

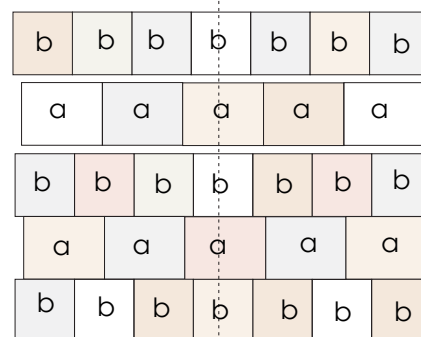
PATCHWORK TRAVEL DRAWSTRING BAG

CUTTING & PIECING INSTRUCTIONS

Use any of your cream and ivory scraps and cut the following [any patchwork would be fine actually as long as you end up with the same final size]:

Cut (10) 5" x 6 1/4" [a] and (21) 5" x 4 3/4" [b].

- Lay the squares out as shown at right. Sew rows together, center on each other [they will be slightly different lengths] and press open. Your piece will be app. 29" wide [uneven] x 23" tall.
- Cut a 36" length of ribbon/tape [or double if desired- see step 9].
- Cut a backing piece 24" x 30" [I recommend ivory solid or muslin]



ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1: Make a quilt sandwich with your patchwork, backing and a scrap of batting, just like you would for a quilt.

Step 2: Add simple quilting. I used my "go to stitch" and added large ZIG ZAG stitching to the entire patchwork.

Step 3: Trim the finished size to (2) app. 14" x 22" [see dashed line above for a visual of where to cut the patchwork apart into two pieces]. *If you would like slightly more finished inside seams, feel free to zigzag or satin stitch all the way around your rectangles at this step.*

Step 4: Fold down the top edge [14 1/2" side] of each piece down by 1/2" toward the backside, press, and stitch in place.

Step 5: Place your (2) patchworks RST. Sew bottom and side edges together using a 3/8" seam allowance. Stop and backstitch 4" from the folded top of your bag on each side.

Step 6: Press the side seam allowance open, continue pressing it open all the way up, including the 4" portion that is not yet sewn together. Carefully sew those 2 edges down, starting at the top of one side, turning and pivoting about 1/4" below the opening, backstitching, and then continuing up the other side. Repeat for the other side of the casing as well. See diagram at right for a visual.

Step 7: Fold the top edge down by 2" to the backside of your patchwork and pin in place across the bag. Sew this flap down to create your casing. Top stitch around the top edge of the casing as well to create a finished look along the top edge. Repeat on the other side as well. You will now have a finished casing on each side of the bag.

Step 8: Turn bag right side out.

Step 9: Add the drawstring. This can be ribbon, twill tape, twine, etc. Put a safety pin at one end of your ribbon to help thread it through your casing all the way through from one side, through both sides of the casing and back where you started. Tie both ends into a knot.

If you want to be able to cinch your bag tighter, then add one more length of twill tape running in the opposite direction so there are ties on both sides of the casing when you are done.

