

## Mum bags

Cut one piece for bag 18 inches (wide) x 32 inches (long) and two strips 4 inches by 40 inches (or down to 30 inches if you are a bit short of material). Try and use a hardwearing fabric, curtaining is a good choice but other fabrics work just as well.

Fold first piece in half (to 16 inches x 18 inches) and sew side seams on either side. While inside out form angle across the bottom of the seams and sew across 2 inches from the bottom.



Fold up on this seam and catch the two edges together to hold the bottom angle up in a triangle. I zigzag a few stitches along the edge but it may be easier with some materials to catch this by hand.



Press strap pieces in half with right side out and then nearly in to the fold from each side. Press and then sew the two pressed sides together and then also sew along the other folded edge. Sewing down each side of the strap will hold them straighter.



Or sew the straps together on the wrong side and turn through. Then sew along both sides of the strap as above.

Press around the top of the bag with a small turnover and then a one-inch hem.

With the wrong side facing tuck the handles into this pressed hem as far in as they will go and pin. The handles will be facing to the bottom of the bag at this stage. Put the side of the strap about 4 inches in from the side seam – and if one side of the strap is neater than the other, place the neater side up. With the straps facing down from the hem sew along the bottom of the hem.



Next turn the handles up and sew along the top edge of the bag. It is also a good idea to sew a third row of stitches between these two rows to hold the handle more firmly.

Turn the bag through and you have your finished Mum bag. 😊

