

# THE FESTIVAL BAG

#tisFestivalBag



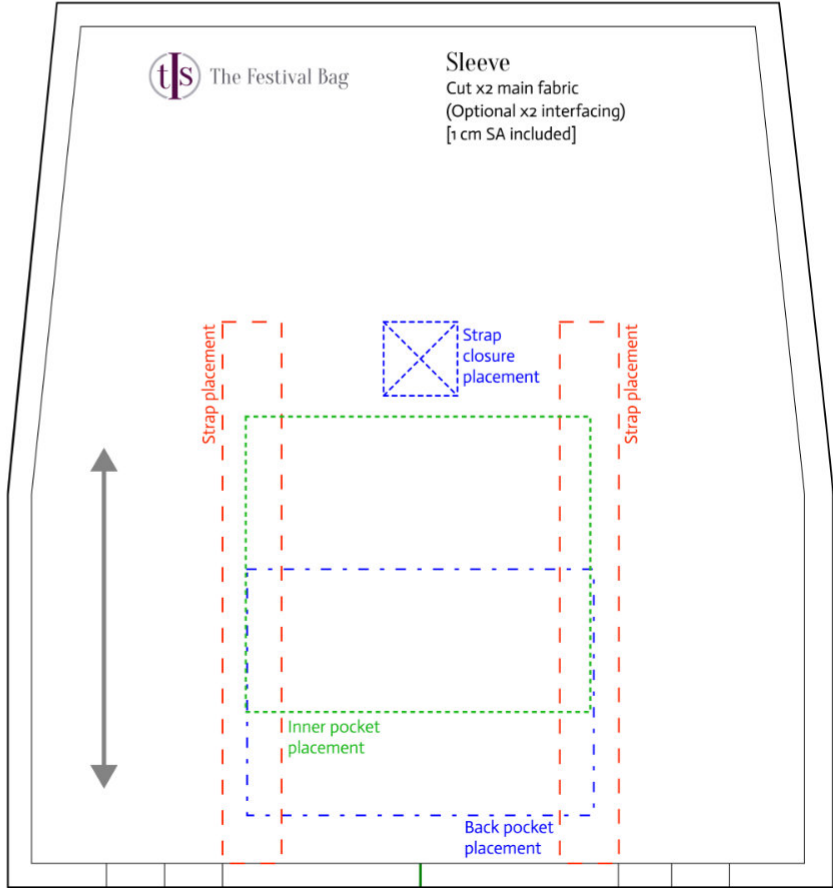
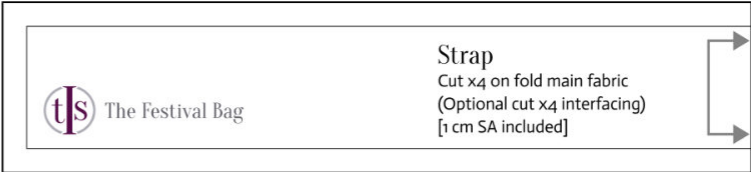
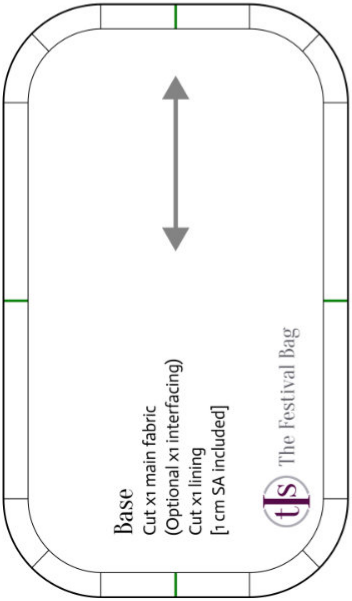
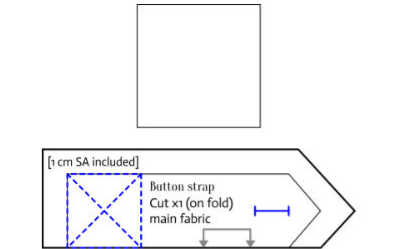
The Impatient Sewist

# Requirements

## Fabric & notions

- **Main fabric:** medium- to heavy-weight woven
- **Lining:** light- to medium-weight woven
- 15 cm zip
- 2.5 cm / 1 inch adjustable strap set:
  - x2 D-ring
  - x2 slider

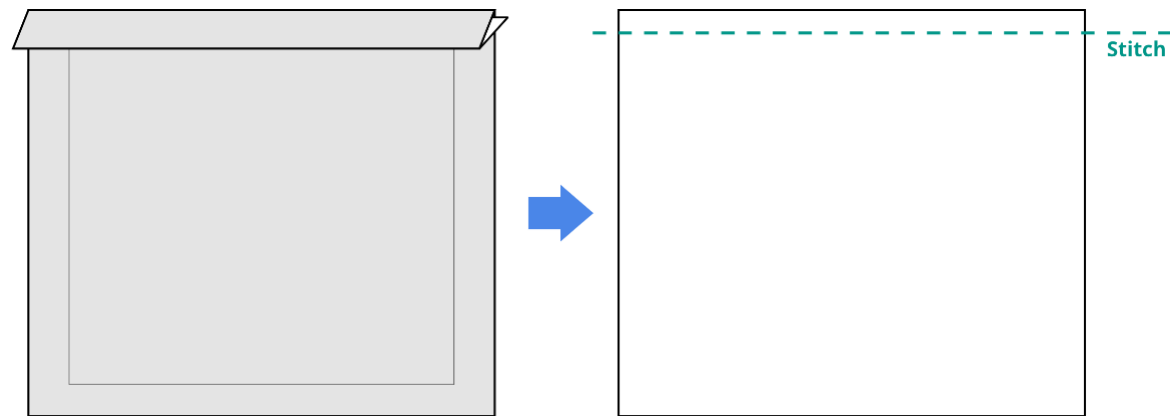
# The pieces



# Instructions

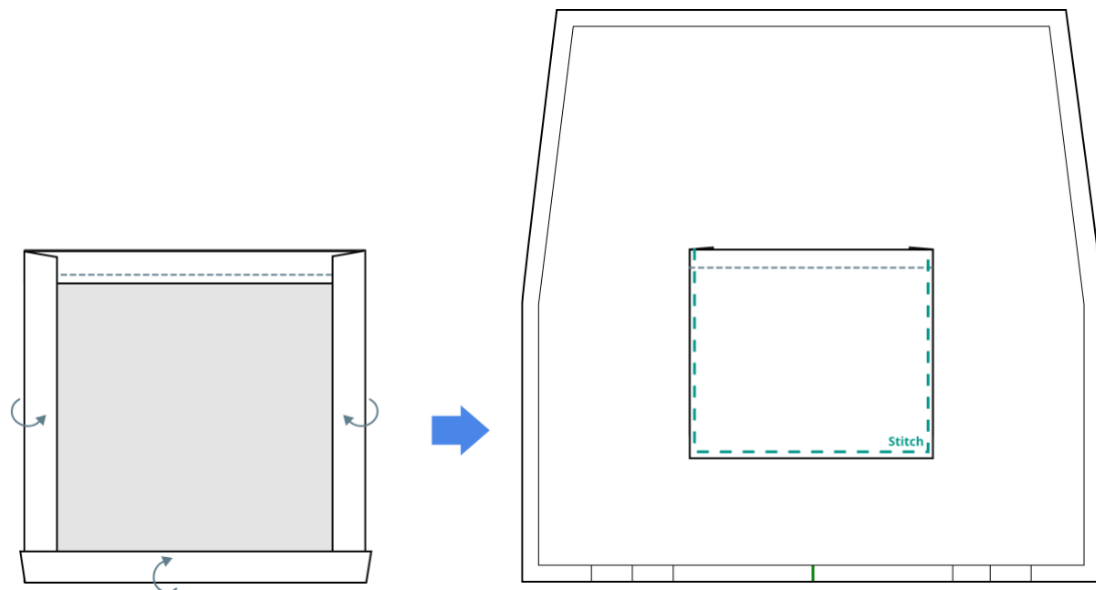
## Step 1

Fold over the top edge of the Inner Pocket twice (so that the raw edge is tucked away) and stitch to complete the pocket hem.



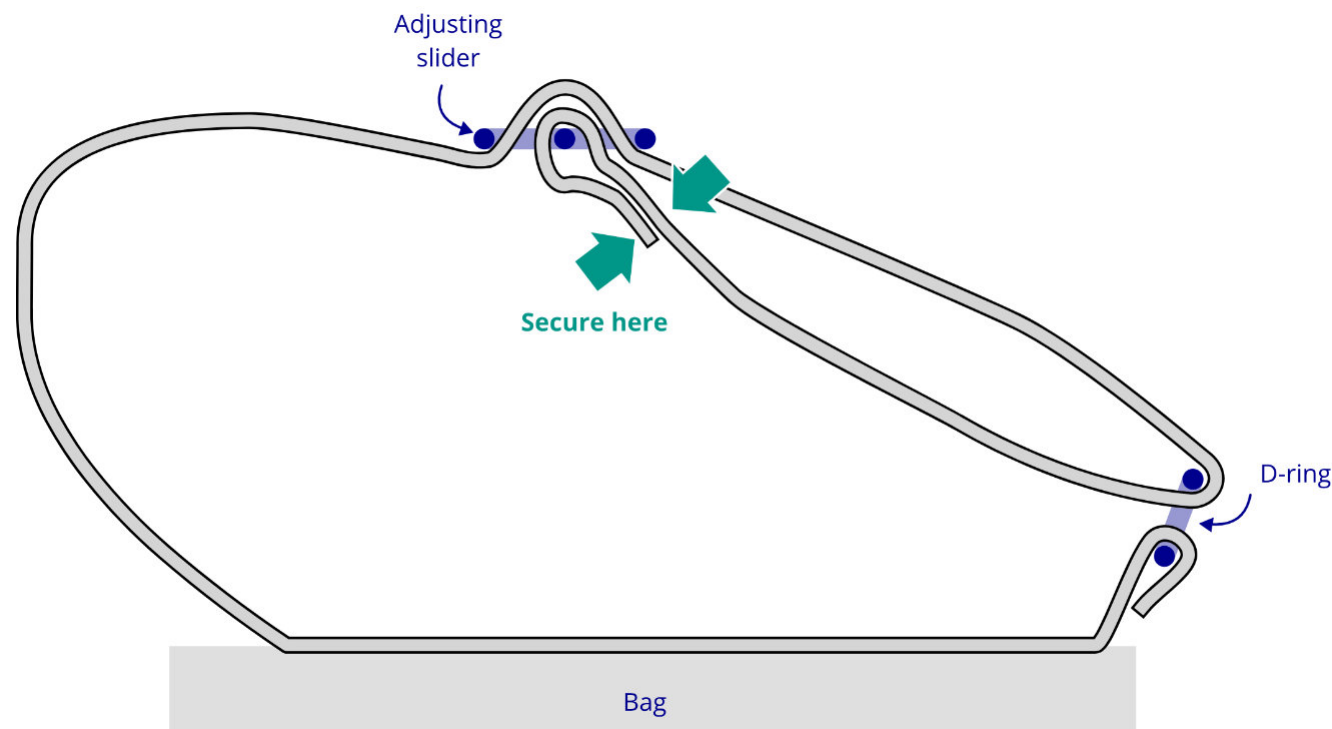
## Step 2

Fold over the side and bottom edges of the inner pocket by 1 cm and press. Then pin the inner pocket to the right side of one of the Sleeve Lining pieces. The placement of this pocket is important because later we will be sewing the straps through all the fabric layers and you don't want to accidentally sew the inner pocket shut. Top stitch the inner pocket 1-2 mm away from the edge.



## Step 15

Create your adjustable straps by threading the strap through the strap adjuster, through the ring at the base of the bag, and back over the centre pieces of the strap adjuster. Fold the end of the strap over the centre piece of the strap adjusted and stitch to secure.



## Step 16

Create the button strap by folding the Button Strap right sides together, and sew the triangular end. Then turn the strap inside out and press the sides inwards. Top stitch around the full edges of the button. Sew the button hole on the Button Strap, to a length that suits your button.

## Step 17

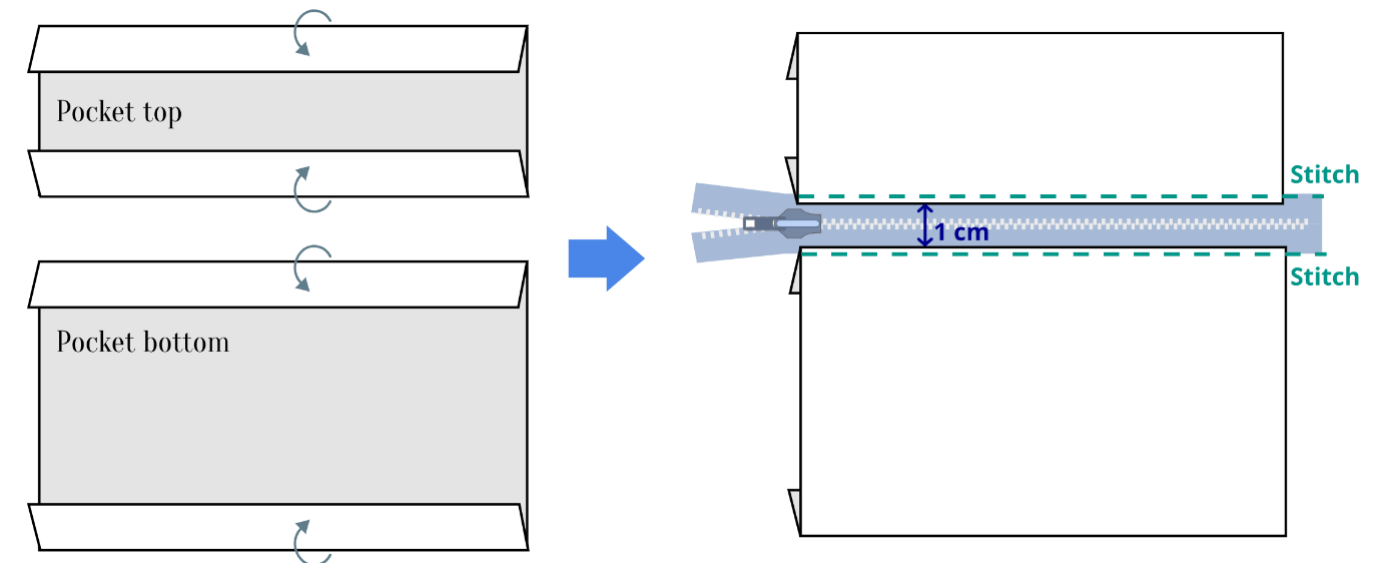
Attach the Button Strap to the back of the sleeve as indicated on the pattern. Again, I like to use a short stitch length to sew a box with a cross inside.

## Step 18

Fold over the top of the bag twice to determine the best button placement. Sew on the button - and you're done!

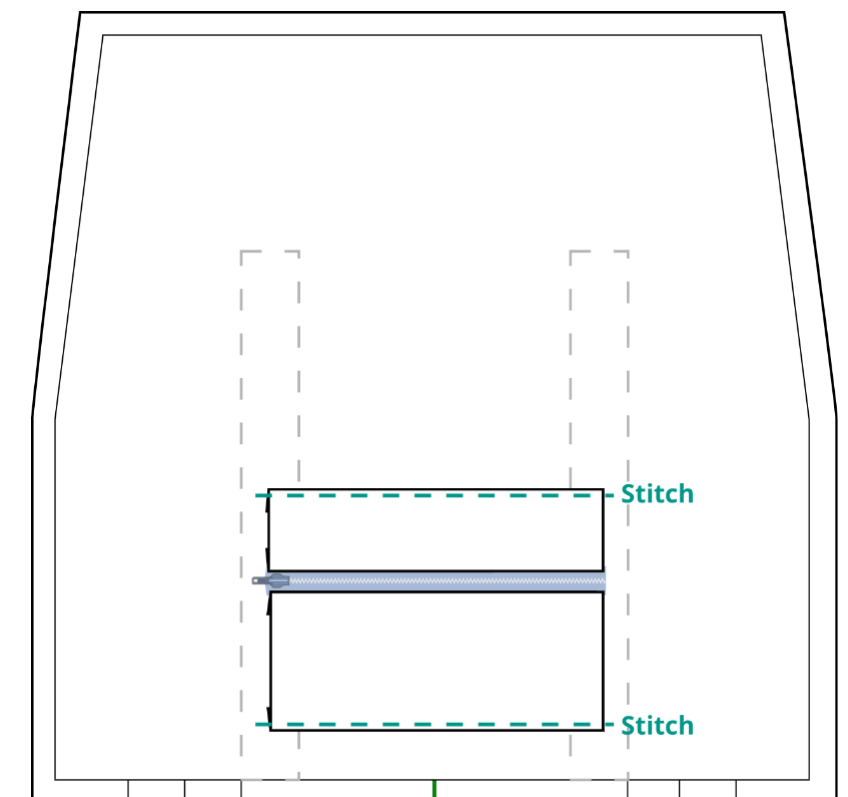
## Step 3

For both the Pocket Bottom and Pocket Top piece, fold over the top and bottom edges by 1 cm and press. Then top stitch the two pocket pieces to the zip such that there is about 1 cm between the pocket pieces. Don't worry if the gap isn't exactly 1 cm - this is a rough guide.



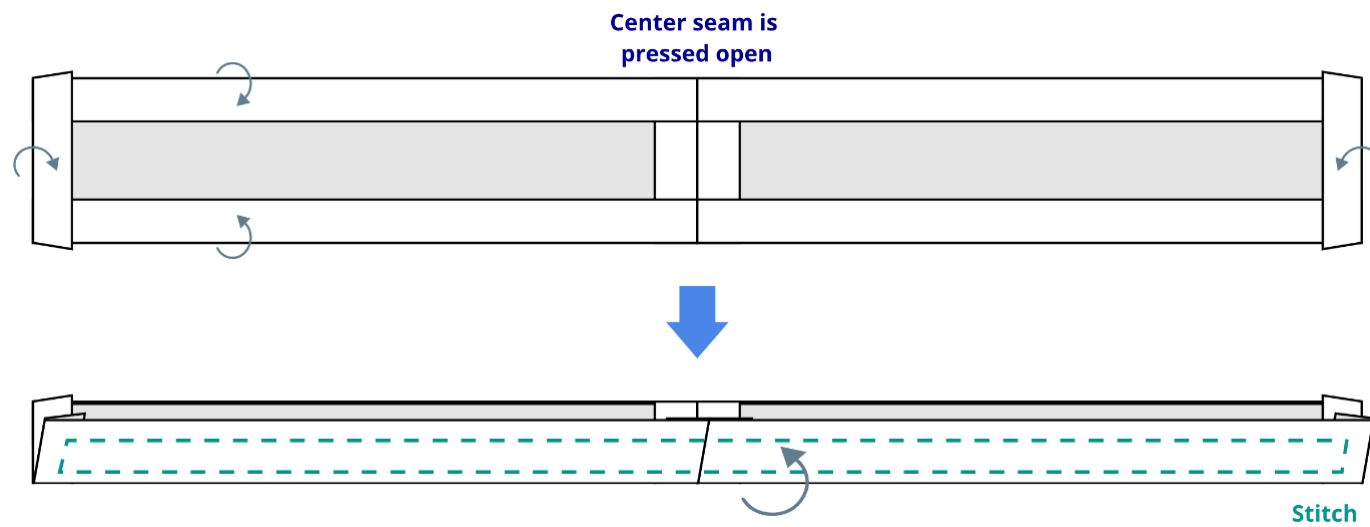
## Step 4

Cut off the excess zip length and then top stitch the back pocket to the right side one of the Sleeve pieces, 1-2 mm away from the edge of the pocket. Don't worry about the raw edges of the pocket, which should still be visible.



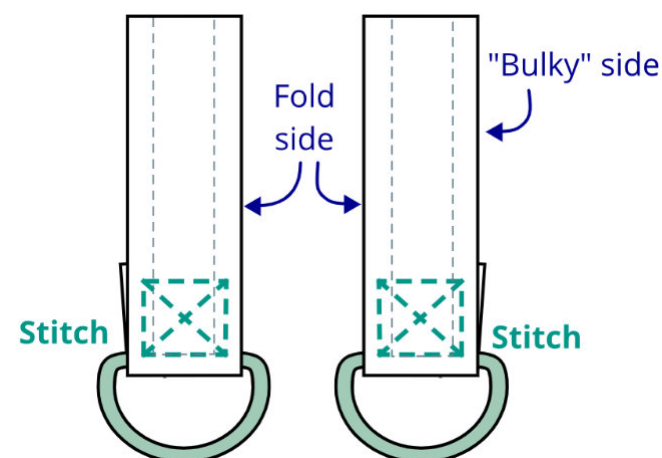
## Step 5

Create the straps: For each strap, take two Strap pieces and sew one of the short edges right-sides-together using a short stitch (for a strong seam). Press the seam open to reduce bulk on either side. Then press the sides and ends of this combined strap inwards by 1 cm, and finally fold the strap width-ways such that all the raw edges are tucked inside. Top stitch entire strap ½ cm away from the edge. Tip: Hemming tape is very helpful to keep everything nice and flat as you sew.



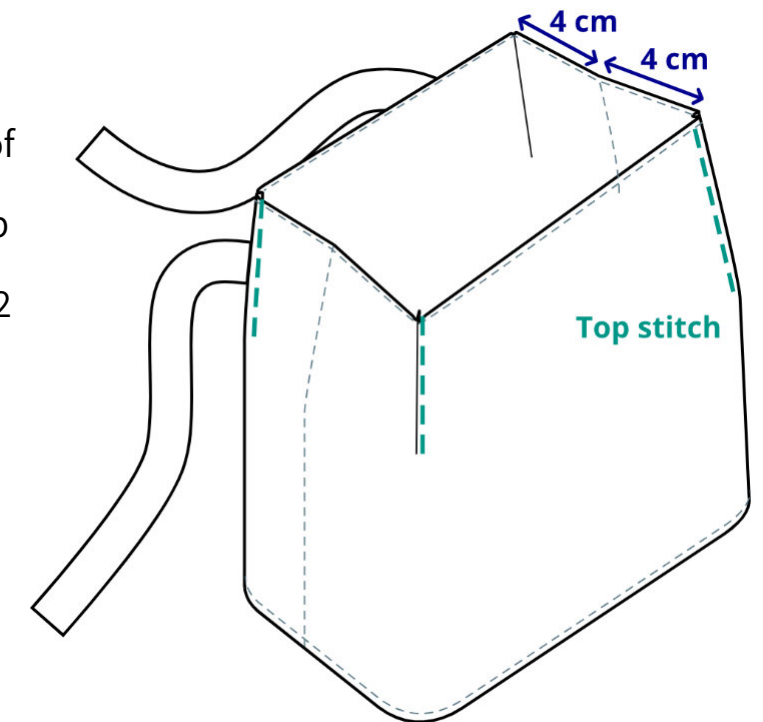
## Step 6

Fold the edge of each strap over the ring component of your strap adjuster. Sew this fold closed such that the folded section is about 2-3 cm long. Since the straps are asymmetrical (more bulk on one side), make sure you have one pair of straps. This is because then sewing the straps to the sleeve, you want the bulky sides pointing away from the center.



## Step 13

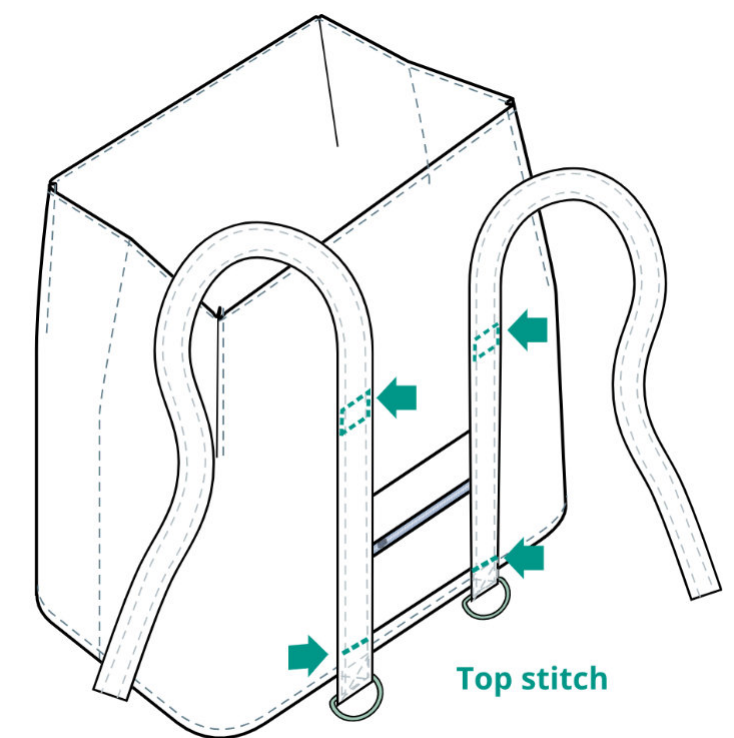
Measure 4 cm on each side of the side seams, and fold the edge so that the fold lines up with the corner of the bag base. Top-stitch these folds 2 mm from the edge, 10 cm down from the edge. This is what helps the sides of the bag fold inwards at the top.



## Step 14

Returning to the straps, secure the top and bottom edges of the strap to the bag through all layers of fabric. I like to use a short stitch length to sew a box with a cross inside (as shown on the pattern piece).

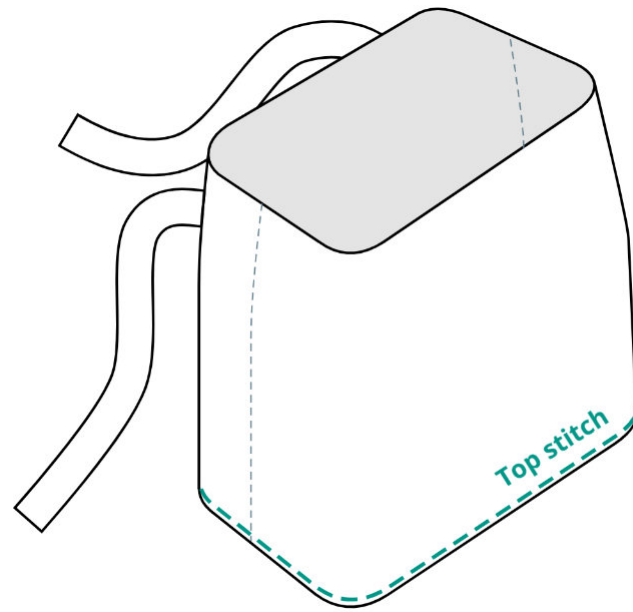
Below is a cross-section of how the strap is threaded through the adjustable slider pieces:





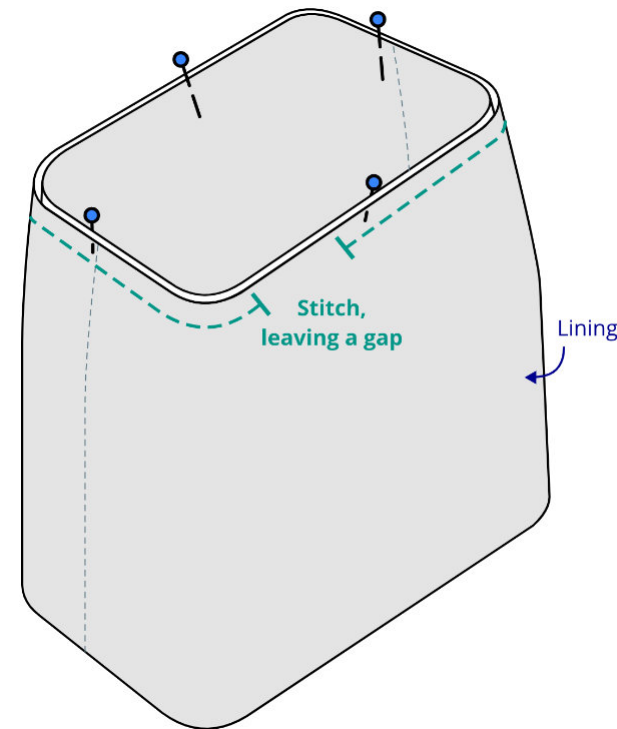
## Step 10

Optional: On the outer fabric, press the seam allowance of the Base towards the Sleeve and top-stitch the seam allowance 2 mm away from the seam. This can be a bit tricky and a narrow sewing foot (or zipper foot) is helpful here.



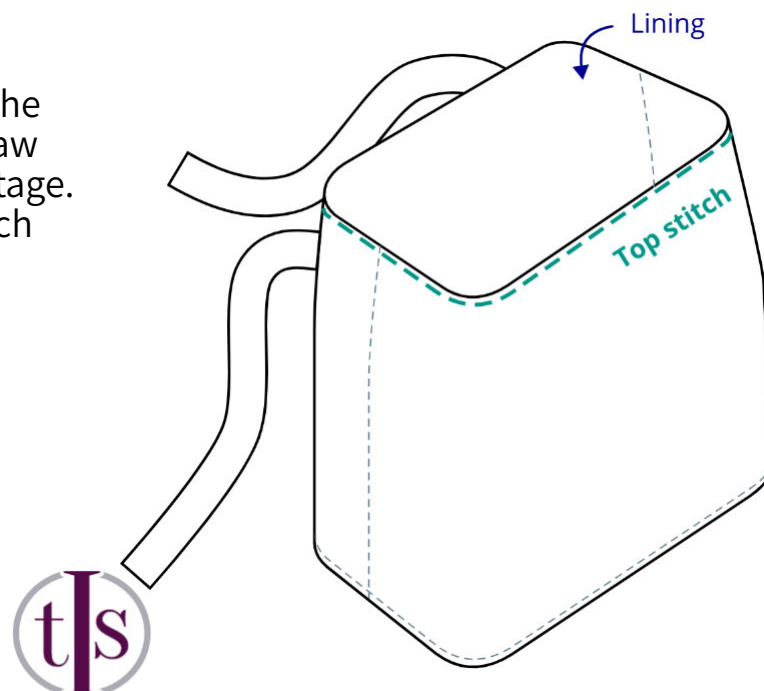
## Step 11

Now you can attach the lining! With the lining wrong-side out and the outer bag right-side out, put the outer bag into the lining and pin the top edge of the bag. Make sure that the inner pocket of the lining is on the back of the bag. Sew the top of the bag, leaving a gap of 7-10 cm.



## Step 12

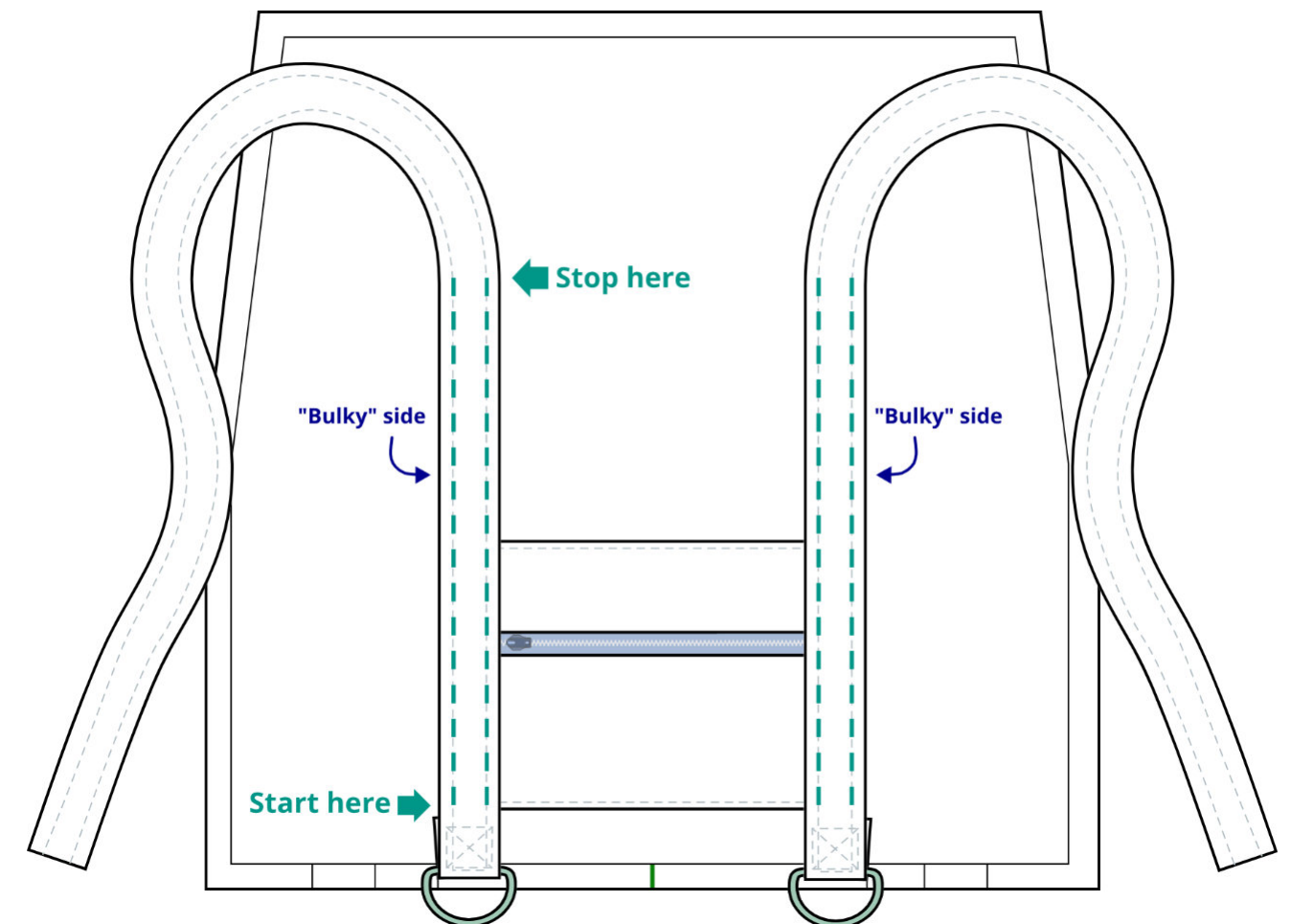
Turn the bag inside out so that the lining is now on the inside. No raw edges should be visible at this stage. Press the top edges and top stitch the entire top edge, which also closes the gap you left.



## Step 7

Pin the completed Straps to the back Sleeve using the placement on the pattern. Orient the straps so that the folded side (which is less bulky) lies on the pocket edges. Sew over the stitching lines you've already sewn on the strap, going from the bottom of the back pocket to the top of the strap placement. This will close up the sides of the back pocket.

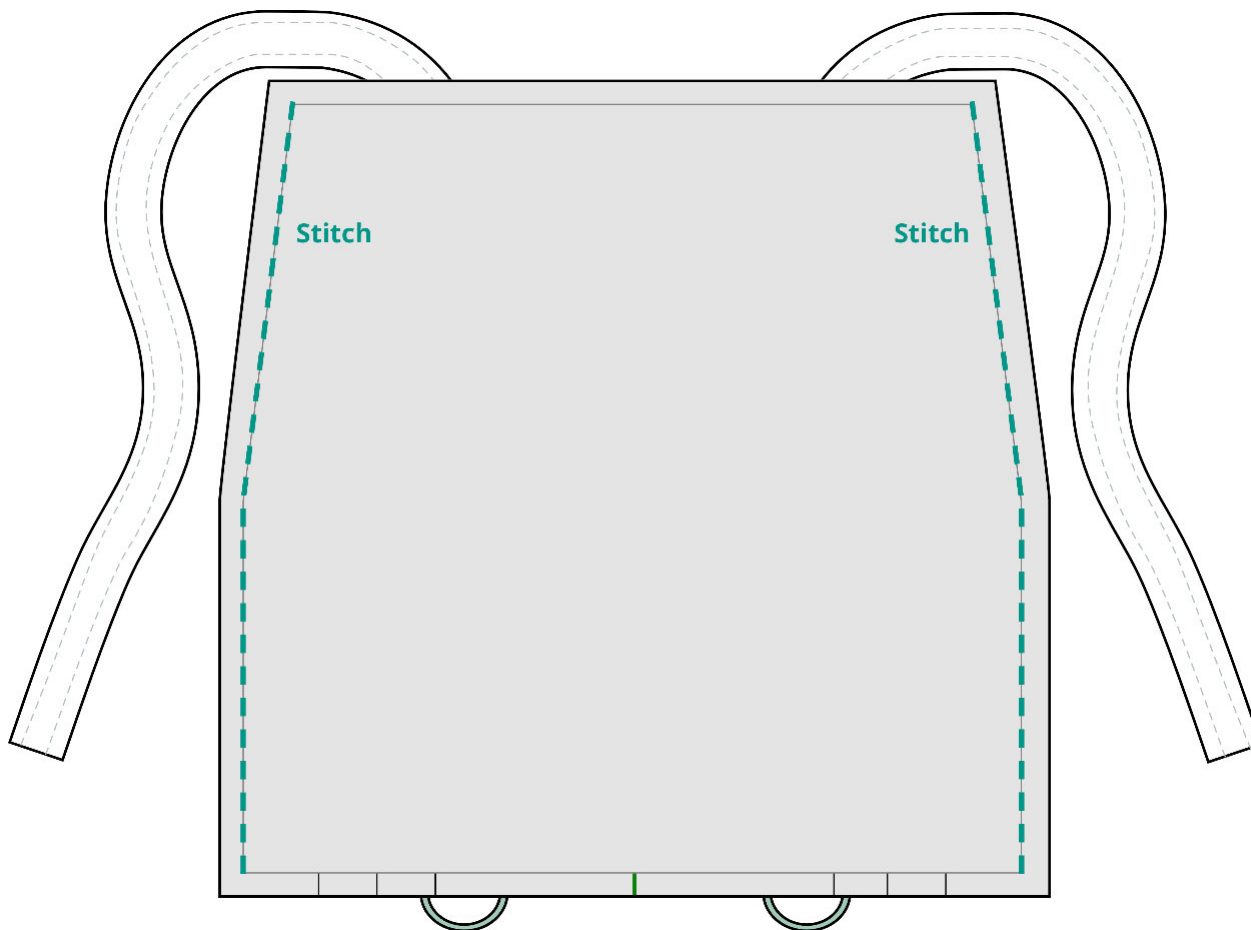
- Only sew the vertical lines for now. We will secure the edges of the strap attachment with horizontal stitches after the bag has its lining. This is because the strap is stronger when it is sewn through all the layers of fabric.
- Don't sew beyond the edge of the back pocket. This is so that you can fold the strap away from the bottom of the Sleeve when you attach the Base.



## Step 8

For both the lining and the outer fabric, sew the two Sleeve pieces right-sides-together with 1 cm seam allowance. Press the seam open.

- Optional step: Top-stitch the seam allowance 2 mm away from the seam on either side. This helps the seam lie flat, and can look nice with contrasting top-stitching thread!



## Step 9

For both the lining and the outer fabric, pin the Sleeve to the Base using all the notches indicated. The notches serve two purposes:

- They indicate where the pieces should align
- The notches on the Sleeve help to ease the fabric into the base by allowing the seam allowance to spread out slightly (and relieves tension).

Sew the Sleeve to the Base, right sides together. This is the hardest step of the sewing process, so here are my tips:

- Do the lining first because it is good practice and you don't be able to see mistakes as easily on the lining!
- The straight sections are indicated by the notches. As an optional first step, sew these first to secure most of the seam.
- Sew the seam with with the Sleeve on top.
- Don't worry if there appear to be puckers close to the sitch line, as long as there aren't any right under your line of stitching.
- If there is a small pucker, keep going and you can fix it afterwards by seam-ripping that small sections and re-sewing that area.

