

PATCHWORK FABRIC BASKET

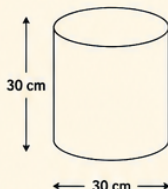
• SEWING TUTORIAL •



MATERIALS (U.S. FABRIC)

- 16 different cotton fabric squares
15 cm x 15 cm (patchwork)
- 1/2 yard (45 cm) fusible fleece
(Pellon® Thermolam or similar)
- 1/2 yard (45 cm) cotton fabric for lining
- 1/2 yard (45 cm) cotton fabric for binding and handles
- Coordinating thread
- Sewing clips or pins
- Rotary cutter, ruler, cutting mat
- Iron and pressing mat
- Sewing machine

FINISHED SIZE



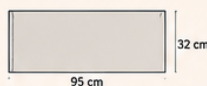
CUTTING GUIDE (All measurements in cm)

PATCHWORK SQUARES



Cut 16 squares (15 cm x 15 cm)

LINING FABRIC



Cut 1 rectangle (95 cm x 32 cm)

FUSIBLE FLEECE



Cut 1 rectangle (95 cm x 32 cm)

BINDING (Top & Bottom)

Cut 2 strips 6 cm x 95 cm

HANDLES (Make 2)

6 cm x 30 cm

1 MAKE THE PATCHWORK PANEL

- Arrange the 16 squares (4 x 4 layout).
- Sew squares together into rows.
- Press seams.
- Sew the rows together to make one panel.
- Panel size will be about 30 cm x 30 cm.



2 PREPARE THE PANEL

- Fuse the fusible fleece to the wrong side of the patchwork panel.
- This adds structure and stability.



3 SEW THE TUBE

- Take the patchwork panel and lining rectangle.
- Place right sides together and sew short ends (32 cm sides) with 1 cm seam allowance.
- Do the same for the fusible fleece piece (if using separate).
- Press seams open.



4 ADD TOP BINDING

- Fold the top edge down 1 cm and press.
- Attach the 6 cm wide binding strip (right sides together).
- Sew around the top edge with 1 cm seam allowance.
- Fold binding to the inside and topstitch close to the edge.



5 ADD BOTTOM BINDING

- Do the same for the bottom edge using the second 6 cm wide strip.
- Topstitch for a clean finish.



6 MAKE THE HANDLES

- Fold each 6 cm x 30 cm strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together.
- Sew long edge with 0.7 cm seam allowance.
- Turn right side out using a turning tool or safety pin.
- Press flat.
- Topstitch close to both edges.



7 ATTACH THE HANDLES

- Position the handles on opposite sides of the basket.
- Place the raw ends under the top binding, centered.
- Baste in place.
- Reinforce with a box stitch (3 cm x 3 cm).



8 FINISHED!

Your patchwork fabric basket is ready to use!



MAIN SEWING METHODS USED

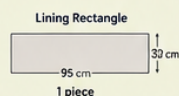
- 1 cm (3/8 in) seam allowance
- Press as you go
- Topstitching
- Turning and pressing
- Box stitch for strength



TIPS

- Use 100% cotton quilting fabric for best results.
- Fusible fleece gives the basket body and helps it stand up.
- Iron well for crisp seams and professional finish.
- You can customize the size by adjusting the height or diameter.

QUICK REFERENCE - ALL PIECES (CM)



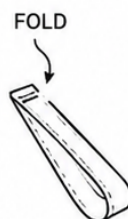
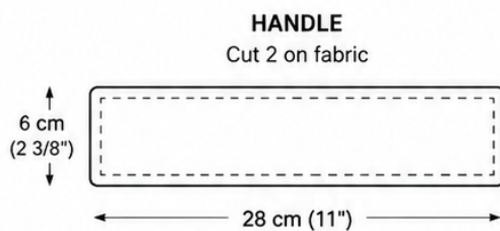
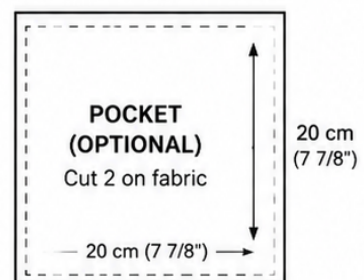
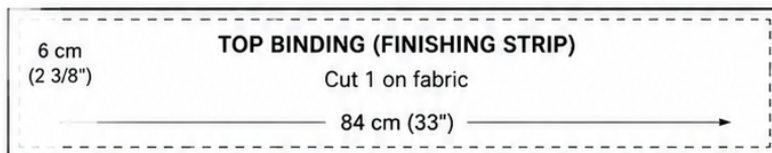
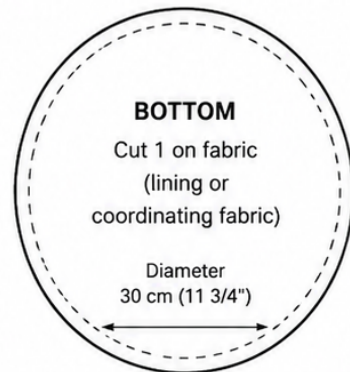
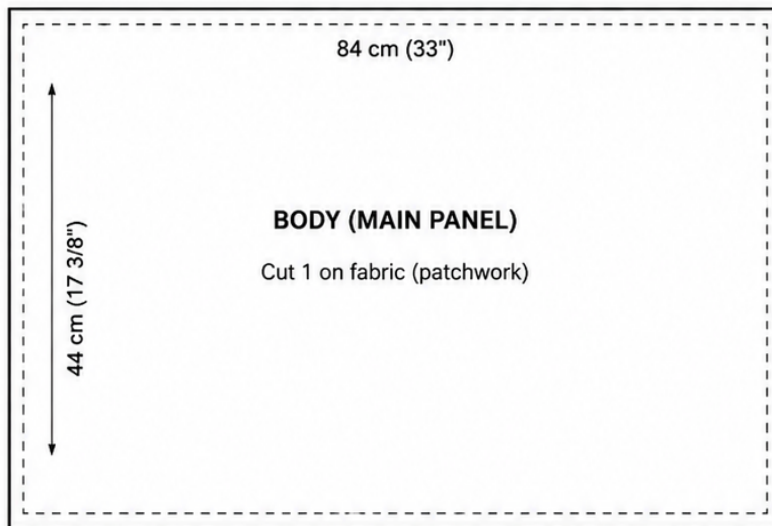
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FABRIC PATCHWORK BASKET

♥ PATTERN ♥

SEAM ALLOWANCE INCLUDED: 1 cm (3/8")
ALL MEASUREMENTS IN CM



ASSEMBLY NOTES

- Sew the body panel into a tube.
- Attach the bottom circle.
- Fold and sew the top binding around the top edge.
- Fold handles in half, sew, and attach to the sides.
- Topstitch all around for a beautiful finish.

———— CUTTING LINE
----- SEAM ALLOWANCE (1 cm / 3/8")

FINISHED SIZE (APPROX.)

Diameter: 30 cm (11 3/4")
Height: 44 cm (17 3/8")

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Patchwork Fabric Basket – Complete Sewing Tutorial

This Patchwork Fabric Basket is a colorful, practical sewing project made from 16 cotton fabric squares, a lining, fusible fleece, binding strips, and two fabric handles. The finished basket measures approximately 30 cm (11.8 in) high and 30 cm (11.8 in) in diameter, making it a useful size for storing fabric, yarn, sewing supplies, toys, towels, or other lightweight household items.

The tutorial below follows the measurements and construction sequence shown in the graphic. The project is beginner-friendly, but accurate cutting, pressing, and consistent seam allowances are important for keeping the basket neat and evenly shaped.

All cutting measurements from the original project are given in centimeters, with approximate inch equivalents added where helpful for U.S. sewists.

Materials and Supplies

You will need 16 different cotton fabric squares, each measuring 15 cm × 15 cm (approximately 5.9 in × 5.9 in). Using a variety of quilting cotton prints creates the colorful patchwork effect shown in the finished basket.

You will also need approximately 1/2 yard (45 cm) of fusible fleece, such as Pellon Thermolam or a similar stabilizing fleece. The fleece gives the basket enough body to stand upright while still keeping it soft and flexible.

For the lining, prepare approximately 1/2 yard (45 cm) of cotton fabric. A neutral or lightly patterned cotton works especially well because it allows the colorful exterior to remain the main feature.

You will need another 1/2 yard (45 cm) of cotton fabric for the binding strips and handles. You may use one coordinating fabric for all of these pieces or combine several complementary fabrics.

Also prepare coordinating sewing thread, sewing clips or pins, a rotary cutter, quilting ruler, cutting mat, iron, pressing surface, sewing machine, turning tool or safety pin, and basic sewing supplies.

Use 100% cotton quilting fabric whenever possible for predictable cutting, pressing, and sewing results.

Cutting the Fabric Pieces

Cut 16 patchwork squares, each measuring:

15 cm × 15 cm

Approximately 5.9 in × 5.9 in

These squares will be arranged in a 4 × 4 layout.

Cut one lining rectangle measuring:

95 cm × 32 cm

Approximately 37.4 in × 12.6 in

Cut one rectangle of fusible fleece measuring:

95 cm × 32 cm

Approximately 37.4 in × 12.6 in

Cut two binding strips for the top and bottom edges. Each strip should measure:

6 cm × 95 cm

Approximately 2.4 in × 37.4 in

Cut two handle strips measuring:

6 cm × 30 cm

Approximately 2.4 in × 11.8 in

Before sewing, compare all of your cut pieces with the measurements above. Accurate pieces will make the later assembly much easier.

Step 1 – Make the Patchwork Panel

Arrange the 16 fabric squares in four rows of four squares.

Spend a little time adjusting the fabrics before sewing. Distribute similar colors and prints throughout the layout rather than placing several matching fabrics together. This gives the finished basket a balanced patchwork appearance.

Once you are satisfied with the arrangement, keep the squares in order.

Take the first two squares from the top row and place them right sides together. Align the raw edges carefully.

Sew along one side using an even seam allowance. Continue adding the remaining squares until the first row contains four joined squares.

Repeat the same process for the remaining three rows.

Press the seams after sewing each row. Pressing as you go helps prevent distortion and produces cleaner intersections.

Next, place the first and second rows right sides together, matching the vertical seams wherever possible.

Pin or clip the layers and sew the rows together.

Repeat until all four rows are joined into one patchwork panel.

Press the completed panel thoroughly.

The sewn patchwork section should form a panel approximately 30 cm × 30 cm in its finished basket proportions, as indicated in the original project. Minor variations can occur depending on your seam allowance.

Step 2 – Prepare and Stabilize the Patchwork Panel

Place the completed patchwork panel wrong side facing upward on your pressing surface.

Position the fusible fleece against the wrong side of the patchwork fabric.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for your specific fusible fleece. Some products require pressing from the fabric side, while others recommend using a pressing cloth.

Fuse the fleece evenly across the entire patchwork surface.

Work gradually instead of sliding the iron back and forth. Lift and reposition the iron so that the patchwork does not stretch.

Check the corners and edges carefully to make sure the fleece is completely bonded.

The fleece provides structure, stability, and body, helping the finished fabric basket stand upright.

Allow the fused panel to cool completely before continuing.

Step 3 – Sew the Basket Body Into a Tube

Place the prepared patchwork panel and the lining rectangle together according to the construction shown in the graphic.

Align the pieces carefully.

Bring the two short 32 cm sides together to create the cylindrical body of the basket.

Place the corresponding edges right sides together.

Pin or clip along the edge.

Sew the short sides together using a 1 cm seam allowance, which is approximately 3/8 inch.

Backstitch at the beginning and end of the seam for strength.

Press the seam open so the fabric lies as flat as possible.

If your fusible fleece is being handled as a separate layer rather than already fused to the exterior, join it in the same general manner so that the structure follows the basket body.

Once sewn, the fabric should form a tube.

Check that the tube is not twisted before moving to the binding steps.

Step 4 – Add the Top Binding

Turn your attention to the top edge of the fabric basket.

Fold the upper raw edge approximately 1 cm toward the inside and press it carefully.

Take one 6 cm × 95 cm binding strip.

Place the binding strip around the top of the basket with the right sides together.

Align the raw edge of the binding with the prepared top edge.

Pin or clip the strip all the way around the basket.

Join the ends neatly if necessary so that the binding forms a continuous ring.

Sew around the upper edge using approximately a 1 cm seam allowance.

Keep the fabric flat as you sew and avoid stretching the binding.

After stitching, fold the binding upward and press it.

Then fold the binding over the raw edge and toward the inside of the basket.

Turn the remaining raw edge of the binding under so it is concealed.

Press the folded binding carefully.

Topstitch close to the folded edge on the inside to secure it.

Check the outside of the basket as you sew to ensure the binding remains even.

The completed top binding should create a clean, structured finish around the opening.

Step 5 – Add the Bottom Binding

Use the second 6 cm × 95 cm binding strip for the bottom edge.

The bottom binding is constructed using essentially the same method as the top binding.

Align the binding strip with the bottom edge of the basket.

Place the fabrics right sides together and pin or clip them in place.

Sew around the bottom using an even seam allowance.

Press the binding away from the seam.

Wrap the binding around the lower raw edge.

Fold the unfinished edge under and position the binding neatly.

Press thoroughly.

Topstitch close to the folded edge for a clean finish.

Take your time around the entire circumference because an even bottom binding greatly improves the professional appearance of the basket.

Step 6 – Make the Two Fabric Handles

Take one 6 cm × 30 cm handle strip.

Fold the strip in half lengthwise with the right sides facing each other.

Align the two long raw edges.

Pin or clip the strip.

Sew along the long edge using approximately a 0.7 cm seam allowance, or slightly more than 1/4 inch.

Leave the short ends open.

After sewing, turn the handle right side out.

A loop turner, bodkin, safety pin, or narrow turning tool can make this step easier.

Once the handle is completely turned, roll the seam between your fingers so it sits neatly along the edge.

Press the handle flat.

Topstitch close to both long edges.

This topstitching gives the handle a cleaner appearance and adds strength.

Repeat the same steps with the second 6 cm × 30 cm strip.

You should now have two matching handles.

Step 7 – Position the Handles

Place the basket upright on your work surface.

Position one handle on one side of the basket and the second handle directly opposite it.

Make sure both handles are placed at the same height.

The raw ends of each handle should extend beneath the upper binding area.

Check that the handles are not twisted.

Pin or clip each end securely.

Before sewing, hold the basket by both handles to confirm that they are evenly positioned.

Adjust them if one handle appears higher or farther apart than the other.

Accurate handle placement will help the finished basket hang evenly when carried.

Step 8 – Attach and Reinforce the Handles

Baste the handle ends in place first.

Then secure each handle permanently with reinforced stitching.

The graphic recommends using a box stitch approximately 3 cm × 3 cm, or about 1.2 in × 1.2 in.

Sew a square around the attachment area.

For additional strength, sew diagonally across the square to form an X inside the box.

This style of reinforcement is commonly used on tote bag and basket handles because it distributes stress across a larger area.

Backstitch securely.

Repeat for all four handle ends.

After sewing, gently pull on each handle to confirm that it is firmly attached.

Step 9 – Final Pressing and Shaping

Trim any loose threads from the exterior and interior.

Check the binding for any sections that may not have been caught securely by the topstitching.

Repair those areas if necessary.

Press the basket carefully.

Pay special attention to the upper and lower binding.

Shape the cylindrical body with your hands.

The fusible fleece should help the basket maintain its form.

The finished basket should measure approximately:

30 cm high × 30 cm diameter

Approximately:

11.8 in high × 11.8 in diameter

Small differences are normal because fabric thickness, seam allowances, and pressing techniques can slightly change the finished measurements.

Main Sewing Techniques Used

The most important technique throughout this project is maintaining a consistent 1 cm (3/8 in) seam allowance where indicated.

Pressing as you sew is equally important. Each pressed seam helps the patchwork remain flat and prevents excessive bulk.

You will also use topstitching on the binding and handles. Topstitching strengthens the project while giving it a polished appearance.

Turning and pressing are required when creating the handles.

Finally, reinforced box stitching is used to secure the handles to the basket.

Tips for Better Results

Use quilting cotton of approximately the same weight for all 16 patchwork squares. Mixing very heavy and very lightweight fabrics may cause the exterior to distort.

If your fabric is wrinkled, press it before cutting. Cutting wrinkled fabric can produce inaccurate squares.

A rotary cutter and quilting ruler are especially helpful for making accurate 15 cm squares.

Chain piecing can speed up the construction of the patchwork panel, especially when joining the individual squares.

After sewing the patchwork rows, carefully match the seam intersections before joining the rows together.

Use plenty of steam or firm pressing when appropriate for your fabric, but always follow the fusible fleece manufacturer's heat recommendations.

If the basket feels too soft, a slightly firmer fusible stabilizer may be substituted for the fleece in a future version.

When attaching the binding, avoid pulling it tightly. Stretching the strip may cause the top or bottom edge to become wavy.

For stronger handles, sew two parallel rows of topstitching along each long edge.

Use a larger sewing-machine needle if the handle attachment areas become thick from multiple fabric and fleece layers.

Quick Reference – All Fabric Pieces

For the patchwork exterior, cut 16 pieces measuring 15 cm × 15 cm.

For the lining, cut 1 piece measuring 95 cm × 32 cm.

For the fusible fleece, cut 1 piece measuring 95 cm × 32 cm.

For the top and bottom binding, cut 2 pieces measuring 6 cm × 95 cm.

For the handles, cut 2 pieces measuring 6 cm × 30 cm.

The project uses approximately 1/2 yard of lining fabric, 1/2 yard of fusible fleece, and 1/2 yard of coordinating fabric for the binding and handles, in addition to the fabrics required for the 16 patchwork squares.

Finished Patchwork Fabric Basket ❤️

Once the handles are reinforced and the final pressing is complete, your Patchwork Fabric Basket is ready to use.

The combination of cotton patchwork, fusible fleece, lining, bound edges, and reinforced handles creates a decorative storage basket that is both practical and sturdy.

You can easily personalize future baskets by changing the fabric collection, coordinating the binding with the patchwork, using scraps from previous quilting projects, or selecting fabrics for a particular season or room.

Because the basic construction is simple and repeatable, this project is also an excellent way to use a collection of favorite fabric scraps while practicing patchwork piecing, binding, topstitching, handle construction, and reinforced bag-making techniques.

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