
Sew a Fabric Basket with Amber of Damask Love

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1

Overview

(playful music) - Hey there everyone, this is Amber from Damask Love. And today I am super excited to bring you into my world of sewing made super simple. I'm gonna show you how to make fabric buckets that only require sewing in a straight line. Today I'm gonna show you how to sew a dimensional project, using just three stitches. I'm gonna show you how to apply iron on interfacing, and then we're gonna go ahead and put on decorative trim on our finished project. I love using these buckets to organize things around my studio, like extra pieces of fabric, rolls of wrapping paper, rulers, pencils, and once you've got this technique down, you really can make these in any size and use them all around your home. (playful music)

Materials

- To make these fabric buckets, here's what you're going to need. Two pieces of fabric, I like quilting-weight fabric, cut to 12 inches by 14 inches. You'll also need a piece of medium weight fusible interfacing also cut to 12 by 14. You'll need a quilting ruler, fabric glue, pom pom trim, a sewing machine, an iron, an ironing surface, and you'll also need pins or I like to use Wonder Clips to clip together your project.

Preparing and sewing fabric

- The first thing we'll need to do is attach the fusible interfacing to our outer fabric, in this case I chose this pretty cherry pattern but of course it's totally up to you. You get to pick what you like. Turn your fabric to the wrong side, which means the not pretty side, and then place the fusible interfacing on top with the fusible side facing down. And you're gonna know that because the fusible side has kind of a sheen to it and that's the side that has the adhesive. Go ahead and place that and square it up. And now grab your iron and we're gonna wanna use steam. Steam is nice for getting that fusible interfacing to really stick. And you wanna kinda go slow, slower than you think, to really adhere. So take your time here and wait until you have adhered edge to edge that fusible interfacing. Now that we have finished putting on our interfacing I'm going to take the fabric and fold it in half, get those sides lined up as neatly as you can, and I like to use Wonder Clips for this. You can of course use pins but Wonder clips don't pierce your material so you don't leave any teeny-tiny holes. So, I like these and I find that they're just easier. You don't poke yourself either, which is nice. I don't wanna poke my fingers. Now we're gonna take this over to the sewing machine and sew a 1/2 inch seam allowance. There's really no need to backstitch at the beginning and at the end of this particular stitch but it's super simple, it's just a straight line and I'm already done. Now that we've got our first perfect straight seam done I'm gonna open up that seam and press it with my iron. So just all that means is kind of use your finger to open up this seam and this will ensure that everything is nice and flat which makes it much easier to sew. Alright, with our seam opened up now we're going to take our clips or pins, whichever you're using, and pin the bottom. So pin one side because we're gonna add another straight stitch right along the bottom to close it up. Now we're gonna take this back over to the sewing machine and again a straight stitch, no backstitching, half inch seam allowance. Now what we basically have is like a flat bag but we're gonna add dimension to it but don't be afraid. We're still gonna use just straight stitches. To do that I'm going

to do kind of do like, like origami kind of but I'm going to pinch the bag to turn it into a house. Did you see how I did that? So now I have kind of this diamond shape here and you're gonna fold it until it's flat, kind of massaging those seams so that everything lays flat. Just like that. So that's the shape you're going for. This is how we're going to turn it into a dimensional shape by using these angles to create a boxed corner. To make your boxed corners I'm going to grab a quilting ruler and measure 1-1/2 inches from this point, okay? So just place your quilting ruler so that the 1-1/2 inch mark is there at the bottom, at that point, and then kind of square it up. I like using a quilting ruler 'cause it has other markings on it that makes you kind of make sure that everything is squared up evenly. And then I'm just gonna use a pencil to draw a line. Don't worry about what pencil you use. This pencil is gonna be hidden inside. You're not gonna see any of the markings. So just use whatever you have on hand. Once I've made one marking at 1-1/2 inches, I'm gonna flip it over, do the exact same thing on the other side at 1-1/2 inches. We're just gonna sew right on top of that line. It's a straight stitch, it's easy, but this is what's gonna give our project dimension. For this part when you're sewing you do wanna go ahead and backstitch. The reason is these parts of the project will be exposed. So you wanna make sure that those corners are secure and nothing unravels. Alright, I just finished sewing those boxed corners on my outer fabric and I also did the same thing for my lining fabric. The only difference here is that one has interfacing and then the other does not. Another thing you wanna keep in mind is when you're sewing those boxed corners make sure that all of your seams are lying flat. You don't want them to get twisted or anything so pay attention to that.

Assembly

- Alright, let's get started with assembly. First thing's first, you're probably thinking should I cut these little extra flappies off? No, don't cut them off. By leaving them on, they give some stability to the bottom of your bucket so that it stands up nicely. So here we go. I'm going to take the piece that has the interfacing and I'm gonna flip this girl inside, or right side out, just like that. Okay, and now we are going to take the lining fabric and we're gonna stuff the outer fabric into the lining fabric. So essentially you want right sides facing each other. Here's something to keep in mind. Remember those seams? We want those seams to line up. So make sure that this seam and this seam are on the same side. And at this point, you just wanna give it a little bit of a work so that you can get everything lined up. You want those boxed corners lined up, you want those seams lined up, so just play with it a little bit until you feel good about how things are shaping up. Alright, with a little bit of love and attention, these are all nested in together quite nicely, and now we're ready to do one of our last pieces of sewing, and to do this we're going to want to stitch around this edge here. We're gonna use a half inch seam allowance again, but here's an important part. I'm gonna use my clips to mark where I'm gonna start and stop because we do need to leave about a three inch opening so that we can fold everything out at the end. So I'm gonna put a clip here and a clip here. Those are just reminders because I have a tendency to forget and then you end up sewing the whole thing closed, not so fun. So let's clip all the way around, remembering that these two are my starting and my stopping point. If your machine has a large bed, you'll want to go ahead and remove that portion so we can slide the bag over this part of the machine. Now, before you start sewing, remember that backstitching here is very important. Now for the magic part. We're going to take that gap, reach our hand through, and pull the whole project together, and that's why those backstitches are important because we are gonna put a bit of tension right there and we don't want anything to come loose. So there we have it, and now, where that opening is, go ahead and use your fingers to kind of pinch those edges in just like that. Now, slowly feed the lining into the outer

portion. (gasps) Ooh, it's so cute, it's so cute! I love it. Okay. Okay, pinch those together, and if you want, at this point, I like to use some clips to kind of hold that opening together, and use your fingers to get that lining and the outer piece to meet up nicely at the edge, okay? Now we are ready to do our last bit of sewing, and we're gonna add a top stitch right around the edge. The reason for that is we have that opening still and so we need to close it. Top stitch is an easy way to do it so let's get started. For the top stitch I'm just gonna use the edge of the presser foot as a guide because I like that top stitch to be closer to the edge. I think it looks more finished that way. Again, you'll wanna start and stop with a backstitch for this because this is our final stitch and we wanna make sure everything stays together. At this point, you are feelin' real good about your straight sewing skills because this is adorable, and it's about to get cuter because we're gonna add some pompom trim. The pompom trim is optional, but is it really? No, pompoms are always necessary. I'm going to flip a cuff, and really, you can decide how big of a cuff you want on your project. It'll just depend on how tall your bucket is. I like it right about here, maybe an inch and a half tall, and kind of position it, and you can leave it like this, like I said, pompoms, remember? Always pompoms. Now, to add our pompom trim, you're gonna want to put the pompom trim starting at the back, that way all of kind of the ugly stuff, the seams, are hidden and you don't see them on the front. So I'm just gonna add some fabric glue directly to the project, and you wanna work section by section. Add a small bead and then add your pompom trim. When you get to the end, I like to trim off a little more than I need because then I can loop it under. Now I can loop under this piece and kind of neaten up that finished back edge. Allow your fabric glue to dry according to the package directions and then you're ready to use this around your house in any way you want. Once you're done making your first fabric bucket, I promise you you're going to wanna make more. Go ahead and play around with different sizes. I made a smaller one using a bit less fabric or you can make a bigger one. Imagine a whole suite of these sitting on your desk organizing all of your supplies. I promise you they will make your workday happier because you made them yourself and they were so easy.