



FL/ST/Construction/2010/101pr Project Skills: seams, seam finishes, pivoting, trimming, top stitching Life Skills: Learning to learn, decision making Level: 1A

# Weighted Pincushion and Thread Bag

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A pin cushion and thread bag at your fingertips can be very helpful when sewing. A pin cushion that stays in place and anchors your thread bag is an added bonus. Here is a simple bag and pin cushion pattern weighted down with tiles and gripper mesh to hold it in place. It is fun, useful and easy to make.

#### Supplies Needed:

- Pattern (enlarge 35% to fit 11X17" paper)
- 2 4x4" ceramic tiles
- 1 4x4" shelf liner or gripper mesh
- 23x17"piece of heavy weight fabric
- 23" matching trim
- 1 cup of crushed walnuts or doll plastic pelts
- Matching thread
- Hand needle
- Tacky craft glue or a hot glue stick with glue gun

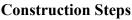


#### Layout

#### Step #1

Cut the pattern pieces out. Lay pattern pieces onto the fabric. Pin pattern pieces in place and cut out. ( for pattern and pattern layout see pg.5. Note: Remember to enlarge pattern and add  $10\frac{1}{2}$  to the side of the bag pattern.)





# Small Strap

#### Step #1

Fold each of the strap pieces in half lengthwise and press.



# Step #2

Open up the pressed piece and fold the raw edges to the center inside of the fold each with the right side of the fabric facing out.

 $\mathcal{P}$  Press the raw edges down the center dent.



# Step #3

Fold in half and press again.

# Step #4

 $\gg$  Sew next to the two folded edges using the inside of the toe as a guide to close. Set aside.



# Pin cushion

# Step #1

 $\gg$  Take the pincushion piece and match up the two short ends right sides together. Sew a  $\frac{1}{2}$  " seam allowance across, leaving open  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in the middle to fill the pin cushion. Backstitch at the beginnings and ends of stitching.





# Step #2

 $^{\circ}$  Press the seam open in the center of pin cushion.

# Step #3

 $\gg$  With the right sides together place the seam in the center and sew 1/4" seam down both sides of the pin cushion.

# Step # 4

 $\times$  Trim corners and turn right side out. Fill pin cushion with crushed walnut shells or doll plastic pellets using a funnel.



# Step #5

 $\approx$  Close the opening with a small whip stitch or and uneven slip stitch.

# **Bag Construction**

# Step #1

With right sides together match up the side seam of the body of the bag. Pin the edges together. Sew a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam down the side stopping  $\frac{1}{4}$ "from the bottom. Leave the needle in the down position at the bottom of the seam.

# Step #2

 $\gg$  With the needle in the down position pivot, the fabric and match up the next side. Sew around the bottom of the bag pivoting at each corner. Clip corners.

# Step #3

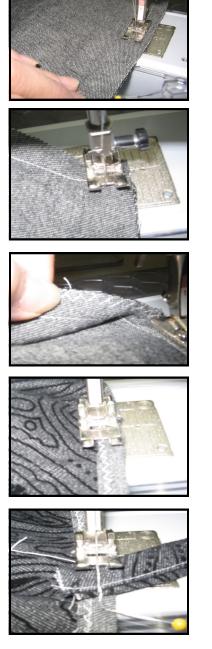
 $\gg$  Finish the edges of the seam with a zigzag stitch.

# Step #4

Since  $1/2^{\circ}$  Finish the top edge of the bag with a zigzag stitch. Fold the top edge of the bag down  $1/2^{\circ}$  to the right side. Stitch in place.

# Step #5

 $\checkmark$  Position the two bag straps at the top of the bag in the outside corners. Sew in place as shown. Trim the strap ends down to  $\frac{1}{4}$  so that the trim will cover the raw edge.





# Step #6

 $\times$  Cover the top edge and straps with the trim . Pin in place. Stitch on both sides of the trim tucking under the end tail piece to prevent unraveling.

# **Project Assembly**

# Step #1

Take the shelf liner and trim it to fit the bottom of the tile. Glue the shelf liner to the bottom tile. The shelf liner is a mesh and the glue will leak through. Places tiles on a piece of wax paper to protect surface or dry bottom side up. Let glue dry.

# Step #2

Take the two tiles and place the wrong sides together Lift the top tile and place a generous amount of hot or tacky glue on the bottom tile. Place the two straps of the bag in between the two tiles add more glue and clamp together.

Let the glue dry.



Your project is complete!

# Step #4

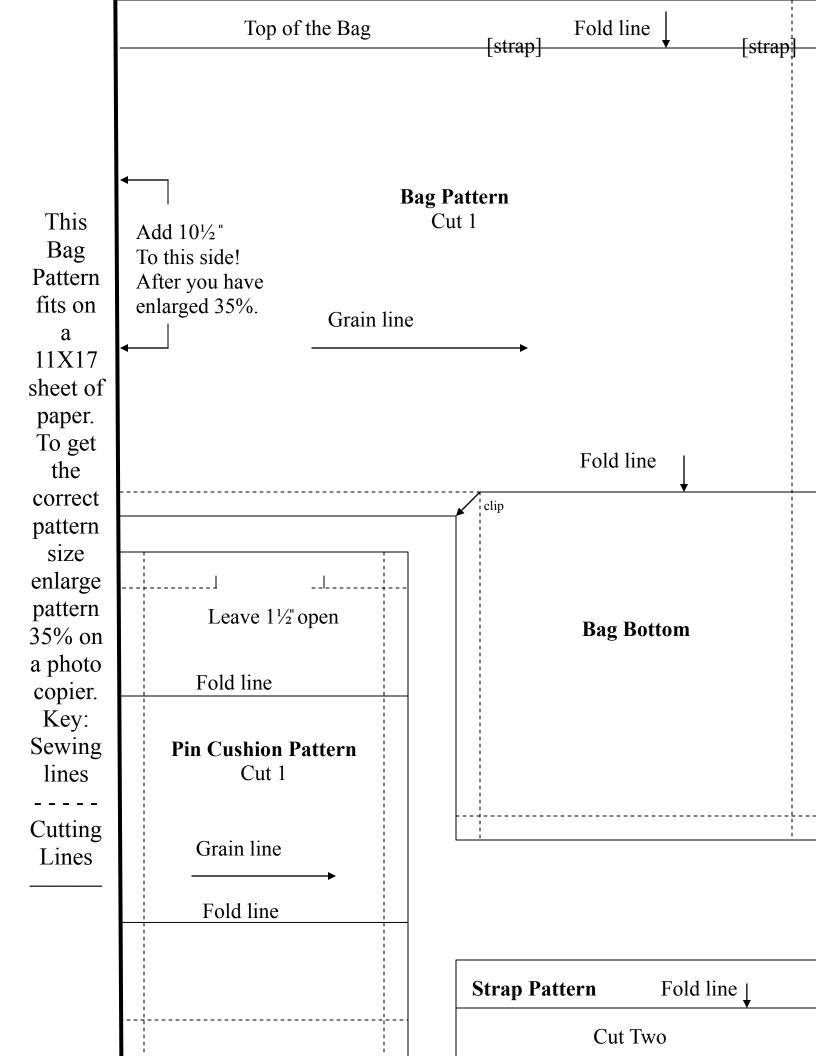
Take the filled and closed pin cushion and glue on to the top of the tile squares with hand sewn side down.











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