remove the backings.

Step nine Take the top panel with the RS facing up and position the hole over the zip. **07**

Step ten Ensure that the teeth of the zip are positioned centrally within the zip hole and press. Topstitch all the way around the zip hole, 3mm (1/8in) from the edge, to hold in place.

MAKING THE INNER POCKET

Step one Take one of the inner pocket pieces. On the WS, draw a 22x1.5cm (8 3/4x5/8in) rectangle in the centre in the same way as before, 4cm (1 1/2in) down from the top edge.

Step two Place this inner pocket piece onto one of the front/back body lining pieces with RS facing. Position the pocket piece centrally on the body lining, 6cm (2 3/8in) down from the top edge. Pin the pocket piece in place.

Step three Stitch the zip hole and attach the zip as for the top panel, but without stitching the zip tape ends together. Trim the excess zip ends so they don't extend past the pocket fabric. **08**

Step four Pin the other inner pocket piece to the attached pocket piece with RS facing.

Step five Stitch together all the way around the inner pocket pieces only. Do not stitch through the bag lining.

MAKING THE BASE

Step one Peel back one of the short edges of the main fabric top panel (with the zip) and pin or clip the lining top panel and base lining RS together along this short edge. **09**

Step two Sew together, but without stitching through the outer layer, and then press the seam

open. Repeat with the other side.

MAKING THE BAG LINING

Step one Open the top panel zip. Place the bag lining piece with the lining pocket attached RS together with one side of the base. Match the centre points and align the edges of the pieces and pin together. **10**

Step two Stitch together then press the seams open. Repeat with the other side and bag lining piece, this time leaving a 32cm (12 5/8in) turning gap in the bottom edge.

MAKING THE OUTER BAG

Step one Take one of the bag outer pieces and place an assembled outer pocket piece on top with the lining side of the outer pocket facing the right side (RS) of the bag outer. Then pin a body piping piece all around the edge of the two pieces with RS together. You will be pinning three layers together so work carefully to avoid missing any of the layers. As you pin the piping to the top edge fold the handbag handles down out of the way. At the bottom edge, cross the piping ends over each other with the ends pointing downwards.

Step two Begin stitching the piping to the outer piece and outer pocket at the cross-over point. Lifting the uppermost piping end out of the way and keeping the lowermost piping end pointing downwards, begin stitching at the lowermost piping end. Stitch the piping all the way around until you reach the piping cross at the beginning of your stitching. Keep the uppermost piping end pointing downwards and stitch over the piping cross. **11**

Step three Trim the excess piping at the cross.

Repeat with the other bag outer and piping.

Step four Keep the lining out of the way and place one of the webbing shoulder strap tabs with a D-ring attached onto the RS centre of one of the outer top panel short edges. **12**

Step five Sew the tab in place 5mm (1/8in) from the edge. Don't stitch through the outer layer. Repeat with the other handle tab and top panel.

Step six Make up the outer base as per the lining base. Avoid stitching through the lining. Topstitch the base top edge seam on the base RS.

Step seven Move the lining bag out of the way then pin and stitch one of the outer bag pieces to the outer base in the same way as the lining pieces have been assembled except don't leave a gap in the bottom edge. Use a zip or piping foot to stitch as close as you can to the piping.

FINISHING THE BAG

Step one To prevent the lining from collapsing into the bag when opened, stitch the lining top edge seam to the outer bag top edge seam. To do this, bring the lining and outer top panel seams together and pin. Stitch the lining and outer seams together 5mm (1/8in) from the edge. Stitch from one base top edge seam to the other. Repeat on the other side.

Step two Turn the bag RS out though the turning gap in the lining. Using a pressing cloth, press any areas where the interfacing has come away during turning.

Step three Bring the lining gap seams together, pin and stitch 3mm (1/8in) from the edge.

Step four To finish, clip the shoulder strap trigger hooks onto the D-rings on each side of the bag and then adjust the length of the shoulder strap to suit, using the slider.

