

Anne Bonney Bags

How to make the Elizabetha

-version without photos

Elizabetha Patrickson was accused of being a river pirate in England in 1624. She was supposed to have waded out to boats on the River Thames at night, stealing goods and then selling it. She was tortured into confession of stealing and later hanged for piracy.



CUTTING

1. Print and cut the pattern pieces. Make sure the printer does not reduce the size. Print page 1 of the pattern and check with the 2 by 2 inches test square. I like to cut two of all the pieces that goes against a fabric fold and then tape them together, because it makes it easier not having to fold the fabric later. Especially when you're dealing with cork or vinyl. You don't have to print 2 sets to do that, just lay them double on another piece of paper and cut the same as the pattern and then tape them together.
2. Decide which fabric, vinyl, cork or leather you're going to use. I am using 2 different materials (vinyl and or cork), and waterproof canvas on the inside. You can choose to have all in the same material, or combine whichever you want.
3. My front and back panels (#2) are the main exterior fabric (I'm using cork), the side and top panels front and back (#1,3,4) are the secondary fabric (in my case vinyl).
4. I am using glitter vinyl for the "artwork". If you like, you can skip it alltogether or make it out of the secondary fabric if that is a cork or vinyl.
5. Cut all the pieces of material you need according to the cutting plan. All seam allowances are included.

INTERFACING

6. If you use fabric instead of vinyl or cork, those pieces need to be interfaced, preferably with fusible fleece or woven interfacing. The fleece must be cut without any seam allowance. Woven interfacings and other non-woven interfacings can have seam allowance.
7. If you use cork or vinyl for the main exterior of the bag, you don't need interfacing on that. As for lining fabric, if you use a soft cotton or thin canvas, the pieces should be interfaced. If you use waterproof canvas, you don't have to (and cannot) use interfacing.

PREPARING THE ARTWORK - MAIN PANEL MIDDLE PART

8. Cut the artwork you want (assuming you want artwork at all) out of vinyl, glitter vinyl, cork or leather. Place the pieces upside down in a card board box and use spray adhesive on the back of them. Lift the pieces up with a tweezer and glue them in place on your front panel (#2).
9. When the glue is dry, maybe after about 30 minutes, you can sew on top of the pieces along the

edge with either a free motion quilting foot and the feed dogs down, or by using your regular foot and sew around the edge with a regular seam.

ASSEMBLY MAIN PANEL FRONT AND BACK

Top Front:

10. Clip the main panel top front part (#1) onto the main panel middle part (#2) upside down right side against right side. Sew across, then fold the pieces up and topstitch.

Zipper Pocket Back:

11. Place the Main panel (#2) on the table. Place the zipper wrong side out at the bottom, where the back part of the main panel is. Clip in place and sew across. Place one of the back pocket for exterior (#8) top edge on top of the zipper and sew again, in the same seam. Fold the pocket down and topstitch.
12. Place the back part so far on the table, right side out. Place the Top Back Panel (#4) on top of the right side of the remaining part of the zipper and sew across. Then place the second pocket part (#8) on top of the wrong side of the zipper, clip in place and sew across. Fold the pocket down, but the top back panel up. Topstitch.
13. Sew the bottom part of the pocket. The sides of the pocket will be caught in the next step.

ASSEMBLY SIDE PANELS

14. Place the Main Panel Middle Part on the table. Clip one of the side panels (#3) to it, wrong side up, so the right side is facing the right side of the main panel. Make sure you catch the pocket as well. The cut out square for the boxed corner is on the outside. Sew from the top to the bottom. Fold the side piece out, finger press and topstitch on the side panel.
15. Repeat and do the same with the other side panel (#3).

ASSEMBLY OF THE ZIPPER ON THE LINING

If your zipper panel is cork, vinyl or leather:

16. Place one of the pocket pieces (#7) on the table, wrong side up. Place the Lining (#6) on top of it. The top of the pocket should go to the marked line on the pattern. Exactly where the decorative zipper panel starts. Place the oval zipper decor panel (#5) where it should be on the Lining (#6) according to the pattern. Use pins or double sided tape to keep it in place and top stitch around it, near the edge.
17. Flip over to the wrong side so you see the stitches you just made and mark the slit for the zipper. Cut away the rectangle. Use a rotary cutter and a ruler a part of the way and scissors the rest. Cut the pocket lining and the lining part a little away from the rectangle, maybe 1/4 of an inch, so you cannot see that fabric at all when you look at the lining from the right side.
18. Place a strip of narrow double sided tape around the rectangle on the wrong side, only on the long sides. If you don't have double sided narrow tape (skip this step or cut a wider double sided tape in two along the center.)
19. Place the zipper on the table and center it inside your rectangle. Topstitch around the rectangle from the right side, 1/8 of an inch.
20. Turn it over and place the second part of the pocket on top of the other, and sew around the sides and the top. Leave the bottom open to turn the bag. Press the bottom seam allowance outwards to make it is easier to stitch after you have turned the bag.

If your zipper panel is fabric (or you don't like raw edges showing on your vinyl or cork):

21. Place the oval zipper decor panel (#5) where it should be on the Lining (#6) according to the pattern. Use pins or double sided tape to keep it in place and top stitch around it, near the edge.
22. Flip over to the wrong side so you see the stitches you just made and mark the rectangle for the zipper.
23. Attach the top of the first Interior Zipper Pocket Interior Lining (#15) right side against the right side of the decor zipper panel and sew around the rectangle you just drew. Cut a line in the center, stopping 3/8 of an inch from the sides, where you cut into the corners like the pattern shows. Make sure you don't cut your seam.
24. Turn the pocket lining into the slit and over to the back, and roll the seams so you see as little as possible of the pocket lining from the front. Use pins or clips to hold it in place. If you use fabric, you can press, but if you use vinyl or cork, you can only finger press.
25. Place the zipper for the lining on the table facing up (you can use double sided tape on the edges of the zipper if you like).
26. Decide which side you want the zipper pull to be on. Slowly sew the zipper in by topstitching around the rectangle while you hold the zipper in place. Move the zipper pull out of the way when you get to it, by lifting the foot of your machine.
27. Attach the second Zipper Pocket Lining (#7) to the top, and sew it to the top of the other zipper pocket lining you just put in place. Then continue sewing both sides of the pocket. Keep the bot-

tom open to turn the bag through, but press the bottom seam allowance outwards to make it is easier to stitch after you have turned the bag.

MAKING THE SHOULDER STRAP AND THE STRAP CONNECTORS

Tip: If you have cut the top shoulder strap of cork (then you have raw edge on both sides, and have cut half the width of the pattern), the sides sometimes look a little “hairy” because the backing of the cork is a little hairy. You can remove this fuzz on the edges by using a lighter, or a lit candle. Move the edge of the cork quickly over the flame and never keep it still. You don’t want to start a fire... It really doesn’t take much heat to remove that fuzz. Practice on a piece of cork before you try it on the shoulder strap part.

The strap:

28. The strap assembly will go very smooth if you have double sided tape to help you. You are not going to sew on top of this tape, so you don’t have to worry about gumming up your needle. If you don’t have double sided tape, you just have to clip everything in place and hope for the best.
29. Draw a line on the wrong side of the strap (#8) down the center. Place a strip of double sided tape on the center line. Fold one side in toward the line, and then the other. Make them meet in the middle, but not overlap.
30. If you are not using cork or vinyl, you need to cut the Strap top (#9) twice the width and fold it like the main part of the strap. Mark a line and fold toward the center. If this is cork, you can have the raw edges showing, and then you only need to cut the width the pattern is showing.
31. Place a strip of double sided tape along the center line of the widest strap, on the wrong side of the strap (where the edges meet). Place strap piece (#9) on top of strap piece (#8) and make sure it is straight, so you can see an equal amount of the wide strap to the side of it. Topstitch the smaller strap on top of the wider strap.
32. If your needle is gummed up with glue after this, wipe it off with Acetone on a pad of cotton.
33. Fold one end of the strap (about 1 inch) into a strap adjuster (if you want it adjustable) and sew across the strap. You can put a rivet there to strengthen it if you like. Put the other end through a swivel clasp and then through the strap adjuster again. Check that it isn’t twisted. Then fasten the loose end into the second swivel clasp and sew across. You really should put a rivet on here as well, to make it stronger. Then you don’t have to sew necessarily.

THE STRAP CONNECTORS:

34. Make them the same way you made the strap, with the decor piece on or not (depending on how strong your sewing machine is). Fold each connector around a D-ring or a metal rectangle with a 1/2 inch wide opening. Clip the ends together to hold them in place.

ASSEMBLY OF THE TOP ZIPPER

35. Cut 2 zipper tabs 1 inch wide by 1.5 inches long of the secondary fabric. Cut the zipper 9 inches long. Place a zipper tab on each end of the zipper, with the tabs wrong side out, and pointing toward the center of the zipper. Sew 3/8 of an inch on each side and fold over to the wrong side, so the other end is caught in the topstitch. Topstitch on each side from the right side and cut away the excess of the zipper tab on the wrong side.
36. Place the main exterior part of the bag on the table with the right side out and the front part up. Place the zipper wrong side out, the top of the zipper flush with the top of the front part. Sew along the top while lifting the foot with the needle down when you move the zipper pull out of the way. Unless you have a wide zipper and can avoid conflict.
37. Place the front lining right side in so it is right side against right side of the exterior bag. Clip it to the top of the zipper and sew across. Finger press along the zipper and topstitch on only the exterior bag. The lining is folded upwards, out of the way of the topstitching.
38. For the other side of the zipper you'll need the strap connectors in place.
39. Baste the strap connectors onto each side of the main exterior bag 2 inches in from the side, d-ring facing down.
40. Fold the main exterior bag up to the zipper and clip the back together with the remaining half of the zipper. Fold the main bag in two and cut a notch on the center of and mark the center of the zipper as well, with chalk or a pin. When clipping, start from the center and clip each side. There should be a little 2/8 inch gap between the end of the zipper and the seam allowance of the bag. Sew the back part onto the zipper.
41. Fold the lining up, clip it in place and sew in the same seam you just made. Turn the bag so the right side is out, open the zipper and topstitch along the zipper on the exterior bag, while keeping the lining away. It is a little hard to do this topstitching, but you can do it!

SIDE SEAMS AND BOXED CORNERS

42. Now you can clip the side seams together, right side of the front against right side of the back. Clip the lining the same way. Sew along the side of the bag and the lining in the same operation. Use a little more seam allowance on the lining (to prevent a bulky lining), but not at the top. Repeat for both sides.
43. Mark the bottom of the bag by laying it flat on the table and cutting a little notch. Adjust the cut out squares if you have to. That's why I often recommend just marking the squares and cutting them when you get to them in the process, after checking that they will really be at the very bottom of your bag. The bottom line can shift a little if you take more seam allowance on one zipper than the other for example. This way you're sure it is correct. Make the boxed corners by placing the side seam on top of the bottom line right side facing right side. Mark a line across with a pen according to the seam allowance on the pattern. Use a ruler so you get it right the first time. Now you can sew the boxed corner by sewing on that line. Note the length of this line, so you can make the other boxed corner the exact same length.
44. Cut away some of the seam allowance along the sides to make the bag less bulky on the inside.
45. Make the two boxed corners on the lining the same way.

MAKING A TASSEL

46. Cut the fringes of the tassels, preferably with a rotary cutter, using a ruler, because it is easier. If not, use scissors, but try to cut straight. Leave the top 6/8 of an inch untouched. This is the head of the tassel.
47. Cut a tassel strap (3 inches long and 1/2 inch wide, fold in two and sew along the long edge) and connect it through a zipper pull directly, or through a little zipper pull hardware for tassels if you have.
48. Place double sided tape on the inside of the tassel along the top from side to side.
49. Lay the tassel strap folded double onto the tassel, 1/2 inch from the side and 1/2 inch from the top. At this point the strap is going through the tassel connector hardware or through your zipper pull.
50. Roll the tassel, starting by folding the side over the tassel strap and then continuing to roll until you have reached the other side of the tassel. The upper edge should now be glued together at the top. If you don't have double sided tape, you need to use glue for this.

51. Cut a hole with a hole punch though all the layers of the tassel, 3/8 inch from the top and install a rivet straight through the tassel (and thereby through the tassel strap that's in the middle of the tassel).

Congratulations! You made it!