



May Edition

STUFF YOUR STUFF BAG

By Jill Finley of Jillily Studio



You can stuff all kinds of stuff into this bag! Whether you are headed to the beach or on a picnic or just running errands, this bag is the perfect companion. It has plenty of room in the large drawstring compartment, and there are six pockets on the outside to keep things handy. My Poppy Patio fabric is perfect for this project—with the fun floral print for the bag and three colors of zig zags for the pockets.

Supplies

1 yard of floral print for bag
 ¼ yard *each* of three coordinating fabrics for pockets
 1 yard of fabric for lining
 3 yards of ¼" cording for drawstrings
 Soft and Stable batting byAnnies

Cutting

From the main floral print, cut:

- (2) squares, 20" x 20"
- (1) circle, 12 ½" in diameter

From the lining fabric, cut:

- (2) squares, 20" x 20"
- (1) circle, 12 ½" in diameter



From *each* pocket fabric, cut:

- (2) 7" x 14" (for a total of 6 pockets)

From Soft and Stable, cut:

- (2) 19" x 7"
- (1) circle, 12 ½" in diameter

Construction

1. Sew the lining pieces together on two opposite sides **using a ½" seam**. Stop and backstitch 3" from top edge of the bag as shown. Press seam open including the seam allowance at the top of the bag. This will make a large tube.
2. Fold the circles in half and press, then fold in half again pressing to mark the circle in quarters. Mark the center of the tube from step 1 in half at the centers. Place the lining circle right side up with the bottom edge of the lining tube on top, with right sides together. Sew the bottom edge of the tube to the circle in a ¼" seam, matching the markings as you go. Set your lining aside.
3. Prepare your pockets: Sew three pocket pieces together side by side along the long edge. Fold the pockets in half with the wrong sides together and insert a Soft and Stable 19" x 7" piece inside and center it. Baste around the sides and bottom edge to hold it in place. Make two.
4. Lay a pocket section along the bottom edge of the bag front. Baste in place. Top stitch down the pocket section at the seams where the pockets meet creating 3 pockets. Repeat for the bag back.

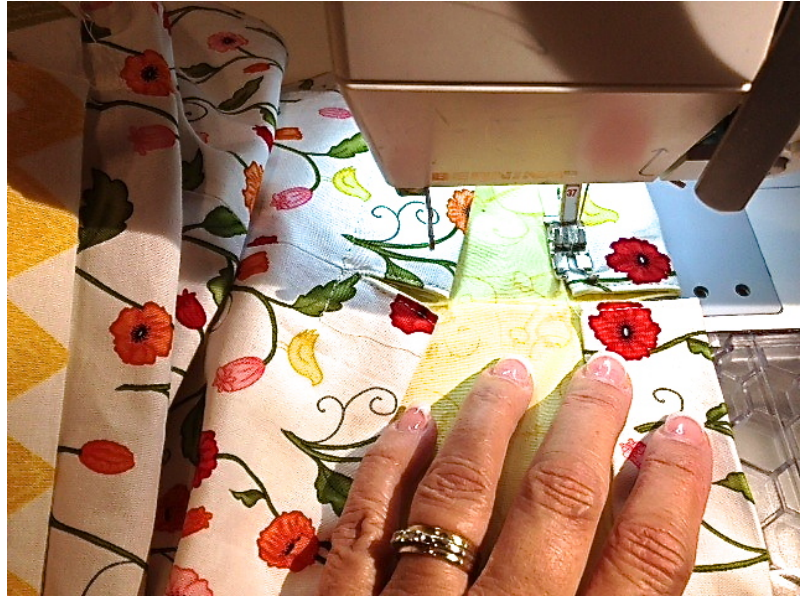
5. Place the bag front and bag back right sides together and sew from the bottom of the bag to 3" from the top edge (on both sides) in a $\frac{1}{2}$ " **seam** as you did for the lining. Press seam open.
6. Place the 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " circles of Soft and Stable and the floral print wrong sides together and stitch across in a few places to keep them together making the bag bottom.
7. Sew the bag top with the pockets attached to the circle of the bag bottom as you did in step 2 for the lining. (right sides together) Use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.



8. Place the lining inside the bag with the wrong sides together. Match up the top edges and the seam allowances from the top edge. Sew along the fold of the seam allowances down 3" and back up the other side. This will encase the raw edges.



9. Press the top edge of the bag under $\frac{1}{4}$ " and fold that edge down $1\frac{1}{4}$ " to create a casing. (Fold both the lining fabric and the outer bag fabric together.) Stitch close to the folded edge. When you get to the side seams, just keep sewing onto the next bag section.



10. Cut your cording in half making two $1\frac{1}{2}$ yard pieces. Tape the ends with clear plastic tape to make it stiff. Feed one piece through the casings starting and ending on the left side of the bag. Knot the two ends together. Feed the second piece through the casing starting and ending on the right side of the bag. Knot the two ends together. Now when you pull on the knots on either side, it will gather the bag closed.

11. Stuff some stuff into your Stuff Your Stuff Bag. Enjoy!

