

MATERIALS

Coats & Clark™ Dual Duty XP® All-purpose Thread

1/8 yd (80cm) linen or home décor-weight fabric, 60" (152.5cm), for outer pack

5% yd (57cm) lining fabric

2% yds (2.5m) medium-weight woven fusible interfacing, 20" (51cm) wide 1/8 yd (11.5cm) fusible stiff craft interfacing

Four snap-together grommets, 1" (2.5cm) (inside diameter)

One D-ring, 1" (2.5cm)

One swivel hook, 1" (2.5cm)

Removable marker



SEWING I SKILL LEVEL: EASY

Featuring Coats & Clark™ Dual Duty XP® All-purpose Thread

Is it a tote or is it a backpack? It's actually both! Use as a tote or reposition the straps to use as a backpack if it gets a little heavy.

MEASUREMENTS

13½" x 15½" x 4" (34.5cm x 39.5cm x 10cm)

CUTTING

From the outer fabric, cut:

(2) squares, 18½" x 18½" (47cm x 47cm), for pack front and back (2) strips, 4" x width-of-fabric (WOF) (10cm x WOF), for straps (1) strip, 4" x 7" (10cm x 18cm), for tab

From the lining, cut:

(2) rectangles, 18½" x 18½" (47cm x 47cm), for pack front and back

From the interfacing, cut:

- (4) squares, 18½" x 18½" (47cm x 47cm), for pack/lining front and back
- (4) strips, 4" x WOF (10cm x WOF), for straps
- (1) strip, 4" x 7" (10cm x 18cm), for tab

From the stiff craft interfacing,

(1) strip, $4'' \times 13\frac{1}{2}''$ (10cm x 34.5cm)

PREPARATION

- 1. Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the interfacing pieces to the wrong side of their respective fabric pieces. For the strap, slightly overlap the interfacing strips to create the required length.
- 2. On both lower corners of the outer pack squares and the lining rectangles, cut out a 2" x 2" (5cm x 5cm) square.





CONVERTIBLE BACKPACK Designed By Linda Turner Griepentrog

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ASSEMBLING THE STRAP

- 3. Sew the strap pieces together end to end and press the seam open. Fold the strap strip in half lengthwise and press a crease. Open out and fold both long edges to the center. Repress to fold in half, creating a strap 1" (2.5cm) wide.
- 4. Edgestitch each long edge of the strap.
- 5. Matching the raw edges, baste one strap end to the lower pack edge, 1 ½" (4cm) from the cutout edge. Roll up the excess strap length and rubber band it to keep it out of future seams.

ASSEMBLING THE TAB

- 1. Fold the tab strip in half lengthwise and press a crease. Open out and fold both long edges to the center. Repress to fold in half, creating a tab 1" (2.5cm) wide.
- 2. Edgestitch each long edge of the tab.
- 3. Thread the tab through the D-ring and abut the finished edges. Baste across the tab ends and then baste in place at the lower pack edge 1 ½" (4cm) from the cutout edge.

Seam allowances are ½" (1.5cm).

ASSEMBLING THE LINING

- 1. Place the lining pieces right side together and sew the side seams. Sew across the bottom, leaving an opening for turning. Press the seams open.
- 2. To box the corners, place the side seam directly on top of the bottom seam and sew across the corner. Repeat for the second corner.

ASSEMBLING THE PACK

- Place the pack front and back pieces right side together and sew the side and bottom seams. Press the seams open.
- 2. To box the corners, place the side seam directly on top of the bottom seam and sew across the corner. Repeat for the second corner.
- 3. Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the stiff craft interfacing to the bottom of the pack. Turn the pack right side out.

- 4. With right sides together, slide the lining over the pack, matching side seams and the upper edge. Sew around the upper edge. Trim the seam allowances.
- 5. Turn the pack right side out through the lining opening and firmly press the upper edge. Topstitch 1/2" (1.5cm) from the seamed edge.
- 6. Hand- or machine-stitch the lining opening closed.
- 7. Insert the grommets following the manufacturer's instructions. The center of the grommet opening should be 3" (7cm) down from the upper edge and 6" (15cm) in from each side seam on both the pack front and back.



FINISHING

- 1. Thread the strap end through both sets of grommets from the right side. Slide the swivel hook onto the strap end and pin the strap.
- 2. Try on the pack and adjust the strap length as needed to wear it as a backpack, latching the swivel hook onto the D-ring.
- 3. Trim off any excess strap length, leaving at least 4" (10cm) extra. Turn under the raw end of the turnback and stitch across the strap width twice to secure.

