

Project: Tropical Traveller

INSPIRED BY TRAVEL LIGHT FROM DESIGNER MONIQUE DILLARD (OPENGATEQUILTS.COM)
QUILT TESTER: JAN RAGALLER



FABRICS are from the Acreage collection by Shannon Gillman Orr for Moda Fabrics (modafabrics.com).

Combine tropical prints for a vacation bag that easily stores travel essentials.

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Materials

- $\frac{3}{8}$ yard pink floral (bag front, bag back, inner pocket lining, strap)
- $\frac{1}{3}$ yard yellow floral (bag lining, outer pocket lining, binding)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ yard blue floral (outer pocket, inner pocket, bag flap)
- Double-sided fusible fleece
- Sew-in magnetic snap set
- $\frac{3}{4}$ "-diameter button: blue
- $\frac{1}{2}$ "-diameter button: green

Finished bag: $7\frac{1}{4}\times 9$ " (excluding strap)

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

Measurements include $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances unless otherwise stated.

Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Cut Fabrics

Cut pieces in the following order.

From pink floral, cut:

- 2— 2×42 " strips
- 2— $7\frac{1}{4}\times 9$ " rectangles
- 1— $7\times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle

From yellow floral, cut:

- 1— 2×42 " binding strip
- 2— $7\frac{1}{4}\times 9$ " rectangles
- 1— $7\times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle
- 2— $2\times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " binding strips

From blue floral, cut:

- 2— $6\frac{1}{2}\times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangles
- 1— $3\frac{3}{4}\times 7$ " rectangle

From double-sided fusible fleece, cut:

- 2— $\frac{1}{2}\times 42$ " strips
- 2— $7\frac{1}{4}\times 9$ " rectangles
- 2— $6\frac{1}{2}\times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangles

Make Bag Front and Back

1. Layer a yellow floral $7\frac{1}{4}\times 9$ " rectangle, right side down,

a fusible fleece $7\frac{1}{4}\times 9$ " rectangle, and a pink floral $7\frac{1}{4}\times 9$ " rectangle, right side up (**Diagram 1**). Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse layers together to make a fused rectangle. Repeat to make a second fused rectangle.

2. Referring to **Diagram 2**, machine-quilt two vertical lines $2\frac{1}{4}$ " from each long edge of a fused rectangle. Baste $\frac{1}{8}$ " from outside edges to make the bag front. Repeat with remaining fused rectangle to make the bag back.

Make Outer and Inner Pockets

1. Layer a fusible fleece $6\frac{1}{2}\times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle atop wrong side of a blue floral $6\frac{1}{2}\times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle; fuse together. With right sides together, align long edges of fused blue floral rectangle and yellow floral $7\times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle. The yellow floral rectangle will be $\frac{1}{2}$ " longer than the fused rectangle. Sew together along aligned edge (**Diagram 3**). Turn right side out, match unsewn bottom edges, and press top fold; $\frac{1}{4}$ " of yellow floral will show along top front edge (**Diagram 4**). Topstitch through all layers in the seam line to make the outer pocket.
2. Using pink floral $7\times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle instead of yellow floral, repeat Step 1 to make the inner pocket.

Make Strap

1. Referring to **Diagram 5**, join pink floral 2×42 " strips to make a $2\times 83\frac{1}{2}$ " pieced strip; press seam open. Fold pieced strip in

half lengthwise with wrong side inside. Press to crease center; unfold. Fold long edges of pieced strip to meet in the center. Fold again at center, matching folded edges; press.

2. Unfold Step 1 strip and place fusible fleece $\frac{1}{2}\times 42$ " strips end to end close to center fold of pieced strip. Refold pieced strip to cover fusible fleece strips. Topstitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from both long edges to make strap.

Finish Bag

1. Lay bag front right side up on a flat surface. Referring to **Diagram 6**, place a strap end on bag front $\frac{3}{4}$ " from left edge and 4" from bottom edge. Topstitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from edges of strap, pivoting $\frac{1}{2}$ " from top edge of bag front.
2. Referring to **Diagram 7**, place outer pocket atop Step 1 unit; align raw edges. Baste $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from side and bottom edges.
3. Lay bag back right side up on a flat surface. Match remaining strap end to bottom edge of bag back, $\frac{3}{4}$ " from left side. Topstitch strap in place as before, pivoting $\frac{1}{2}$ " from top edge of bag back (**Diagram 8**).
4. Referring to **Diagram 9**, layer inner pocket atop lining side of bag back; baste $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from side and bottom edges.
5. Fold a long edge of blue floral $3\frac{3}{4}\times 7$ " rectangle under $\frac{1}{4}$ " (**Diagram 10**); press. Fold short ends diagonally to center to make a triangle. Topstitch along folds to make bag flap.

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- 6.** With right sides together, center flap along top edge of bag back. Baste $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from top edge (Diagram 11).
- 7.** Bind top edge of bag front with a yellow floral $2 \times 7\frac{1}{4}$ " strip. Repeat to bind top edge of bag back.
- 8.** Referring to Diagram 12, fold flap up; topstitch flap to binding on bag back.
- 9.** Layer bag front and bag back with wrong sides together (Diagram 13). Baste $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from bottom and side edges.
- 10.** Bind side and bottom edges with yellow floral 2×42 " strip.
- 11.** Following manufacturer's instructions, hand-sew female end of the magnetic snap to the wrong side of the flap. Match the position of the male end of the snap, and hand-sew it to bag front, making sure snaps fit together when flap is folded down.
- 12.** Layer the blue and green buttons on the front side of flap (see photo, page 1); hand-sew in place to complete the bag.

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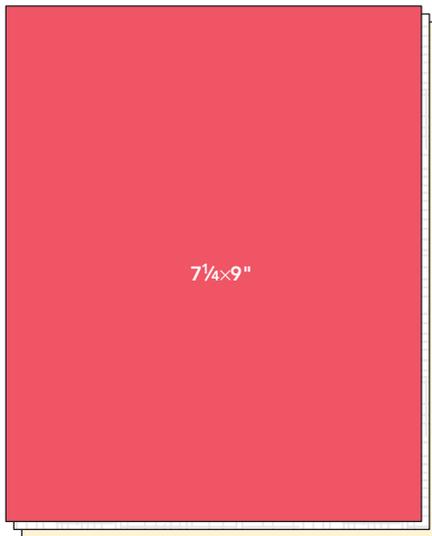


DIAGRAM 1

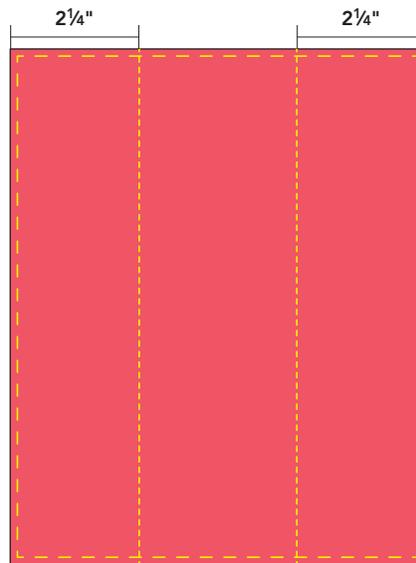


DIAGRAM 2

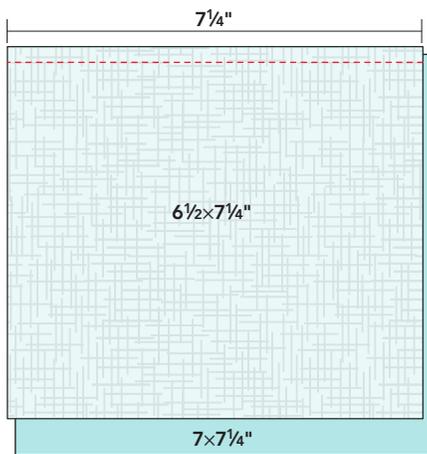


DIAGRAM 3

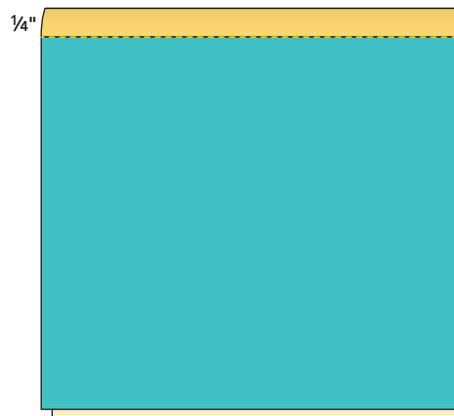


DIAGRAM 4

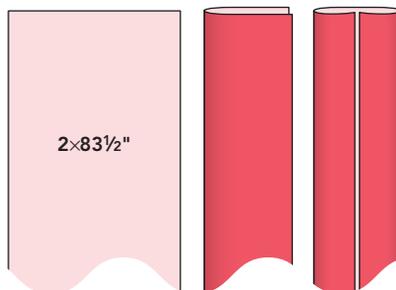


DIAGRAM 5

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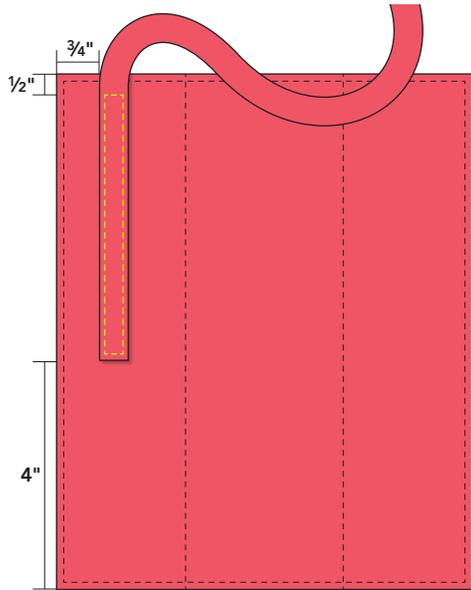


DIAGRAM 6

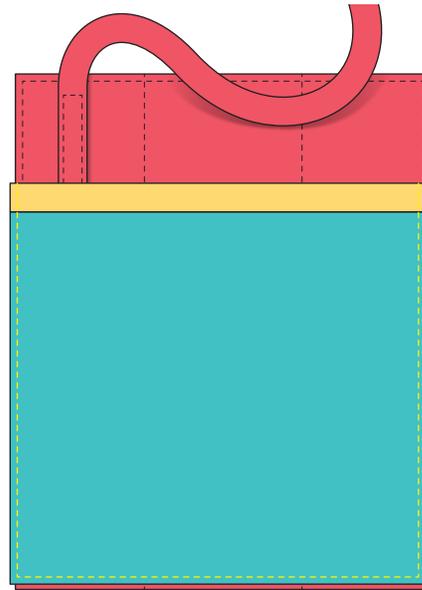


DIAGRAM 7

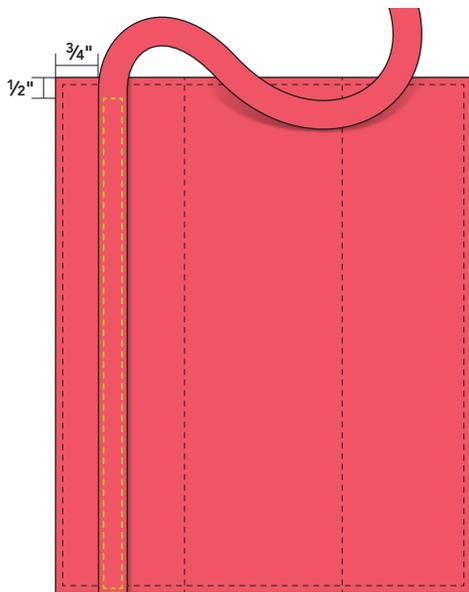


DIAGRAM 8

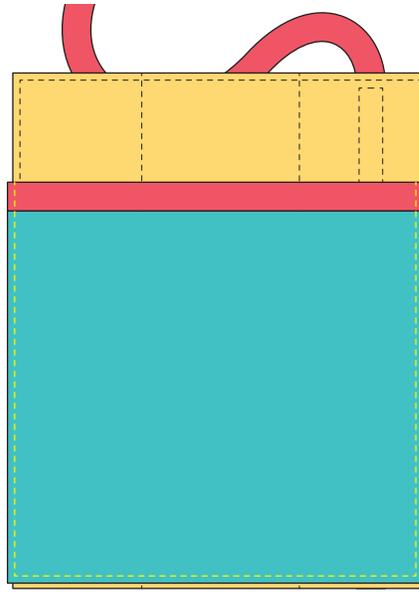


DIAGRAM 9

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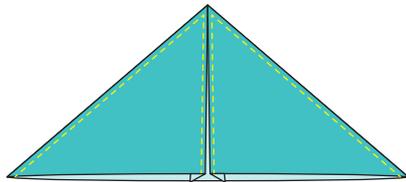
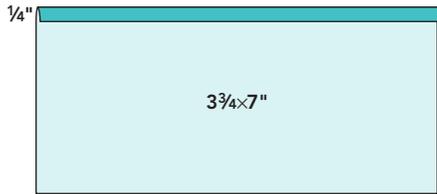


DIAGRAM 10

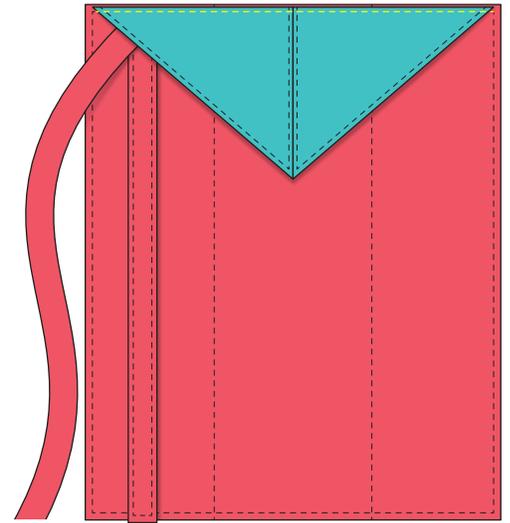


DIAGRAM 11

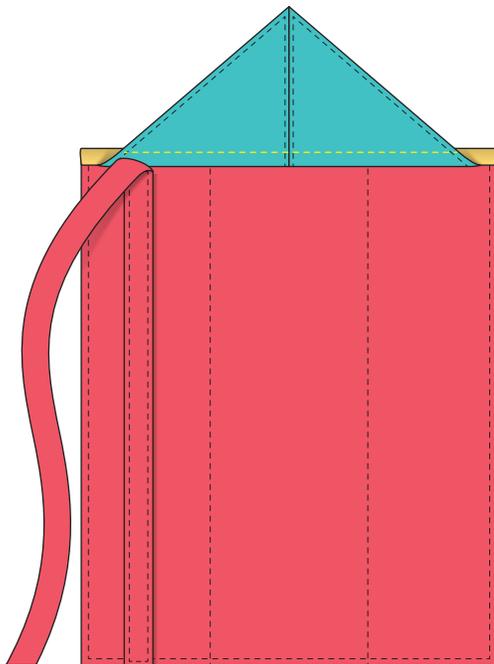


DIAGRAM 12

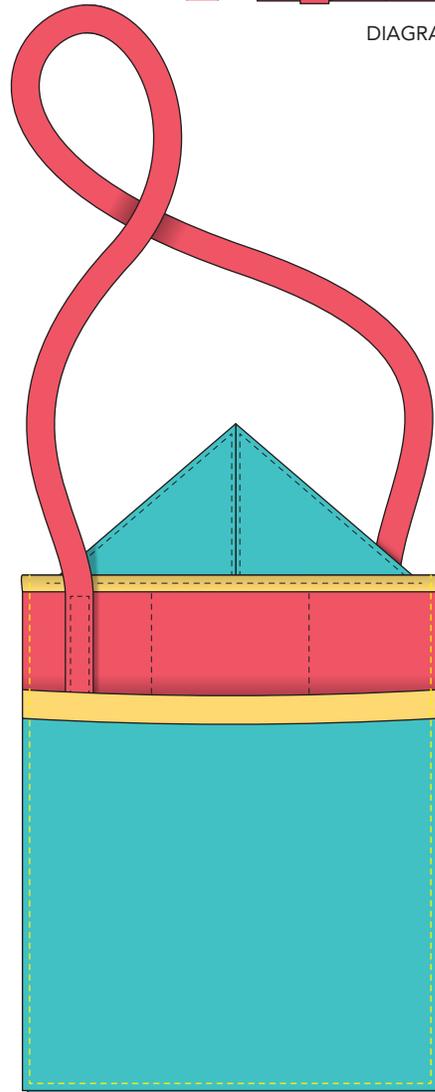


DIAGRAM 13