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*The Magic
in the Middle*

Small Fry Duffle Bag Skill Level: Intermediate

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Take just the right amount of stuff with this kid size duffle bag! Small enough that your child can carry it but large enough to fit everything you need!

Materials Needed

- 1 yard Fabric (for outside)
- 1 1/2 yards 809 Décor Bond[®]
- 1 yard Heavy Material (Example uses Duck Cloth)
- 1 Zipper (Longer than your bag is wide)
- 1 yard 810 Tru-Grid[™]

Tools Needed

- Sewing Machine & Matching Thread
- Scissors
- Pinking Shears (optional)
- Large Bowl (for tracing)
- Pins
- Iron & Ironing Board

Step 1. First, decide how big to make your bag. Trace a large mixing bowl on Tru-Grid™ to start. This will be the pattern for your two round side pieces. The size of these determines the size of everything else. Example shown is 9 1/4" in diameter. Whatever you choose to trace you will then want to fold the circle in half, measure straight across the middle (giving you your diameter). Multiply the diameter by 3.14 and then add 1 inch for turning under a 1/2 inch on each side to sew on the zipper. This will give you the length of the piece you will cut for the body of the bag. Width shown is 18 ". Along with this cut three 3" x 72" strips for the handles. Cut matching pieces out of the interfacing and duck cloth for the sides and body of the bag.

- 2 side circles of fabric
- 2 side circles of interfacing
- 2 side circles of duck cloth(Example is 30" x 18")
- 1 bag body of interfacing
- 1 bag body of duck cloth
- 3 handle pieces

Step 1



Step 2. Assemble the sides and the body of the bag by placing the outer piece right side down, the Décor Bond on it, according to project instructions. Then add the duck cloth as well. Pin and stitch with a basting stitch or with a serger. If you aren't going to serge them then pink them with pinking shears.

Step 2



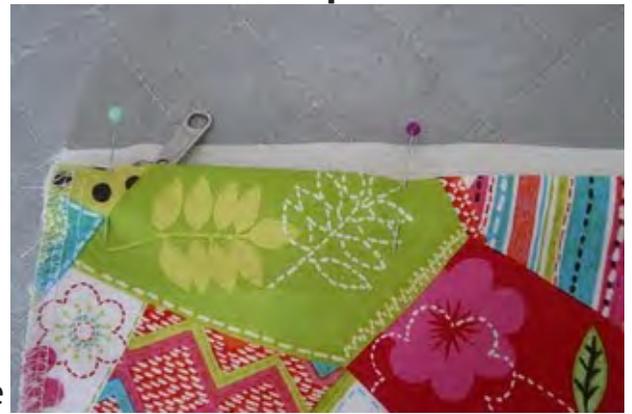
Step 3. On the body piece, fold under a 1/2" on both of the short ends. These are the two pieces that will attach to the zipper and form the center of the bag.

Step 4. Take the zipper and match it up so that the top of the zipper is matching with the edge of the fabric. Pin the fabric so that the fold is centered over the teeth of the zipper. Do this only on one side.

Step 5 . At your sewing machine , pull the zipper pull down so that the zipper is open a couple of inches. Line up your presser foot so that you are sewing about an 1/4" in from the fold of the fabric. Start stitching and do a backstitch. Continue sewing. When you get close to the zipper stop sewing. Put your needle down in the fabric, lift your presser foot and pull up to the zipper to close. Put your presser foot back down and continue sewing. Don't worry if your zipper is longer than your fabric. You can trim it flush to the fabric edge.

Step 6. Repeat this process with the other side of the zipper only this time you will have to place your bag around the free arm part of your machine and it is a bit trickier when you get to the end of the zipper.

Step 4



Step 5



Step 6



Step 7. Fold the side circles in half and pressing with an iron to make a crease.

Step 7



Step 8

Step 8. Match the crease with the center top of the bag (the zipper) and the bottom of the bag (may be a good idea to fold the bag and press the bottom to make a crease). Pin all the way around the edge of the circle and bag. Notice how the side piece sits inside the bag body piece. Tip: Use lots of Pins.



Step 9. To sew the two together, flatten the side edge of the bag on the sewing machine and stitch around the edge making sure the body of the bag is not getting tucked under or folded into your seam as you are sewing. It can be pretty tricky-go slow and steady. Don't worry if you get little tucks as you sew. Once again, if you didn't surge the edges, clip the edges every 1/2" towards seam and then pink all edges.

Step 9



You're half finished now!



Step 10. Now for the handle: Take your 3 fabric strips and sew them end to end to create one long fabric strip. Tip: if you are making a large bag than the example measurements you will need an extra fabric strip. Fold the long piece in half lengthwise and sew along the edges.

Step 10



Step 11: Turn handle right side out and press so that the crease is in the center bottom, fold under a 1/2" on one end, tuck the unfolded end into the folded end and stitch across forming a giant loop. MAKE SURE YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR HANDLE PIECE TWISTED.

Step 12. Lay loop out flat, then fold in half (again making sure there are no twists). Press the folded end with your iron (The one fartherest to the top in the photo) . This is the center of the loop.

Step 12



Step 13. Reopen this handle piece to where it is making one giant loop. The part that you just pressed with the iron should be the center. Now take your duffle bag and lay it so that the straps are running perpendicular to the bag and the creases on the handle piece match the bottom center of the bag. Straps should come in 4" from the side of the bag. Pin in place. If you were to grab each handle piece and lift up the bag should be in the center now.

Step 13



Step 14. Continue pinning the handle pieces around the bag (making sure they are 4" in from the side). The last pin should be 3" from the zipper. You don't want to sew the handle all the way to the zipper. Make sure the entire handle piece is pinned on all the way around the bag.

Step 14



Step 15: To sew on the handles first unpin the pin at the 3" from the zipper edge leaving the pin in the handle piece (just not having it attached to the bag). Stitch along the edge all the way to the other pin on the other side. Repeat on the other side of this handle (this gives this part of the handle a finished edge) then repin it to the bag and sew the handle on the opposite side of the bag in this manner.

Step 15



Step 16. To sew the handle on completely begin by unzipping the bag. Starting from the pin (at the 3" from the zipper mark) stitch across the strap (from one side to the other) and then down the side all the way around the bag to other side where you will stitch across at the 3" pin and back down and around to where you started. Repeat on the other part of the handle. Your Small Fry Duffle Bag is complete.

Step 16

