

Christine Mitchell's FELTED PURSE or WALLET

MATERIALS LIST

- Woollen Fabric suitable for needle punch a little larger than 24cm (9.5 in) x 19cm (7.5in), plus extra to play.
- 20cm (8in) lining fabric.
- 24cm (9.5 in) x 19cm (7.5 in) bag wadding.
- One bag clip closure front and back with 8 screws.
(www.sewessential.com.au)
- available in gold, silver and gun metal.
- One zip longer than 20cm (8in)
- Sewing thread for construction
- Various colours in rovings or tops, knitting yarns or fabrics to punch
- Water soluble stabilizer
- Bernina Zipper Foot #4
- Bernina 1/4 " Foot #37

CUTTING DIRECTIONS

1. From punched fabric cut main bag panel 24cm (9.5in) x 19cm (7.5in), taking care to make good use of punched pattern.
2. Cut 2 x B pockets from lining fabric
3. From lining fabric cut 2 x 19cm (7.5in) x 20cm (8in) for centre purse
4. From bag wadding cut 1 x 24cm (9.5in) x 19cm (7.5in)

NEEDLE PUNCHING OR FELTING

Gather a variety of knitting yarns, tops or rovings and fabrics to experiment with. Needle punch is a great way to learn free motion stitch. Without stitch length or tension to worry about, you can relax and develop an easy rhythm perfect for quilting.

Start off slowly when trying fabrics or yarns you haven't used before and let the creative you take over.

The flower petals were wet felted, to do this lay a thin layer of tops or rovings palm size down. Repeat twice crossing the direction of fibres. Wet, add soap, and then rub gently between hands until felted.

Leaves were punched with the Bernina Punch tool. You can lay wool fibres in a leaf shape between two layers of a water soluble fabric, punch, when wash well to remove the W/S fabric. With practice you can work without the W/S fabric.

To work the branch, take a sliver of green tops about 30cm (12").

Onto your bag fabric start punching at the top end of your design, work your way down, splitting the tops as you work to form smaller and smaller branches.

Decide on your flower and leaf placement. Lightly punch in place, retaining a three dimension effect.

CONSTRUCTION

1. Using the same fabric (excess), and the Bernina needle punch tool, trial various yarns or rovings until happy with your design. Punch your design on fabric for bag. Trim to size.
2. Fold the two pockets (B) along fold line up to placement line
3. Fold each of the remaining pocket pieces in half, now 19cm (7.5") X 10cm (4")
4. Place folded edge on top of zip, close to teeth and using the zipper foot #4, stitch. Repeat for the other side, keeping edges even.
5. Close zip, bag sides together, zip pull on the inside, sew 6mm (1/4in) side seams. Neaten off the edges with an overlock stitch or a small zig zag stitch. Turn right side out.
6. Take pockets B, and sandwich purse between them. Notch C edge and raw edges of purse centred and together, sew 2cm (3/8in) seam and press open.
7. Place on bag wadding. Sew along centre seam through all layers to attach and to make stable. Sew through all layers to form card pockets on one side (pattern B). The other side is for your notes.
8. With a 1/4in Foot, sew bias to both side edges of bag wadding and lining (extend the bias a little). Then with right sides together and level, sew the free edge of the bias tape to the punched fabric both sides. Turn right

side out. Fray Stop extended bias, trim when dry.

9. Neaten raw edges at both ends with an overlock stitch or small zig zag.
10. Separate bag clasp, front and back. Attach back section first (with the tongue) by placing cut edge into the clasp, screw into position with small screw driver.
11. Attach front section by placing cut edge into the clasp, draw around oval hole, remove clasp and trim away fabric and wadding in that section. Place clasp back into place and check that no fabric is seen in that area. You can sew a small zig zag around cut away area.
12. Secure with supplied screws and close.

Keep looking for fabrics, yarns and fibres for your next Needle felting adventure!

This wallet can be easily constructed and decorated

Using your BERNINA sewing machine and the wonderful BERNINA Needle Punch attachment.



