

## Free Project Simple Bag for ANY Applique!

by Kelly Mueller of *The Wooden Bear*

This is a free pattern for a simple bag that was shown in our *Hugs & Holly* book as one of the suggestions for other ways to use appliques. Appliques are so versatile that you can take what you already have and apply it to all sorts of projects.

The finished size of this bag is approximately 12 1/4" high by 6 1/4" wide, with a bottom that measures approximately 4" x 6 1/4". To give you a frame of reference, the Santa on the bag pictured at right measures approximately 5 1/2" x 7".

### Instructions

(Use 1/4" seam allowance and press seams as you go.)

1. Cut a piece of fabric measuring 15" x 21". The 15" edges will be the sides of the bag, and the 21" edges will be the top and bottom of the bag.
2. Draw a line with a fabric pencil or pen that is 2 1/4" from the bottom edge of the rectangle. The line will run parallel with the bottom edge and will go from side edge to side edge.
3. Fold the rectangle in half with right sides together (RST), matching the short edges, to measure 15" x 10 1/2". Press the fold.
4. Unfold the rectangle and apply your applique using your favorite method. Center the applique horizontally between the pressed fold and one of the raw side edges of the rectangle, and also centered vertically between the line you drew and the top edge of the bag. Be sure to leave some allowance at the top for gathering and tying the bag. This will be the front of your bag.
5. Refold the rectangle at your pressed fold, RST, and sew along the bottom and side edges of your bag.
6. To box the bottom of the bag, pinch the bottom corners, matching each side seam with the bottom fold of the bag, to make a point. Measure in 2" from each corner point, and draw a line from edge to edge. Sew along the line. Trim off the excess 1/4" from each seam. Turn the bag right side out.
7. Fold the top edge down 1/4", and press. Fold another 1/4", and press. Sew along the edge to finish.
8. Fill the bag with your goodies, and tie the top with raffia, ribbon, or a fabric bow. I added a couple of rusted jingle bells for my Santa bag. (We have some free printable recipe cards on our website that you could use to make goodies to fill your bag! Go to [www.thewoodenbear.com](http://www.thewoodenbear.com) and click on Free Downloads!)



### Options for this bag:

- Use the *TWBS15 October Jacks* pattern to put on the bag for your favorite trick-or-treaters. You could use just the two jack-o-lanterns, or add more of the applique pieces like some grass below them and the moon and bat above them. Tie with some orange and black raffia with a piece of candy or two tied to some of the strands.
- Try the *TWBP10 Snowballs Patternlet*. Place the snowballs randomly around the entire bag, and tie with a ribbon. We have a free download on our website for a recipe card for cocoa! You could make a batch, and include the recipe card and marshmallows for a great gift!
- Use the apple and button worm from the *TWBP19 School Books Patternlet* to make a great little bag for a teacher. You could possibly fill the bag with useful classroom supplies.
- Use the hearts and heart flowers from the *TWBA04 Just 2 Tea Towels Love Set* to make a Valentine bag for a loved one. It's just the right size for a giant chocolate heart!
- The *TWBS08 June Bugs* pattern would provide great appliques for a spring bag. An option for this bag might be flower-scented handmade soaps, or homemade potpourri.

The possibilities are endless!

*This pattern is not to be sold. It is intended to be a free pattern for quilt shops to use or hand out to customers for their use. It may be inserted as part of a kit sold by quilt shops. (We have more free printables on our website! Go to [www.thewoodenbear.com](http://www.thewoodenbear.com) and click on Free Downloads!)* 05/28/12



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