

Fancy Pocket Purse

Finished size:
8" x 7" closed;
8" x 13" open

Use decorative stitching and couched cords to create a rich and complex surface on the flap of this simple bag. A palette of interesting colors adds richness and offers a stunning focal point for the bag.

SUPPLIES

- Outer fabric – 8" x 19½"
- Lining – 8" x 19½"
- Fusible fleece – 8" x 19½"
- Stabilizer – 8" x 6"
- Bias strips for binding – 3½" x 44"
- Decorative cord for shoulder strap – 64" (optional)
- Assorted cords of various colors for couching
- Assorted Isacord embroidery threads in a variety of colors
- Presser foot for couching (see sidebar)
- Assorted beads for hand embellishment
- Decorative button for closure
- 505 temporary spray adhesive

FLAP EMBELLISHMENT



Fold the bag fabric 6" to the wrong side at the upper end and press the fold to crease. This 8" x 6" rectangle is the embellishment area and will become the fold-over front flap of the purse.

Using temporary spray adhesive, adhere stabilizer to the wrong side of the embellishment area.

Stitch several rows of decorative stitches horizontally across the flap, changing colors and patterns as desired. The rows may be straight, parallel, slanted, and/or curvy; they may also cross each other. The sample shown has about 18 rows of stitching.

Using the desired presser feet, couch various decorative yarns, threads, and/or cords on top of the decorative stitching. The sample shown has 12 rows of couching –

I suggest using heavy or triple stitch patterns at widths of about 4mm and lengths of 3-4mm using thread colors that contrast with the couched fibers.

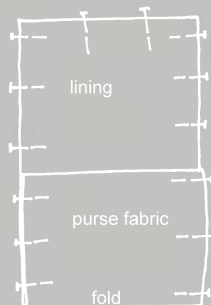
Press the embellished area with wrong side up, placing a towel under the stitched area and a press cloth on top. Secure the short edges with a straight stitch (length 1.5mm – 2mm); trim excess threads and fibers. Add desired bead embellishment by hand.

PURSE CONSTRUCTION

Place bag and lining fabric right sides together; sew a ½" seam along the short end opposite the embellishment. Flip the lining to the back of the bag fabric so that wrong sides are facing; press the seam flat.

Flip the lining away from the bag fabric and fuse the fleece to the wrong side of the bag fabric, placing the fleece up to but not on top of the previously sewn seam; trim any excess.

Flip the lining back onto the wrong side of the bag fabric; straighten and trim all edges. Fold up the lower edge about 6" to form the body of the bag; pin in place.



Bind the raw edges of the bag using a continuous bias strip. Fold the strip in half lengthwise and press.



Place the folded strip along the unfinished edges of the bag, matching the raw edges. Stitch the folded strip to the bag using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, mitering the corners. Fold the binding to the back and secure with machine or hand stitching.

Closure: Sew a loop of cord to the center of the edge of the flap;

attach the button in a corresponding place on the body of the purse below the flap.

Add decorative cord for shoulder strap, if desired, leaving strands of the couched fibers extending 3" - 5" below the lower edge of the purse to form tassels.

COUCHING FEET

The following presser feet are just a few that are available for couching yarns.



Bulky Overlock Foot #12/12C

The tunnel on the sole of the foot accommodates large, round cords and piping; side thread slot makes it easy to move the needle thread to the back.



Braiding Foot #21/12C

The beveled hole on the front of these feet makes it simple to thread flat and slightly rounded cords; several can be twisted together for a multicolored effect.



Cording Feet #22 & #25

Create flat trim by laying decorative threads and small cords side-by-side in the grooves of these feet; #22 has three grooves and #25 has five grooves.

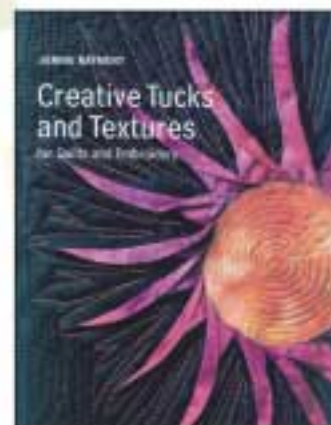
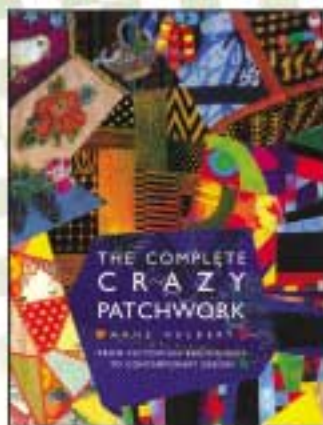
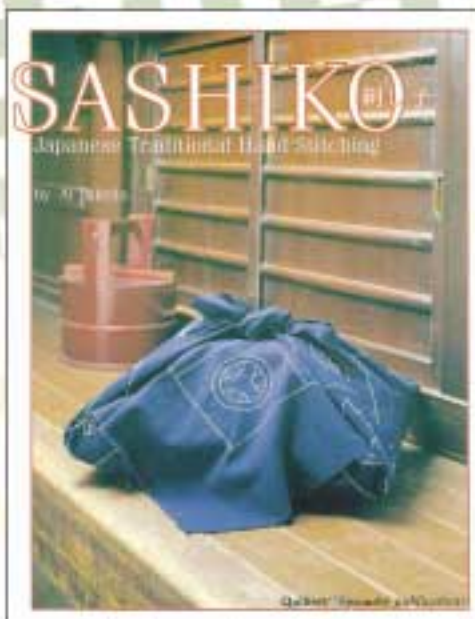


Clear Embroidery Foot #39

Feed thick threads or narrow, round cords through the hole in the center of the foot. The clear sole offers great visibility of the stitching area.

Inspiration Information

Exclusive publications from Quilters' Resource



▲ The Complete Crazy Patchwork

by Anne Roberts Techniques from Victorian to contemporary. 5300A RETAIL \$24.95

▲ Sashiko by Aki Takano Detailed instructions for more than 35 sashiko projects—for all skill levels. Translated from Japanese exclusively for Quilters' Resource publications.

515A RETAIL \$24.95

▲ Latte Quilt

by Karrie Day Fabulous photography and step-by-step instruction help combine modern technology with old traditions. Bonus CD included for the embroidered block patterns. 5061Z RETAIL \$27.95

▲ Creative Tucks and Textures

by Jennie Heywood Take tucks, twirling, and fiddling with fabric one step further—in vibrant color. With detailed step-by-step instructions. 5790A RETAIL \$25.95

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