

# Piecekeeper PROJECT BAG

Store and carry all your project pieces or supplies in this handy zippered bag with attached handle. Fabric quilted with Soft and Stable® makes a sturdy base and the mesh front affords great visibility of contents plus a bit of added stretchiness.

Finished: 11" H x 16" W

## YOU WILL NEED:

- Fabric — three fat quarters in coordinating prints/colors
- ByAnnie's Soft and Stable® — 13" x 18"
- Fusible interfacing\* — 1/4 yard
- ByAnnie's Lightweight Mesh fabric\* — 8 1/2" x 17"
- Zipper\* — 24" single-slide handbag zipper
- Thread to match fabric

\* Available at [www.ByAnnie.com](http://www.ByAnnie.com)



Pictured: Seeds & Stems by Kathy Doughty for Free Spirit Fabrics

## I. CUT AND QUILT

**NOTE:** Cutting dimensions are height (lengthwise grain) of fabric x width (crosswise grain with selvages on sides) of fabric.

### Need Help?

Check out the Add-on Video Tutorial at [ByAnnie.com](http://ByAnnie.com) for help with this project.

### A. Cut

#### From main fabric cut:

- Back Main (to be quilted) — 13" x 18"
- Front Border — 3" x 17"

#### From lining fabric cut:

- Back Lining (to be quilted) — 13" x 18"
- Border Lining — 3" x 17"

#### From coordinating fabric cut:

- Bias Binding — 13 1/2" x 13 1/2"
- Handle — 4" x 12"

#### From ByAnnie's Soft and Stable® cut:

- Back Stabilizer — 13" x 18"

#### From fusible interfacing cut:

- Border Interfacing — 3" x 17"
- Handle Interfacing — 4" x 12"

#### From mesh fabric cut:

- Mesh Front — 8 1/2" x 17"

## B. Quilt to Prepare Bag Back

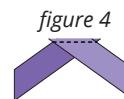
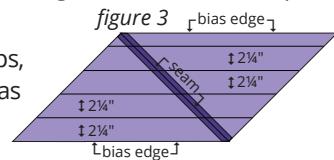
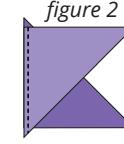
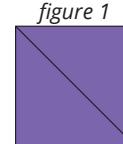
1. Sandwich the 13" x 18" Back Lining, Back Stabilizer, and Back Main pieces (lining face down, Soft and Stable, main fabric face up) and quilt. Pin to secure layers.
2. Quilt as desired using a medium-length machine stitch. If you are straight stitching, a walking foot helps all three layers move evenly under the foot without shifting or pulling.
3. Trim the quilted piece to 11" x 16" and sew 1/8" from edge to seal edges. This piece will now be called the Bag Back; set aside.

## II. PREPARE COMPONENTS

USE accurate 1/4" seams unless directed otherwise.

### A. Prepare Bias Binding

- 1. Cut the 13 1/2" x 13 1/2" Bias Binding (coordinating fabric) in half diagonally (figure 1).
- 2. With right sides together, sew the two triangles together along one short side (figure 2). Press seam open.
- 3. From the resulting parallelogram, cut 2 1/4" strips, aligning ruler along long bias edge (figure 3).
- 4. With right sides together, join ends of strips, offsetting tips 1/4" and sewing from cleavage to cleavage (figure 4). Press seams open; trim tips.
- 5. With right sides out, fold the binding in half lengthwise and pin every 3" to 4" to secure; set aside.  
**TIP:** Pinning rather than pressing yields a much smoother, wrinkle-free binding.



### B. Prepare Handle

- 1. Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse the 4" x 12" Handle Interfacing to the wrong side of the 4" x 12" Handle (coordinating fabric).
- 2. With right side out, fold the interfaced Handle in half to 2" x 12"; press to mark center fold. Open and bring long raw edges to pressed center line; press again. Fold in half again to create a 1" x 12" strap. Topstitch around all sides, sewing 1/8" from edge (figure 5); set aside.

figure 5



## C. Prepare Bag Front

- 1. Attach zipper to Mesh Front.
  - a. With **WRONG** sides together, zipper slide to left and mesh on top, clip the  $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 17''$  Mesh Front to the long edge of a 24" zipper, allowing zipper to extend beyond mesh on each end (figure 6).
  - b. Sew the mesh to the zipper, stitching  $\frac{1}{4}''$  along the top long edge. Finger-press the zipper tape to the front of the mesh and sew along the very edge of the zipper tape, flattening the tape against the mesh as you go, enclosing the raw edges of mesh.
  - c. Trim mesh at bottom to make a piece  $8\frac{1}{2}''$  high, measuring from top long edge of zipper tape to bottom of mesh.
- 2. Attach the Front Border and Border Lining.
  - a. Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse the  $3'' \times 17''$  Border Interfacing to the wrong side of the  $3'' \times 17''$  Front Border (main fabric).
  - b. With right sides together, align the top 17" side of the interfaced Front Border along the bottom of the Mesh Front; pin/clip to hold (figure 7).
  - c. Turn the piece over and position the  $3'' \times 17''$  Border Lining (lining fabric) with right side of fabric down along the same long edge of the Mesh Front, aligning raw edges. Pin/clip to hold. This sandwiches the mesh between the two fabric pieces.
  - d. Sew together through all layers along long clipped/pinned edge (figure 8).
  - e. Open border pieces and carefully press seams to fabric, making a  $11'' \times 17''$  piece which will now be called the Bag Front. On main fabric side, topstitch along the border, sewing  $\frac{1}{8}''$  to  $\frac{1}{4}''$  from seam (figure 9).

figure 6

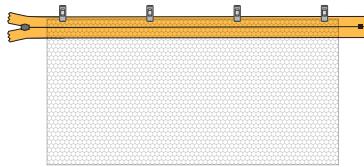


figure 7

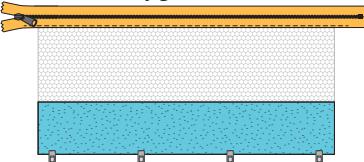


figure 8

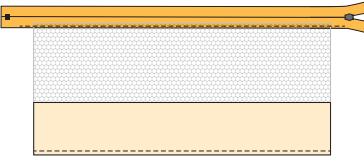
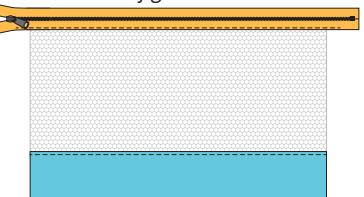


figure 9

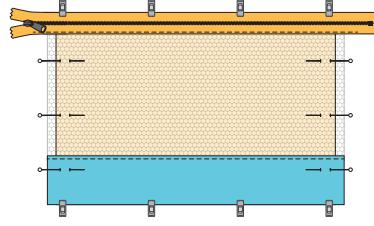


## III. ASSEMBLE BAG

### A. Attach Bag Front to Bag Back

- 1. With right side up, position prepared Bag Front on *lining* side of  $11'' \times 16''$  Bag Back (quilted), aligning long edge of zipper with top of Bag Back. Zipper tape and mesh will extend beyond quilted fabric on sides; pin/clip to hold in place (figure 10).
- 2. Beginning at top left corner of bag, sew through all layers with an  $\frac{1}{8}''$  seam, sewing across zipper tape, down right side, across bottom, and up left side. Be sure to move zipper slide to inside of bag before stitching across zipper tape.
- 3. Trim excess zipper tape and mesh on sides even with edges. The piece is now called the Bag Body.

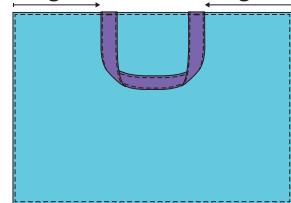
figure 10



### B. Attach Handle

- 1. On the back (main fabric side) of the Bag Body, make a small mark 5" in from each side on the top 16" edge.
- 2. Pin/clip the prepared  $1'' \times 12''$  Handle (main fabric) to the inside of the marks, aligning raw edges with top edge and being careful not to twist the handle. Stitch across each raw edge, sewing  $\frac{1}{8}''$  from edge (figure 11).

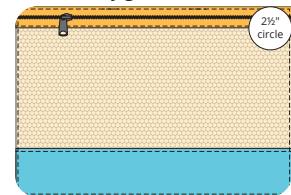
figure 11



### C. Round Corners and Bind

- 1. From the front, round all four corners of the Bag Body by positioning a  $2\frac{1}{2}''$  circular object in each corner and cutting around the outer edge (figure 12). Re-seal edges.
- 2. Using the  $2\frac{1}{4}''$  Bias Binding made earlier, bind the raw edges of the Bag Body, sewing first to the back (main fabric side) of the bag.
  - a. Leaving about a 6" tail, align the raw edges of the binding with the raw edges of the bag, starting approximately 3" in from a bottom corner. Sew through all layers using a  $\frac{1}{4}''$  seam.
  - b. Join ends using method of your choice and finish stitching binding to back of bag.
  - c. Turn binding to front; topstitch close to folded edge of binding. **TIP:** A stiletto makes this much easier.

figure 12



by **annie**<sup>TM</sup>.com

... what's in your bag?

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## Happy stitching!

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