

Thread Catcher and Pincushion

Supplies

10 x 18 inch main print (outer bag)
10 x 18 coordinating print (bag lining)
2 4 x 6½ inch fabrics for pin cushion
2 pieces of 2 x 10 inch fabric for straps
Approximately ½ yard of lightweight fusible
Walnut shell filling for pincushion

Directions

First, make the straps. Fuse 1½ x 10 inch piece of lightweight fusible interfacing to center of one fabric strip. Place fabric pieces for straps with right sides together and sew both long edges. Turn, press and top stitch. Cut into 2 pieces, each 5 inches long. OR you may want to make one wider strap by cutting 2 pieces of fabric 4½ inches by 5 inches and sewing in the same manner.

Apply lightweight fusible to wrong sides of pincushion pieces to add stability. With pincushion lining facing up, place straps evenly spaced (about 1½ inches apart) on one long side. Place pincushion main fabric on top with right side facing down. At this point, pincushion fabrics have right sides together with straps sandwiched in between and raw edges even. Tuck remaining edge of strap out of the way so it will not be caught in the seam. Sew around edges of pincushion, leaving an opening to add filling later. Turn right side out through opening. Set aside.

To create thread catcher, apply lightweight fusible to wrong side of main print. Sew short edges of main print together to create a tube. Center seam on one side of tube and press edges. Sew across bottom of tube. To square the bottom of the bag, align creased edge and bottom seam. Measure 1½ inches from point and draw a stitching line. Stitch on drawn line, backstitching on each side. Trim excess fabric. Repeat on other bottom corner of bag. Prepare bag lining in the same way, applying lightweight fusible to lining before stitching into a tube. Leave a 2 inch opening in the bottom seam to turn bag and lining right side out.

Place bag and lining with right sides together and unfinished ends of straps (other end of straps are attached to the pincushion) between bag and lining. Sew around top edge. Turn right side out through opening in bottom of lining. Push lining into bag, press top edge and topstitch. Sew opening in bag lining. Fill pincushion with walnut shells until very firm. Close opening by hand.

Tip: After filling pincushion firmly, stuff a small amount of batting into opening to make it easier to close opening without losing some of the walnut shell filling.