

Hexie HANDBAG

{ by Jennifer Davey }

Create a cozy tote for fall featuring custom piping and hand-stitched velvet hexagons.

Supplies

- 1 yard of suiting fabric
- 1½ yards of lining fabric (such as silk doupioni)
- 2 yards of stiff fusible interfacing
- ⅛ yard of lightweight fusible interfacing
- Velvet scraps in assorted colors
- Two 4"x25" strips of contrasting fabric (handles)
- Matching all-purpose thread
- Fusible cording (See "Source.")
- Zipper foot
- Hand sewing needle

Cut

Download the Hexie Handbag pattern and hexagon template from sewnews.com/web_extras.

From the suiting, lining and stiff interfacing, cut two large panels, two side panels, one base, two side pockets and two large pockets each.

From the velvet and lightweight interfacing, cut eight hexagons each.

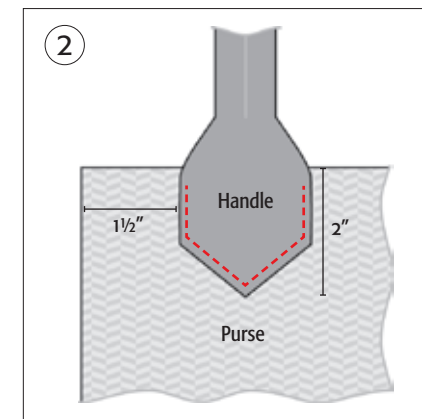
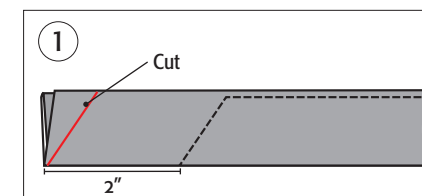


Construct

Use ½" seam allowances unless otherwise noted.

Trim ½" from each stiff interfacing perimeter. Center each interfacing piece over the corresponding suiting wrong side; fuse following the manufacturer's instructions.

From the lining fabric, cut enough 1⅜"-wide bias strips to create 70" of piping. Piece the strips along the short ends with right sides together; press open the seams. With wrong sides together, wrap the bias strips around the fusible cording. Following the manufacturer's instructions, press the seam allowance to fuse.



With raw edges aligned, align the piping on the right side along one large-pocket upper edge. Clip the piping seam allowance at the corner point to pivot. Trim the excess piping at the side edge. Position one lining pocket right side down over the front pocket, sandwiching the piping. Install a zipper foot onto the machine. Stitch the pocket upper edge close to the piping. Turn the pocket right side out; press. Repeat to create the back and side pockets.

With right sides facing up, place each pocket over the corresponding purse pieces, aligning the sides and lower edge; baste using a ¼" seam allowance. Stitch the front and back pocket along the widthwise centerline.

Align one interfacing hexagon over each velvet hexagon right side. Stitch each perimeter using an ⅛" seam allowance. Trim the corners and cut a small slit in the interfacing center. Turn the hexagon right side out through the slit; finger-press.

Pin the hexagons over the front-pocket right side according to the photo above or as desired; hand stitch each hexagon perimeter using a small whipstitch.

With wrong sides together, press each handle strip in half lengthwise. Open the strips, and then fold each long edge toward the wrong side to meet at the center. Refold each strip along the center; press.

Beginning 2" from each short end, stitch at a 45° angle from the fold toward the open edge. Pivot, and then edgestitch the open edge. End stitching 2" from the opposite short edge, and then stitch at a 45° angle toward the fold.

Cut the handle ends at a 45° angle from the fold toward the open edge (1). Open the first handle fold. Pin the handle ends to the purse front and back right side, positioning them 1½" from the side and the handle point 2" below the upper edge. Edgestitch the handle ends (2).

With right sides together, stitch each purse side to the front; press open the seams. Stitch the back to the opposite side edges. Stitch the base to the purse lower edge.

Repeat to assemble the lining, leaving a 4" opening along one base seam for turning.

Beginning 1" from the beginning, attach piping to the purse upper edge according to the pocket instructions. Lap the piping end 1" over the beginning, turning each end into the seam allowance; stitch. With right sides together, insert the lining into the outer purse, sandwiching the piping. Stitch the upper edge close to the piping. Turn the purse right side out; press the upper edge. Slipstitch the lining opening closed. ∞

SOURCE
Clover provided the Wrap 'n Fuse Piping; (800) 233-1703, clover-usa.com.