

Old World Charm for Today's Digital World

By Eileen Roche



Protect your laptop with a custom case and personalize it with charming vintage postmarks, inside pockets, comfortable shoulder straps and a zipper closure. The addition of a stacking sleeve lets you slide your bag over wheeled luggage – a must for today's traveler.



Embroidery Products

Handbags 2 Designer Knockoffs by Nancy Zieman and Eileen Roche

Inspirations Word Art in Stitches software

Free Strap Connector design Go to www.dzgns.com Click on Magazine, Current Issue, Volume 102

Materials

Two 30" lengths of 1" wide of polyester seatbelt webbing available by the foot at www.Strapworks.com

Two 17 ½" x 12 ½" pieces of headliner or AnniesSoftandStable

½ yd. cream canvas

1/3 yd. faux suede

42" x 2 ½" length of black cotton fabric for binding

One 20" zipper

Four purse feet

Clover Shape N Create or other stiff interfacing for bag bottom

Tear-away stabilizer

Two 17 ½" x 12 ½" pieces of interfacing

Prep

Cut one front canvas panel: 17 ½" x 12 ½" (sample was embroidered with designs from Inspirations' Word Art in Stitches software)

The back panel consists of three sections plus a stacking sleeve.

From canvas, cut two: 4" x 12 ½" pieces and two 9 ½" x 12 ½".

Fold one of the 9 ½" x 12 ½" pieces in half, right sides together, to 9 ½" x 6 ¼" for the stacking sleeve. Sew the long (9 ½") side with ½" seam allowance. Turn right side out and press. Place the bottom of the sleeve 4 ½" above the bottom edge of the center panel and baste the sleeve to the center panel. Sew the three back panels together with ¼" seam allowance. Fuse interfacing over the wrong side of the back panel. Set aside.

Precut the Appliques

Retrieve the Starburst corner design from the Handbags 2 Designer Knockoffs CD. Prepare four corner appliques with design CornerApp. Hoop faux suede in a large hoop. Stitch two repeats of CornerApp. Advance the fabric in the hoop, mirror image the CornerApp design and stitch two more designs.

Trim the appliques on the curved stitched line. Trim the straight edges leaving about ¼" beyond the stitch line. These straight edges will be stitched into the seams of the bag during construction.

Embroider the Corners

Although the corner design fits in a 5" x 7" hoop, you can stitch two corners in one hooping in a large hoop. Hoop tear-away stabilizer. Retrieve the SkinnyBagCorner design. Move it to one end of the large hoop. Copy, paste and mirror image the design. Move the second design to the opposite end of the hoop as shown.

The photography in the next steps shows stitching the second design but the steps are the same for both designs.

Stitch the first color, the placement guide.

Place the bottom corner of the bag front panel on the hooped stabilizer, aligning the bag corner with the stitched outline.

Stitch color 2, the tackdown of the bag and the placement guide for the precut corner applique. Place the precut corner applique over the outline. Stitch the last color.

Repeat for the second design on the other bag panel.

Remove the hoop from the machine and the work from the hoop. Hoop another piece of stabilizer and repeat the process for the remaining two corners (one on each bag panel).

Attach the Straps

Burn the short ends of the polyester webbing strips over an open flame (match or candle) in a safe environment like the kitchen sink to prevent unraveling.

Hoop tear-away stabilizer in a large hoop. Retrieve the StrapConnectorLg. Move the design to the right side of the hoop. Stitch color 1, the placement guide. Mark the center of the bag panel with a pin. Align the top edge of the panel with the stitched placement guide and the center with the stitched center mark. Tape the edge of the bag to hold it in the hoop.

Stitch color 2, the placement guide for the one end of the strap. These stitches will be removed later.

Place the end of the strap inside the placement guide. Tape the end.

Stitch color 3, the X to secure the strap to the panel. Stitch color 4, the placement guide for the other end of the strap. Tape the end and stitch the last color. Remove from the hoop and repeat the process for the remaining panel and strap. Remove the stitches outlining the straps.

Cut the lower corners of the bag panels on the stitch line.

Place one panel on two layers of lining fabric. Trace around the panel and cut out the lining. Follow the instructions on page 24 for making a zipper closure and assembling the bag on page 35 of Handbags 2 Designer Knockoffs.