

## Scrappy Shopping Bag Workshop

**Supplies:** Please have the following supplies cut out before class.

*Main Fabric:* 35 squares of at least 4-5 assorted fabrics

- A charm pack, a random mix from scraps, or a colored coordinated group of scraps.
- It would be helpful to have a couple extra blocks to maximize possibilities for design options.
- A fat quarter would give you up to 12 blocks

*Batting:* 1 – 20" x 40" piece which can be pieced scraps  
2 – 2" x 20" strips

- Scrap pieces of batting are easier to zigzag together if edges are squared off prior to butting edges together.

*Lining:* 1 -20" x 40" piece

*Binding:* 1 – 2 1/8" – 2 1/2" x 40" coordinating strip

- The binding can be made of coordinating scraps sewn end to end.

*Thread:* 1 spool or a spool for assembly and 1 for quilting.

*Machine:* A quilting foot and removable platform extension will be helpful. For those who don't, I will set up 2 machines with quilting feet and have spare bobbins that will be available. *This is a perfect project to try out quilting for those who have never learned.*

### **Embroidery:**

- For those that have an embroidery machine and want to add labels or pictures, cut at least one block that is solid or tone on tone large enough to fit in your embroidery hoop; after embroidery is finished center the design and cut the block to 5 inches square.
- Blocks can also be fussy cut from fabric with preprinted sayings.

### **Procedure:**

1. Layout block in 3 rows of 8 with a fourth row of 3 inset 1 block from the left. (Pic 1)

2. Sew blocks in each row with  $\frac{1}{4}$  " seams. Press seams alternately to the right and then to the left.
3. Sew the rows together so it resembles Pic 1. The
  - The row of 3 blocks will be the bottom of the bag.
  - The left column is the left side of the bag.
  - The Next 3 columns will be the front of the bag.
  - The 5<sup>th</sup> column from the left is the right side of the bag.
  - The last 3 columns will be the back of the bag.



Picture 1



Picture 2

4. Sandwich the lining, the batting and the assembled blocks, smooth each layer as added and secure with pins with the outside on top.
5. Quilt as desired.
6. Trim off excess batting and lining, squaring the corners. Make sure the ends are the same length top to bottom.
7. Sew four blocks end to end in the desired pattern for each handle. Press the seams all in the same direction ( $\frac{1}{4}$  " seams).
8. Wrap the strip of blocks around the batting so that one side folds over  $\frac{3}{8}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$  " from the edge of the batting. Fold the other side  $\frac{1}{4}$  " and overlap the opposite side so the batting is totally encased. Pin in place.
9. Stitch along the fold  $\frac{1}{4}$  " from the edge. Then topstitch  $\frac{1}{4}$  " from the edge of the other side. (Pic 3)



10. Fold the left side of the quilting bag on top of the right side with outsides of the bag touching and the lining visible on the top and the bottom. Pin and stitch the side seam backstitching at each end.

11. Trim to even the edge if necessary and then zigzag the seam allowances together. (Pic. 4)



Pic. 4



Pic. 5

12. Line the edge of the bottom 3 blocks with the 3 blocks of the front of the bag and pin in place. Start and stop stitching the seam  $\frac{1}{4}$  " from the side edges of the bottom of the bag. Zigzag the seam allowances together.
13. Pin the right sides of the bottom of each side to the side edge of the bottom. Stitch both ends shut with  $\frac{1}{4}$  " seam followed by zigzagging the seam allowances. (Pic. 5)
14. Pin each end of the handles along the top of the bag at the outside edge of the center block in the front and the back as seen in Pic. 6. Baste all four ends in place so the ends of the handles align with the top edge of the bag.



Pic. 6



Pic. 7



Finished bag

15. Start the binding so any seams are not over the handles. Attach binding on the right side stitching through the handles and the top edge of the bag. Fold the binding to the inside and topstitch along the folded edge of the binding with the handles folded away from the bag. Topstitch the handles in place along the top edge of the bag. Pic 7