



Mountain Custom Quilting

Retreat Bag

Finished size 20" x 27"

Fabric Requirements:

One Piece Option 1:

1 m fabric cotton, canvas

Option 2:

44 – 5' squares 1 pack of 5" charm squares,
a few extra 5" squares

1 m lining fabric

1 m batting of choice

Notions:

1.5m – 1 ½" wide webbing for handles

or

2 -5" x 27" fabric to make handles

2 large snaps, 1 magnetic snap, 9" zipper. (optional)

¼ m of medium weight interfacing

WOF = width of fabric

HST = half square triangle

RST = right sides together

¼" seam allowance and 42" WOF

Let's get started...

Option 1: One piece of fabric method:

Cut fabric and batting to 28" x 40" machine quilt with any design thread work desired.

Fold quilted fabric in half, measure and cut so dimensions are 19" x 26"

Sew side seams (both sides). Next on folded bottom use a ruler and cut out 4.5" square from sewn side seam and folded bottom. *Diagram 1.*

Open side seam and sew across bottom cut out corner edges. (Bring side seam to center of bottom fold). Pin raw edges together and sew seam.

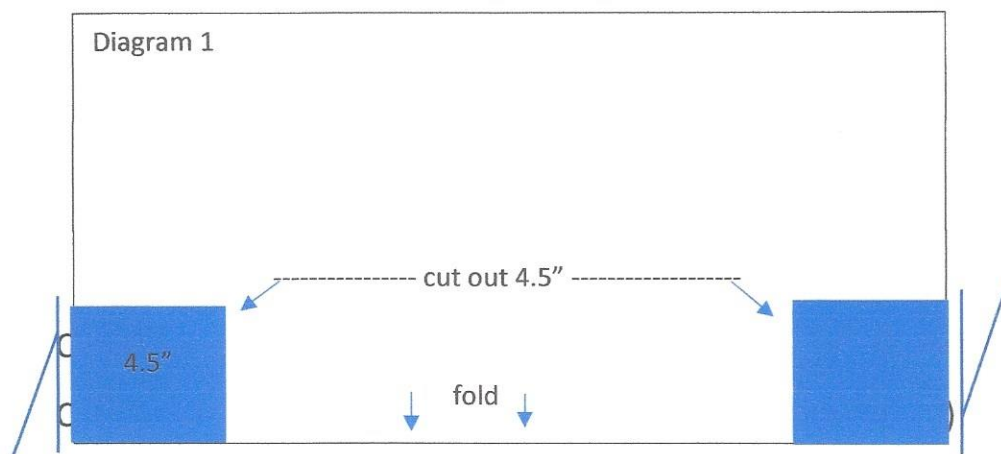
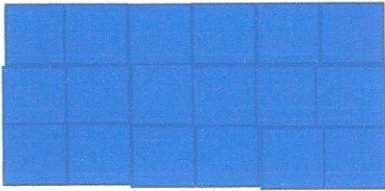


Diagram #1 is used in both options

Option 2:

Charm squares method:



Side 1 of the bag.



Make 1 set 2 rows of 4 charm squares for the bottom of the bag.



Side 2 of the bag.

Make 2 sets of 3 rows of 6 charm squares, for sides of the bag. Sew one of each set to the top and bottom of the bottom section.

Organize 44 - 5" charm squares in rows as per diagram. Sew each row together and press alternate directions for each row to enable nice nesting of seams. Set charm fabric onto a piece of batting and machine quilt with any design thread work desired.

Fold quilted fabric in half, measure and trim so dimensions are 19" x 26".

Sew side seams (both sides). Next on folded bottom use a ruler and cut out a 4.5" square from sewn side seam and folded bottom. *Diagram 1.*

Bottom corners- Pin raw edges together and sew seam. Line up center with side seam.

LINING:

Cut one piece of fabric to 26" x 36", fold in half and cut the 4.5" corners out (as directed above in diagram 1). Add the options for the inside of the bag.

Cut an additional piece 8.5" x 18.5" (for bag bottom sleeve)

- Hem one 8.5" end in one inch, and press long sides (16.5") in ¼"
- Set aside for now.

Options are endless at this point.

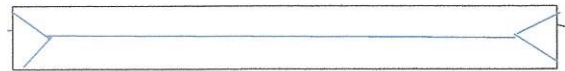
- Add a zipper pocket, or pocket pouch. (10" x 12")

If adding a zipper pocket measure 3" down from top of the lining and center.

Place zipper on right side of lining, with marking pencil draw box around zipper. Leave zipper tape ends out of drawn box area. Only measure actual zipper area.

NOTE: Don't make zipper area too long, include zipper tab and cut off just before stopper, so that you can sew across zipper tape.

Remove zipper and draw center line in box.



Sew around box.

Use rotary cutter or scissors and cut on lines. Be mindful not to cut into your stitched box lines. Cut on straight line and both v corner lines.

Turn lining over, invert right side to wrong side up to stitched box rectangle and press. Creates a box rectangle cut out, for the zipper.

Pin zipper in place inside your box cut out area. Position stopper and zipper tab. Sew in place using zipper foot.

Cut a piece of fabric 10" x 12" and center it on the wrong side of lining, (right side in) so the zipper is in the top 2" of pocket. Sew around all four sides. Repeat on other side of bag or add a pouch pocket.

Add bottom sleeve to the lining. Place 8.5" x 16.5" to center of lining cross ways, lining up end that is not hemmed to the lining edge. Sew both sides, leave hemmed edge away from the one side edge of lining. (Stitch on 3 sides.)

Fold lining in half once you have your pockets complete, and all other options for inside the bag.

Sew side seams (leave a 6" opening on one side seam for turning bag). Next on folded bottom use a ruler and cut out 4.5" square from sewn side seam and folded bottom. *Diagram 1.*

Open side seam and sew across bottom cut out corner edges. (Bring side seam to center of bottom fold). Pin raw edges together and sew seam. Makes the bottom of the bag.

Handles:

Cut 2 pieces of webbing 27" long or cut 2 – 5" x 27" fabric strips to match bag.

Webbing Handles:

Turn bag Right sides out, with side seams flat, fold bottom in. This enables bag to lay flat.

Position handles 7.5" from the right side seam of bag. Loop handle on RSF top raw edge of bag, pin in place. One handle loops on the same side of bag. Sew webbing handles in place ¼" from top edge.

Fabric Handles:

Press handle sides to center, and then press in half again. Machine stitch down both sides of handles. Position handle on right side of bag. Loop handle between right and left edges of bag in 8.5" of bag top, pin in place. Repeat handle on other side of the bag. Sew handles in place ¼" from top edge.

Facing Option: (can be a nice contrast option on inside of lining).

Cut 2 – 2.5" strips of fabric. Cut lining 24" x 34" for this option.

Sew facing end for end and press seam. Sew to top of the bag edge. Attach facing as you would attach binding. Leave ends to measure and fit accurately to fit bag's top edge. Remove excess fabric.

Press towards bag and top stitch 1/4" from bag edge.

Center magnetic snap between the handles about 1.5" down from top.

Optional: I added a small piece of interfacing to reinforce the facing fabric under the snap. Place closure as per package directions. (Apply only to the facing fabric, do not include the quilted bag in the closure).

With right sides together (RST) pin the lining to the facing, raw edges together. Pin the lining to the bag facing. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " from to edge.

You can now turn the bag right side out, using the opening you left in the lining.

Whip stitch lining opening closed and put lining inside the bag.

I applied a snap on both sides of the bag, about 1.5" down from top of bag and approximately 3.5" from side seams. This is a nice feature as it will enable you to make the bag larger or smaller depending on the contents.

Applique Option:

Enclosed is a flower leaf applique template. After machine quilting, use scrap fabrics and buttons to embellish the exterior of your bag.

Enjoy your bag! It is big and beautiful. I first made this bag at a Quilt retreat as a bonus project. I have packed and used this bag for about 12 years.

Follow me on Instagram and on my website at mountaincustomquilting.com

