

# Back to School Robot Messenger Bag

by Adrienne Franklin

**Pattern Level:** Intermediate

**Seam Allowances:** Seam Allowance: 3/8" used and has been added unless otherwise noted. Press carefully step-by step. Read all instructions before beginning.



## Materials needed:

3 yards Robot Print  
3/4 - yard Velcro 1 1/2" wide  
1 1/2 - yards polyester fleece  
2 packages extra wide double fold bias binding  
Vanishing or washable fabric marker, matching thread

## Cutting and Assembly:

- 1) Cut pieces as specified in figure 1. To round the corners as shown, place a small soup can in the corner of the fabric and trace around it. Using a disappearing fabric marker and ruler, mark quilting lines 2" apart on 1 front piece, 1 back piece, 1 flap, and 1 side piece. To quilt these pieces, form a quilt "sandwich" by placing the fleece between the 2 matching fabric pieces with wrong sides of the fabric towards the fleece. Pin to hold while quilting. Starting at the center of each piece quilt along the drawn lines.
- 2) To make a pattern for the handles use a copier or other method to enlarge the handles until 1 square = 1" on the background grid. Cut 2 front handles and 2 back handles from the robot print. Cut 1 front handle and 1 back handle from the fleece. Baste front fleece to the wrong side of 1 front handle piece and back fleece to one back handle piece. Stitch remaining front handle to front handle with fleece right sides facing leaving the small straight end open for turning. Clip curves and turn right side out, press. Topstitch around outer edges. Repeat for remaining back handle pieces. Baste front handle to out side of flap as shown in figure 2, keeping raw edges together and placing top left edge of handle 1 1/8 " away from flap left edge. Cut a 9" piece of Velcro. Sew the soft side of Velcro to the front strap placing the end of the Velcro 1/2" from the curved end of the handle and centering it on the handle. See figure 2a. Baste back handle to left side of bag back, raw edges even, centering handle on back side edge. See figure 2b. Cut hook side of Velcro into 4- 1 1/2" pieces and sew on back handle as shown sewing the first piece 1/2" from curved end of handle and spacing the remaining pieces 1 1/2" apart. You will have a small piece of hook Velcro left over.
- 3) Finish edges of flap by leaving the basted edge with the front handle free and enclosing the remaining 3 edges with bias tape. See figure 2a.

- 4) Sew side panel to front and back pieces, right sides facing, making sure that the basted back handle is caught in the seam. Clip curves as necessary. See figure 3. Finish inner seams by encasing with bias binding.
- 5) Sew flap to back top edge of bag, raw edges together and right sides facing. Make sure to center flap along back and while stitching make sure to catch front handle in seam. See figure 4. Encase entire top edge of bag (including raw edges of flap and front handle) with bias binding, folding over raw edge of binding and overlapping at the end of the seam. See figure 4.
- 6) Cut a 14" piece of Velcro and sew the soft side to the inside of flap edge 1" from long edge, see figure 5. Sew hook section to front of bag 1" from bottom edge. Bag is finished, try on and adjust handle to fit.

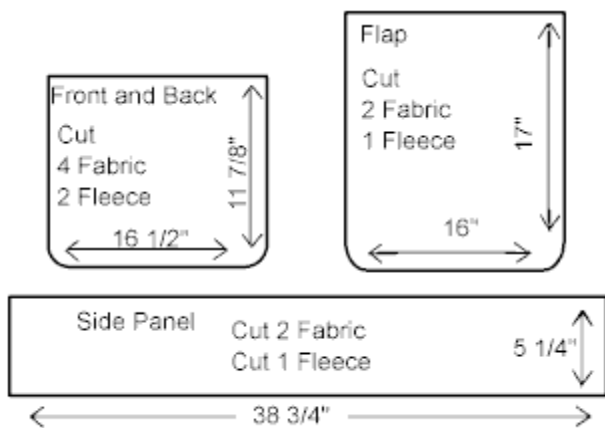


Figure 1

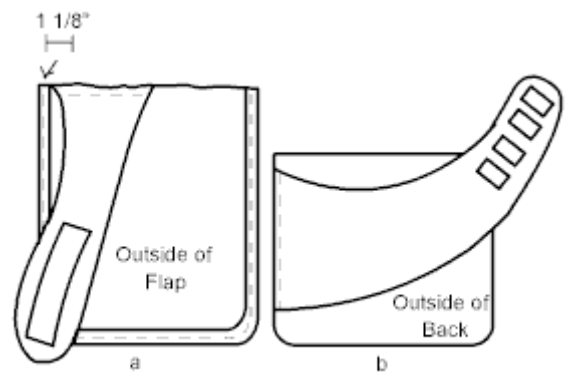


Figure 2

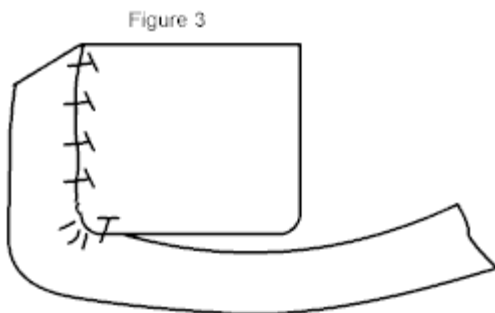


Figure 3

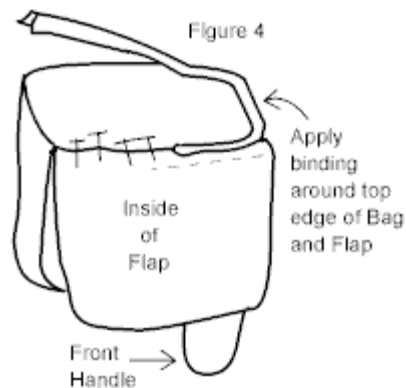


Figure 4

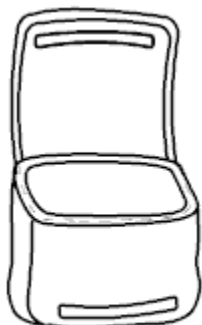
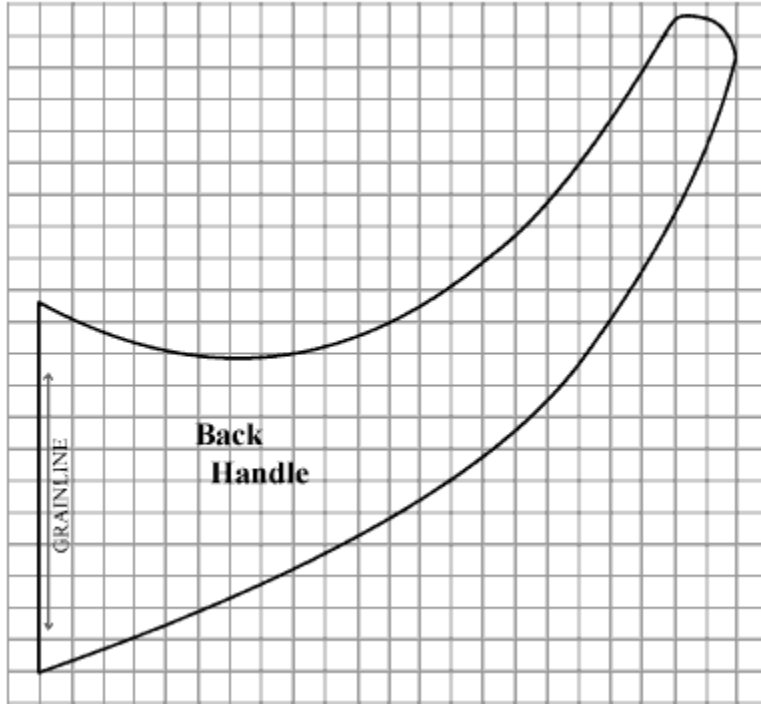
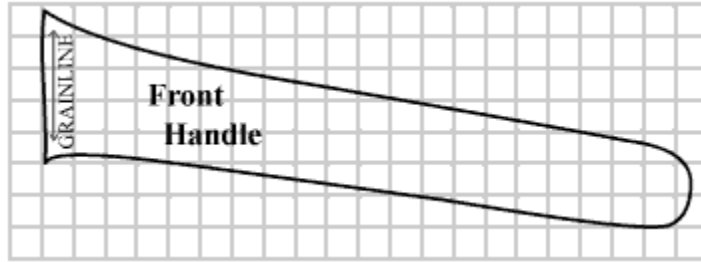


Figure 5



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