

## SERGER FRIENDLY COMFORT BAG

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This bag uses an old, worn out quilt. No lining. No interfacing. No top closure. Fully machine washable and machine dryable when complete.

WASH THE QUILT. If it doesn't survive, neither will the bag.

### SUPPLIES:

Size 90 needle

40 wt cotton or polyester thread (for strength)

3-thread serger + your machine

20 ½" square ruler

6" x 24" ruler

4 ½" square ruler (Any small ruler with a 45-degree line will work.)

8" x 42" cotton for pockets

2 – 30" lengths of strapping

2 – 20 ½" x 17" quilted pieces. Save lots of scraps for patching if needed.



### Directions:

**Cure** all the bad spots on the quilted piece. I patched with a zig-zag set at 6 stitch width and stitch length. Edges are turned under ¼". You can do raw edge. Fasten patch with fabric glue stick to hold while stitching. Add 4.5 stitch length quilting as needed.

**Place handles** 5" from outside edges, with edge of strap even with top of bag. Strap should loop toward the bottom. Do not twist strap.

**Mark** a line on the strap 1 ½" down from top. **Stitch** on that line.

**Bend** up handle and sew an “X” to anchor, staying about  $\frac{3}{4}$ ” – 1” away from top edge. (See picture above)



### **Pocket (Optional)**

**Fold** 42” length in half, right sides together. Stitch long edges only, leaving short edge open. Turn and press.

**Stitch** 2 rows across on long edge at  $\frac{3}{8}$ ” and  $\frac{1}{8}$ ” seam lines. This will be the pocket top. Mark 2 lines on pocket right side, creating 3 pockets.

Position pocket 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ ”-5” from the bottom. Pin in place at 4 corners. Short edges should be near on into side seam allowance.

**Stitch** short, long, short sides at  $\frac{3}{8}$ ”. Stitch bottom at  $\frac{1}{8}$ ”, traveling up and down marked lines creating pockets. All pocket lines are now double stitched.

With right sides together, **stitch** side seams at  $\frac{1}{2}$ ”. **Stitch** bottom at  $\frac{1}{2}$ ”. Use 3 stitch length since you are going through 2 layers of quilted fabric. (You can use any seam allowance that makes you comfortable but you need more than  $\frac{1}{4}$ ”.)

**Serge** finish seams together, trimming slightly, being careful not to cut into or stitch over your machine stitching.

**Serge** across top, trimming slightly.

To **Box Corner**, place side seam and bottom seam against each other, nesting seams and creating a triangle. One pin to hold in place. Using 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ ” ruler, line up 45-degree line with right edge of triangle. Seam line should be at the 2  $\frac{1}{4}$ ” line (or very close). Bottom of triangle should be about 2” down. **As long as both corners are the same, it will be fine.**

**Mark** top edge of ruler. Sew on that line. Sew about  $\frac{1}{8}$ ” –  $\frac{1}{4}$ ” away from that line for reinforcement. **Serge** that seam, cutting off triangle.

**Turn right side out. DONE!**

For those without a serger, zig-zagging or overcasting the inside edges will accomplish the same thing. It just takes a bit longer.