

My axie Bag



This is a great project for children. You can use the patterns provided or use one of the child's own drawings to really personalise the bag. Make the bag as a Christmas gift for mom, gran or as a thank you for a teacher.

QUILTMAKER: Sharon Calverley
PHOTOGRAPHER: Owen F.



materials

- FQ Calico
- Two 1½" x 40" strips of fabric for border.
- Fabric for lining: two pieces 10" x 10"
- Batting
- Zig Pen or any other fine permanent pen that doesn't run on your fabric.
- Pencil, Waxies
- Freezer paper
- Beads to decorate flowers
- Tear Away Stabiliser or Fat ¼ Wash Away Vilene.
- Two bought handles
- Iron
- Green and red thread, neutral thread for piecing and beige thread for quilting
- Free motion machine foot



instructions

The pictures:

1. Cut two 6" x 8" rectangles from calico. Iron freezer paper onto the back of the calico to prevent the fabric from distorting when colouring in with waxies.
2. Draw a ½" border around the block with a pencil.
3. Colour in the background - using any colour waxie you like. Colour over the border - it's just there so that you know where to trace the flower. If you find your background colours are too light you can always go over them again till you reach the brightness you want.
4. Place a sheet of paper or another piece of calico over the fabric and iron with a hot, dry iron. You will see that some of the colour transfers onto the paper. This is the wax that is being taken out of drawing leaving you with just the colour. If you see that your paper/cloth is full of colour, use a new piece of paper because you don't want it being transferred onto your picture.

5. When you are happy with the background, trace the flower design onto the blocks with a pencil. If you find you can't see the design too well, tape it to a window and then trace the design. If you are lucky enough to have a light box, use that.

Remember that every time you use the waxies you have to iron it to remove the wax.

6. Now colour in the flower and when finished, iron it to remove the wax.

7. Trace the wording onto the picture and go over it again with the permanent pen.

Do the other picture the same way. When finished remove the freezer paper from both pictures and press again.

The Next Step:

1. From your fabric cut 1½" strips and stitch around the pictures. You can use one fabric or different fabrics for each strip. Press each strip outwards.
2. Place some tear away stabiliser/wash away vilene behind the panel and pin in place.
3. Now load the bobbin with pink thread and use the same thread in the top. Change the foot to the free motion foot and drop the feed dogs.
4. Start stitching around the flower. I went three times around and made a small spiral in the middle. Do all the flowers the same.
5. Change the thread and bobbin to green thread and stitch over the leaves and stems. Also go over the areas three times.
6. Lastly stitch a line around the flowers (use the edge of your foot against the borders as a guide) to frame the flowers.

7. When finished with the stitching, tear away the stabiliser. If you are using Wash Away Vilene, leave it there.

The Sandwich:

1. Cut batting and backing fabric for each panel, but cut them slightly larger.
2. Sandwich together with pins.
3. Change your thread to the beige thread (bobbin too) and stipple quilt over the top of the panel.
4. Trim panel backing and backing fabric back.

Joining the Bag:

1. Place both panels right sides together and stitch down the sides and base.

2. Trim corners and base and turn right side out.


The Lining:

Bags need linings to hide the stitching and seams.

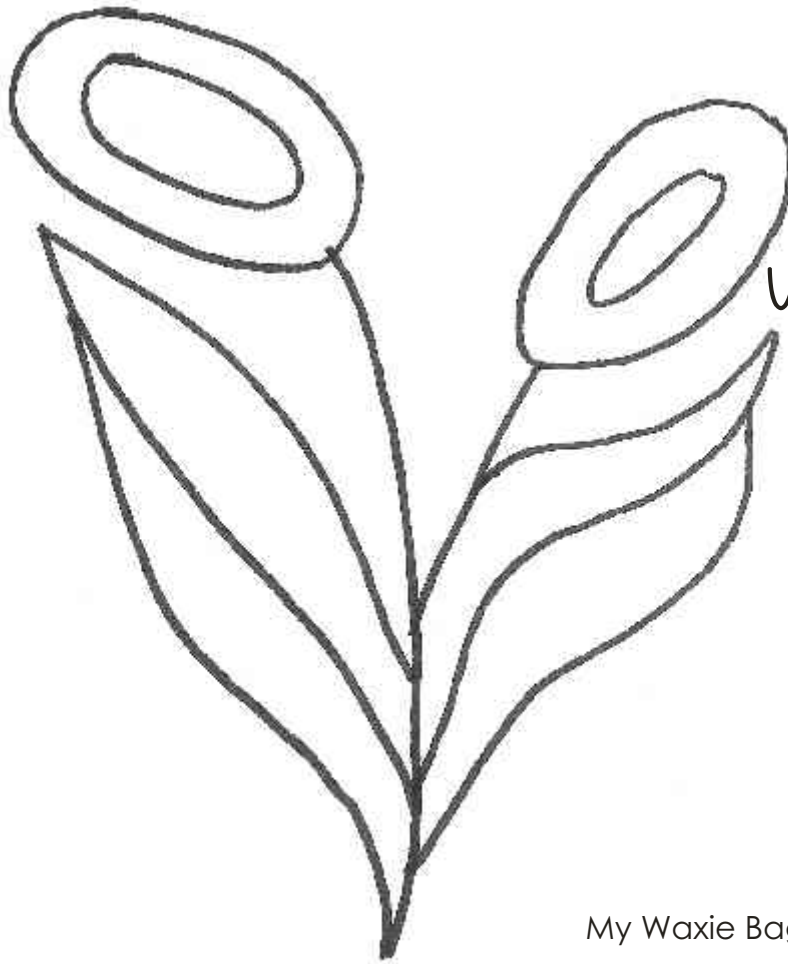
1. From your lining fabric cut two pieces: $9\frac{1}{2}'' \times 7\frac{6}{8}''$.
2. Pin together (right sides together) then stitch down the sides and base. Trim back the corners and base.
3. Now place the lining and the bag right sides together and pin around the top. Remember to leave an unstitched area for you to put your hand in to pull

the bag through.

4. Put your hand in the opening and grab the bag and pull through the opening.
5. Hand stitch the opening closed and top stitch around the top to keep the lining in place.
6. Stitch some beads onto the flowers.

To finish off neatly, attach the bought handles. Fill with soaps, seed packets or anything nice and give to someone special! 





We are friends
together in
sunshine and
in shade.

a Caroline Sheridan Norton

My Waxie Bag © Sharon Calverley 2010

