
Personalized Fabric Gift Bags with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1

Personalized Fabric Bags

- Hi everybody, this is Liana from Creativebug and I'm here with-- - Courtney. Hi guys! - Also from Creativebug, and we are here because we got our hands on some really fun fabric and we want to show you some ideas. - It's awesome, it's personalized. - Yes, so this is-- - That I haven't seen before. - I know, well, this is a new thing that Jo-Ann Fabrics is doing and-- - How cool. - They kind of let us in on this personalized fabric that they've been making and said, "What do you guys think about this, "and do you want to try to make some projects out of it?" and we were like-- - Yes, we do. - Of course we do. - So Liana came up with some really cute projects and we're going to be doing this live. We're live right now. So that means you can write it in and ask Liana questions-- - I know, and we can tell you all about this fabric and, you know, anything you want to know about our lives, just write in. - Yeah, just feel free to ask. - Okay, maybe not too much on that. So, (laughs) about this personalized fabric, so what it is, is you can go to Joann.com and look up the personalized fabric, and you can order easily-- - Lots of different kinds, right, different weights? - Yes, they have all sorts of different designs, so all sorts of different prints. And then, there's a place where you can pick the kind of fabric you want. - So there's canvas, jersey-- - Poplin. - Poplin, I think there's like four or five different kinds. - Fleece? - Yeah. - I think fleece is in there, and then you can go in and you can write in a name, you get a lay-- - You can pick your typeface, and the color of your typeface. - Right, so it could say Courtney, it could say your last name-- - Pup Charlie. - It could say a word, maybe you just have a holiday word you're-- - Like celebrate. - Yeah, exactly. And then you can pick the font that you're gonna use, the script, the color, you can really customize it, and then you place your order, and your fabric magically arrives, and then you get to do your holiday crafting. - Yeah, and right now it's 10% off on their site, and it takes about, what, six to 10 days or so? - Something like that. - So you want to plan early, so that's why we're bringing you these ideas now, so that you can get your personalized fabric ready to craft early in the season so you're not stressed out. - So, why don't we show you a couple things that we did? - Yeah. I love this. - Leading up to this, so this is one of my favorite things, this is a Christmas stocking, and actually we have this class on our site, on Creativebug, and-- - It's your class, isn't it? - It's my class! - That's a Liana Allday original. - It's a really easy sewing project, so if you're kind of a once-a-year, twice-a-year sewer, this one is the perfect not-gonna-knock-the-wind-out-of-you pattern. - I love that it's like an heirloom stocking, right? Because it's got the personalized name, you added this really cute contrast solid cuff, and sweet little decorative ribbon. - And though this isn't holiday fabric, I just like the idea of using kind of funky-- - It's holiday-esque. - Individual fabric, like Jamie, this is Julie's kid Jamie, and he loves little gnomes, so. - It's so cute. - It's the perfect fit! - And then you use the same fabric, but to make this cute little bag. - Yes. - Is that what you're gonna be teaching us today? - And that's what I'm gonna teach you how to do today. - I love this, and this one's for Frida. - This one's for Frida! I say it's a doll bag, it's the perfect size to stuff a doll or a little stuffed animal into. - Yeah, I love this because sometimes there are those gifts that are really special, but they don't really fit in a box, or they're not easy to wrap, so this seems like the perfect thing, a reusable little bag. And if you're doing them for adults, like little travel bags to take her on a sleepover. - Exactly. - And the best thing about this project is, it's no-sew, is that right? - That is correct. - That's awesome. - So, let me show you how you make this no-sew bag. So, the first thing that I did is, I cut out two squares of

fabric from some holiday fabric, and this one says Susan on it, and then you want to make sure that it's mostly facing so that they kind of go in all directions. So it doesn't really matter. - [Courtney] It's an all-over print. - [Liana] It's an all-over print. So we are gonna put these right sides together, and in order to make this a no-sew project, we are using something called Stitch Witchery. I don't know if you guys have ever used this before. - [Courtney] I used to use this when I was little. - It's not something you'd want to use if you were to construct an entire garment, something that's going to go through the wash a whole bunch of times, but it's really good for something like a drawstring bag. - It's like an invisible hem tape, right, or something? - Exactly. - So don't put it in a tool bag, but something that's gonna hold a doll would be perfectly fine. - Yes, and I'm using the 1/4-inch wide one, because I'm working on a little tiny piece of fabric. If you were making a bigger bag, I would use this super weight one. - [Courtney] Cool. - [Liana] Which is stronger and thicker and you can really put an actual present with some heft in it. - [Courtney] Yeah, when I went shopping for this, there was an entire wall of this Stitch Witchery at Jo-Ann's, so you should be able to find a width and a style that matches your project. - Right, and the best thing about this is that you can make it any size you want. So this is kind of gonna make a little trinket-size bag-- I love that. - So it makes it about this big. - For jewelry, or-- - But you could make one really big and long for a wine bottle, or I mean, any size gift. Just kind of, eyeball it a little bit. - I love this size, reasonable for travel for jewelry, or anything small. - Exactly. So, in order to do this, so I've already cut off my pieces, but you're gonna want a piece of Stitch Witchery that starts about an inch and 1/2, two inches below the top. And I actually like to do the bottom piece first, and you will see why. So, in order to fuse it, you just stick it right there at the bottom, just place it right on. - [Courtney] So, in between the two right sides together? - [Liana] In between the two right sides together. Take your iron, just make sure it's nice and hot. So this is a nice, steamy iron on the wool setting, is what they recommend. And just put it on there. - Yeah, check your packaging. - Just put it on there, give it some steam, 10 seconds. What do you wanna talk about? - [Courtney] Are we doing counts? - For 10 seconds. - Nine. Eight. Seven. Six. (Liana laughs) Oh, was that 10 already? - I think that was good. So, it's already fused now, you can see. - [Courtney] Oh, nice. - [Liana] Like magic. Stitch Witchery! - [Courtney] I love it. - As they say. Then you can take your other two pieces and just sort of line them up along the sides. - [Courtney] So they're just replacing our sewn seams. - [Liana] Exactly. - [Courtney] Cool. - [Liana] And this is also my favorite kind of craft project because it doesn't have to be perfect, nobody's gonna wear this. - [Courtney] You don't even have to pull out the sewing machine, that's the thing that inhibits me from sewing. - [Liana] Exactly! - [Courtney] I'm like, "Ugh, that heavy sewing machine!" - [Liana] So remember, don't align it with the top, because that's where your drawstring's gonna go. - [Courtney] Okay. - [Liana] It's gonna be right there. Fold it back over. - [Courtney] Yeah, and you have to leave that inch and 1/2 for a channel to put a drawstring in. - [Liana] And then boom! - [Courtney] Another 10 seconds? - [Liana] 10 seconds. - Give it some steam. - What do you want to talk about, Courtney? - What are you making for dinner tonight? Liana makes the best things for dinner, she tells me about it in the carpool in the morning. - Just thinking soup. - Soup, I feel like it's a good day for soup, it's been kind of cold here in San Francisco. - I don't know. - Don't forget, you guys, we're live, which is maybe explaining some of our madness at the moment, But it also means that you can write in and ask Liana questions about her technique or if you have any questions about her stocking class. - Or you can tell us what you're having for dinner. - Yeah, give some good ideas! - I know a lot of you on the East Coast are having dinner right now, so why not? Okay, so once you've done your sides, and you'll see, they're really locked into place now. - [Courtney] That's awesome. - [Liana] So the next thing you need to do is

get your top to fold down, so again, I've already cut pieces. You're just cutting it right to the width of that top of the fabric and folding it over. Now, here's the trick, though, because you might be tempted to fold it all the way down, but don't do that, because then you won't have a place to put your drawstring. - [Courtney] Okay. - [Liana] So go about halfway. - [Courtney] Halfway, okay, so we're leaving about a 1/2-inch channel once it's folded over to put our drawstring in. Also double-check that that Stitch Witchery doesn't slide up and you're not sealing that seam, you want to have an opening. - [Liana] Right. Because, believe me, I've done that. - [Courtney] Oh, yeah. - I'm saying this from personal experience-- - That's nice. - And then you go, "Oh, wait a minute!" - It happens. - I just closed that off. - My grandma was an amazing sewer, and when my mom was younger, my mom made this entire dress trying to learn some sewing techniques from my grandma, and she made an entire dress, but she forgot sleeve armholes. - No! (both laugh) - And I think it was a velvet dress, I mean, it was fancy. - What did she do? - I don't know that I know the rest of that story. I'll have to ask my mom this weekend. - Oh my God! That's amazing! - [Courtney] I never learned how to sew from my grandma. - [Liana] And if you have any sewing horror stories you want to share with us, feel free to speak up. Okay, so-- - So, other side, same deal? - Other side, same exact deal. I always like to give it just a little love tap here, on the end. - [Courtney] Smart. - [Liana] Because then it keeps it kind of-- - [Courtney] Down. - [Liana] It should keep it kind of down. And then you move on. - [Courtney] Perfect. Yeah. - [Liana] And do the rest of it. - [Courtney] Nice. Steam. - Ten seconds! Believe it or not, you're almost there. - It's pretty amazing, these come together so quickly. - With this little project. - This'll be great for a class gift, or if you have a lot of teacher gifts, something that you need to get in a repetitive kind of assembly line for. It'd be perfect. - Exactly! I know. - Totally do it on your kitchen table. - So then, you can turn it inside out now and you'll see, it's really-- - Sturdy. - [Liana] Starting to become a bag. - [Courtney] I love it. - [Liana] And look, you can't even poke your hole through it. - [Courtney] I think we have our first question. - [Question Asker] Stephanie asks, she says, "So that tape doesn't slip while you're folding it over, "can you pin it just to hold it in place "until you press it?" - So, Stephanie wants to know if you should pin the tape in place before you press it. You can, I did not find it necessary. If it's your first time working with it, and especially if you're working with a big piece, like for this one-- - If you were making a big bag? - Yeah, and you just didn't want it to twist around or anything, you could, but you're eventually gonna have to put that other piece of fabric on top. It kind of holds it in place, and then once you-- - Hit it with the iron. - So one thing you don't wanna do, don't go into it like this. - Right. - And move your iron, because then the whole thing's gonna slide, you wanna just-- - You wanna press. Yeah. - Right down on it like that. - That's the distinction, not ironing, you're pressing. So it's more like a weight. - Exactly. - Yeah, good question, though. - And again, with that love tap, it kind of holds it in place, and then you can kind of go in and really press the whole thing. - Makes sense. - And be careful, because it's very hot and steamy. Yes. Oh, did we have another question? - [Question Asker] Yes. Becky asks, "Why didn't you fold the fabric "all the way down?" - Well, if you were to fold it all the way down, what would happen is that it would, it would create, okay, so you would still have a tube where your drawstring's gonna go through, but it would be on the inside of the bag. - Oh yeah, it makes it hard to access, to get the rope that we're about to put through. - So let me show you what we're about to do, and then it will kind of start to make sense. Because right now, we have this opening right here. - Which is great, she's got this little V exposing the channels that she's about to thread. What is this, some kind of cord? - Exactly, so I have a cord here, so you wanna take your cord, and what I did is, I already cut them out, but to measure it, I kind of go a few inches on either side, and then I double that. - [Courtney] Oh, smart, okay, and you've got a safety

pin there attached to help you thread. - I've got a safety pin, so tie a knot in the end of your cord, and then put a safety pin through it, and that's gonna make it really easy to feed it through. So you're gonna go through this top little channel here. - [Courtney] So she's just gathering it. - [Liana] Yeah. And if you've ever had the drawstring fall out of your pajamas-- - [Courtney] You know this. - [Liana] And you need to get it back in-- - The safety pin. - You probably already know this trick, but it's a great one. Just tie a knot, stick a safety pin in the top, and you can kinda feed it back through. - Cool, so this actually, this piece is going through both channels. - [Liana] I'm going all the way around, back to the beginning of where I was. Boom, we're out the side. Okay, if you wanted to, you could just stop there. - [Courtney] Yeah. - You could, you know, it cinches up. But if you want to make it kind of like the cool kind that closes on both sides, and you've come this far, you might as well, right? So grab another ... - Piece of yarn. - Piece of your whatever you're using, so you could use, we have all sorts of different ones here. What do you call these, Courtney? - So these are different cordings that I bought at Jo-Ann by the yard, so you can check out the trim aisle and see if there's some twill tape or some cotton rope or some cordings that you like. This one was metallic and it had this cool moss green color. I liked this natural one which you could dye if you wanted. The metallic ones are fun because of the holidays, so also check out the ribbon aisle, especially during the holidays, there are all these great metallic fun cords that you can buy on a roll, pre-cut. - Courtney does all of our shopping here. She's a professional shopper. - For sure. Professional shopper for hire. - So if you have any questions for professional shoppers, also feel free to write in. - While you're doing that, do you want me to show you the-- - Sure, let me just tell you guys what we're gonna do. - Oh yeah, show us. No, show us. - So, I'm gonna go in, so you've already come in and out of this one side, now just do the exact same thing on the other side. So you're gonna go all the way around. - [Courtney] So from the opposite side. - [Liana] The opposite side. - [Courtney] Yeah. - [Liana] And while I'm doing that-- - So get this action. - Tell them what is a good thing to do with the extras. - So, for the scraps, or for those non-sewers out there, I'm a little bit of a sewer but I'm not as pro as Liana, and my favorite thing to do during the holidays, which if you've been watching our daily craft-along, you know is gift-wrapping, is to use fabric and trims and things for custom gift wraps. So I thought this, the minute Liana told me about this personalized fabric, she went to sewing, I was like, "Gift wrap, yes, you could do so many things with that!" (Liana laughs) So here are some ideas. Liana made a larger bag, and this one's super cute. I know my family growing up did a lot of, my dad owns his own business, they did a lot of wine or candy or tickets or something that you had multiples of and we gave out to a lot of people. So I thought it'd be cool if you had a business, you could customize fabric with your business name, or you could do it with your family name. We did a lot of family gifts, with tins of cookies and things like that. So Liana made a bigger bag that a wine bottle fits in, and maybe some fudge or something, that looks really cute. - Okay, but turn it around and show my cautionary tale. - So, you do have to make sure that in this particular print, which is directional, all the Smiths are going in the same direction. Liana-- - But if you're not careful, when you fold your fabric and cut it out, that's why I cut out two separate pieces rather than folding it up. - She did a long piece and folded it up, and then she got the backwards Smiths on the backside. - See, I tried to cheat and not sew-- - Not have a seam here. - Not have a seam on the bottom. - So, this is our cautionary tale, two separate pieces if you're making this style drawstring bag unless you have an all-over print, which is fine. And I used on this wine bottle, I just cut a little strip, and this is the Smiths, so giving out wine or some kind of homemade vodka and things are really popular during the season, like vanilla vodka. This is super cute, you can add a little candy cane or some kind of topper. And then even the tiniest scrap is so

perfect. This is a little box, also for Frida, and I thought this was fun just to use this scrap and tie it in with some yarn, you don't even have to worry about tying a bow or having enough to tie a bow. I like this presentation. - And then you don't need a tag! - It's really cute. - Because it already has her name on it. - I know, and Liana mentioned when we were kind of brainstorming ideas something that would be super fun is to do personalized fabric, and then have each kid have a different fabric, so under the Christmas tree in their stocking they could have a little scrap of their fabric, and then all of the presents that would say their name on it. - Right! - Which would be super fun. - Or it could be their bag. - Totally. - Every year, they get a gift. - In that special bag. - In the special bag, and it's a really good gift. - What's the worst Christmas gift you got? (Liana laughs) - You know what, I knew right away. (Courtney laughs) I imagined this and you asked me that. - Can you tell us? - Yeah! Oh, my dad's gonna be so upset. - Is he watching? - No, probably not. - Sorry, Mr. Allday. - He got me and my sister these robotic cats one year, they were these furry cats, and he beat out all these other parents on eBay for these cats. - Did they have remote controls? - You turn them on and they go, "Meow," like that. - But you had real cats, didn't you? - But the crazy thing is, me and my sister were adults, we were older. - Age-appropriate gifts, people, make sure you check the packaging. - And we felt really bad, because he'd robbed these other kids who really wanted the cats out of it. - Oh, and you grew up with real cats. - Don't tell my dad. - Oops. (Liana laughs) One year, my brother and I got sleeping bags, but my parents never took us camping, so we were really confused as to why we were getting really fancy sleeping bags. - That is so weird! - It's so bizarre, and our family, we always do Christmas Eve, open the presents, you go to bed, and Santa brings the good stuff the next day. And this was the good present, was a sleeping bag with nowhere to go. (Liana laughs) It's rather sad. - Oh, have you ever used them? - No, I'm sure they're still in my mom's closet. - It's time to go camping, Courtney. - Yeah, with our personalized sack. - I'll take you. (both laugh) - Well, your bag looks really good. - Anyway! Okay, so I got this thing in here, and now all you need to do is just tie off these ends. - Oh good, and then obviously remove these safety pins, huh? - Yes, and once you've kind of tied them off, and you have to eyeball it a little bit, I usually do it like a couple inches from the edge, and you know, you don't want them to look long and crazy, but you'll get a feel for it once you start banging these out. - [Courtney] I love it. - [Liana] Oh, do we have another question perhaps? - [Question Asker] Missy asks if the Witch Stitchery works equally well with different types of fabric. - It does, actually, Stitch Witchery. The question is, does Stitch Witchery work with different types of fabric? Liana's using the canvas-weight fabric? - Yes. - But you could use it with canvas, poplin for sure. You need to make sure-- - I think it would probably work with jersey, though I don't know if you want a jersey drawstring bag. - Yeah. Well-- - It could be a little stretchy. - Remember when those t-shirt sheets were so popular? - Oh, yeah! - All came in a t-shirt bag. I still have mine. - Fleece is the only one I would say, "Hmmm." Because it's so furry, I think you're gonna wanna sew with fleece. But you could literally do this exact same thing I just did, but on a sewing machine. - Absolutely, and also just check the packaging, because you want to make sure that the heat setting for ironing it will match with your fabric and its heat setting. - Yes, exactly, and for those of you who are just tuning in, I just wanted to say, we are sharing all these ideas that you can do with personalized fabric. - Which is new on Jo-Ann, it's really exciting. - And you can get 10% off if you order now. - And it takes about six to 10 days, so plan ahead so that you can make all your customized gifts and gift bags for the holidays. - And we also want to share one other item of inspiration, this really cute apron. - Oh, I love it. - This is a class, actually, that we have on Creativebug, and it's been holiday-ized. So, I know a lot of people like to get out their special Christmas cookie aprons-- - Totally, I have my grandma's. - And things like that. So if you want to

make one that is customized, holiday-tricked-out. - Yeah. - Yeah. - This is adorable, we used the Emma snowflake fabric and paired it with some denim for a little more contemporary look. That's an Annabel Wrigley class, and you can check that out, if you're unfamiliar with Creativebug, you can use the promo code JOANN1 and you can get access. - And you get 30% off your total order at Jo-Ann if you sign up for one month of Creativebug, which is really fun. - It's pretty awesome. - So, it's a pretty sweet deal. If you like these projects that you're seeing, a lot of them are on Creativebug, so tons of holiday inspiration happening around here, and when you sign up for Creativebug, you get access to all the classes on the site for free. So, you would get one month of all of that for free. - 700 plus classes, plus you get a class to keep forever as you subscribe. - And as you mentioned, you also get the 30% off at Jo-Ann's. - Which is pretty awesome. - Cha-ching! - It's a great way to customize your entire holiday. - That's right. - And we'll see you guys on Thursday for our next live show. - See you Thursday! We do this every Tuesday and Thursday, so if you like what you're seeing, make sure to like our page. You'll get notified. - Bye, guys. - Bye!