

## Creative Messenger Bag By Shannon Mullen



### Supplies:

- 8 ½" x 11" Denim or Cotton Lawn printer fabrics - depending on weight of base fabric
- 2 yards of fabric – canvas or home décor fabrics are best
- Scrap pieces of fabric or colors to match theme
- Embroidery threads for decorative stitching
- Picture or collage of pictures
- Cotton sewing thread
- 90/14 universal needle
- Steam-A-Seam – sheet form
- ¼ yard of cotton batting
- Ruler, cutting mat and rotary cutter
- Iron and ironing board
- Appliqué Pressing Sheet
- Fasturn Tube – large barrel set
- Water Soluble Marking Pen

### Cut:

4 – 17" x 20" pieces of the canvas or base fabric for outside of bag and lining

- 2 – 15” x 17” pieces of the canvas for flap
- 1 – 6”x 40” piece for strap
- 1 – 3” x 40” piece of batting for strap

Note: Seams are sewn at 1/2” unless otherwise noted.

### **Strap:**

- 1.) With right sides together, sew the long sides of the strap together. Turn right side out using Fasturn tool and slip batting into the newly created strap. Press and set aside.

### **Lining:**

- 1.) Sew two of the 17” x 20” squares together along one short side.
- 2.) Press bottom seam open and with right sides together sew both of the side seams.
- 3.) Press the side seams to one side or the other. Open one side of the bag and place your hand along the seam. The right side of the fabric should be against your palm. Fold the side seam to the bottom seam of the bag and match the seams.
- 4.) Pin in place and on the wrong side of the fabric mark 2 1/2” in from the point of the corner. Sew along this line making sure to reinforce your stitching at the beginning and end. Cut the bulky corner fabric off leaving about 1/2” from the seam line.
- 5.) Repeat steps 3 & 4 to the other corner. Now you have a bag with side panels, a deeper bottom and have learned how to box corners!

### **Flap:**



- 1.) Arrange your photos on a copier/printer and print onto the photo fabric. Set the ink in whatever way is required by the direction on the photo fabric package. Do NOT trim extra fabric away.
- 2.) Remove paper backing from photo fabric and lay glue side of the Steam-A-Seam sheet down onto the wrong side of the photo fabric. Press into place but do not use steam.
- 3.) Do any type of embellishment on the front side of your pictures. Ribbons, lace, sequins, pearls or crystals work beautifully as well as free motion sewing or machine embroidery.
- 4.) When you are finished embellishing your picture, trim your photo fabric to give the piece clean edges and remove the paper backing of you Steam-A-Seam. Fuse the photo onto one of the flap pieces using steam and the Appliqué' Pressing Sheet.
- 5.) Sew the two flap pieces right sides together leaving a 4" opening along one edge and trim corners. Turn right side out and press. Close the 4" opening with a little strip of Steam-A-Seam.

### Body of Bag:



- 1.) To construct the body of your bag follow steps 2-5 of the lining instructions. If you desire to embellish your bag do so between steps 1 & 2. Embellish the bag in anyway

you choose. Embroidery design shown, Disk 144, can be purchased from your local Husqvarna Viking dealer. When step 5 is complete move on to the next step listed here.

- 2.) Place the raw ends of your strap along the raw edges of your bag about 3" from the side seam. Baste or pin in place.
- 3.) Find the back center of your bag and mark the center with the water soluble marking pen. Find the front center of your flap and match it with the back center of your bag. Baste along entire back of your bag.
- 4.) With right sides together, pin the lining to the bag and stitch 5/8" away from the raw edge all the way around. Leaving a 6-8" opening in the front of the bag. Trim and turn the bag right side out.
- 5.) Stuff the lining into the bag and press. Fill this durable bag with books, games or a notebook and pen for your quick trips to the park!