

# Barrel Bag

by Gailen Runge

## MATERIALS

- ¼ yard purse fabric
- ¼ yard purse accent fabric
- ¼ yard lining fabric
- fast2fuse LIGHT Pack 15" × 18"
- 2 store-bought purse handles
- 4 purse handle loops ½"
- 14" zipper



## Cutting

### • PURSE FABRIC:

Cut 2 rectangles 6½" × 12½" for the front and back.

### • PURSE ACCENT FABRIC:

Cut 2 strips 2" × 15" for the zipper placket.

Cut 1 strip 3½" × 20½" for the sides and bottom.

Cut 4 strips 2" × 2¾" for the handle attachments.

### • LINING FABRIC:

Cut 2 rectangles 6½" × 12½" for the lining front and back.

Cut 1 strip 3½" × 18½" for the lining sides and bottom.

### • FAST2FUSE LIGHT:

Cut 2 rectangles 6" × 12".

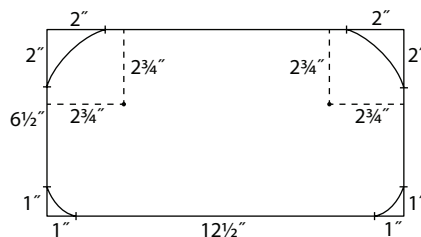
Cut 1 strip 3" × 18".

## Construction

Use a ¼" seam allowance for all seams.

### Make a pattern

1. Draw a rectangle 6½" × 12½".
2. Make marks along the top edge, 2" in from each corner.
3. Make marks along both sides, 2" down from the top corner and 1" up from the bottom corner.
4. Make marks along the bottom edge, 1" in from each corner.
5. Round the 4 corners between the marks.
6. Make marks 2¾" in and down from the top corners to show the center of the handle connections.



### Sew the zipper placket

1. Center the zipper on a 2" × 15" accent fabric strip, with the edges aligned and right sides together.
2. Sew them together the entire length of the zipper tape.
3. Repeat with the other strip of accent fabric and the other side of the zipper.
4. Press each seam toward the fabric strip and topstitch as close to each seam as possible.
5. Trim the placket to 3½" wide.

### Make the top / bottom / sides band

1. Find the center of the zipper placket and measure out 6¾" on each side. Use a pin to mark those spots.
2. To sew the zipper placket and side/bottom strip into a loop, place the zipper placket and the 3½" × 20½" strip with right sides together, lining up a short end of the strip with the pin on the placket. (The placket will stick out an inch or so farther than the strip.)
3. Sew along the short end. (Open the zipper halfway so it doesn't interfere with the stitching here and in Step 5.)

**NOTE:** Sew slowly as you sew through the teeth of the zipper.

4. Press the seam toward the strip and topstitch as close to the seam as possible. Trim the remaining placket fabric, at least ¼" away from the seam.
5. Repeat with the other end of the placket and strip.

### Make the handle attachments

1. Fold the attachment rectangles in half, right sides together, aligning the long edges. Sew.
2. Center the seam and press it open.
3. Sew across one short end.
4. Turn it right side out.

### Make the purse

1. Cut out the purse front and back using the pattern.
2. Mark the handle placement on the right side of both the front and back.
3. Fold the handle attachment strips in half, with the unfinished end slightly shy of the finished end.
4. Pin the folded handle attachments to the purse front. Center the bottom of the folded attachment at the marks with the unfinished ends facing the purse front.
5. Topstitch in place, forming a ½" square with the stitches at the bottom of the rectangle. (There will be a loose channel at the top for the purse handle loop.) Repeat with the back.
6. Mark the center of the zipper placket and the center of the front. Pin the strip to the purse front, right sides together, matching the centers and edges. Sew all around the purse front.
7. Make sure the zipper is open and repeat Step 6 with the purse back.
8. Turn the purse right side out. Press the seams.

### Make the lining

1. Cut out the purse lining front and back using the pattern.
2. Trim ⅜" off the pattern all around. Use the trimmed pattern to cut the fast2fuse.
3. Fuse the fast2fuse to the wrong side of the lining front and back and the 3½" × 18½" lining side/bottom strip, centering the fast2fuse on the fabric.
4. Sew the lining front to the side/bottom strip, right sides together, matching the center of the bottom of the front with the center of the strip.
5. Repeat Step 4 with the lining back.
6. Fold the outside seam allowance of the lining and carefully fuse it to the outside of the fast2fuse, making sure the iron does not go past the fabric onto the fusible part of the fast2fuse.

### Putting it together

1. Slide the lining inside the bag.
2. Fuse the finished bag to the fast2fuse lining.
3. Attach the handles.