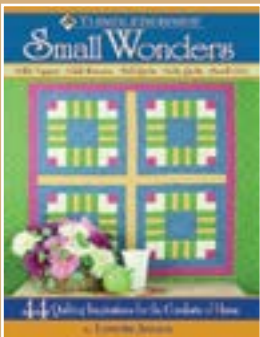


**Free Project**

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# Strip Pieced Bag



Originally published in the book

**Thimbleberries®**

## Small Wonders

by Lynette Jensen

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# Fabrics & Supplies

6 x 44-inch strips of **6 ASSORTED PRINTS** for bag

1/2 yard **FLORAL** for lining

1/2 yard **COORDINATING PRINT** for binding, straps

18 x 36-inch rectangle batting for foundation piecing

1/4-inch wide cotton cording for straps, (2)10-inches long

*Before beginning this project, read through **Getting Started** on page 181.*

## Bag Assembly

### Cutting

From *each* of the **6 ASSORTED PRINTS**:

- Cut 3, 2-1/2 x 20-inch strips

From batting:

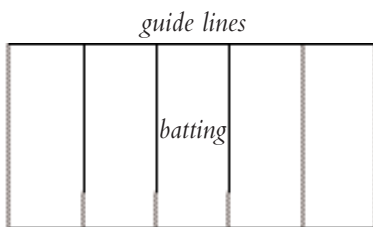
- Cut 1, 18 x 36-inch rectangle

From **FLORAL**:

- Cut 1, 16 x 35-inch rectangle for lining

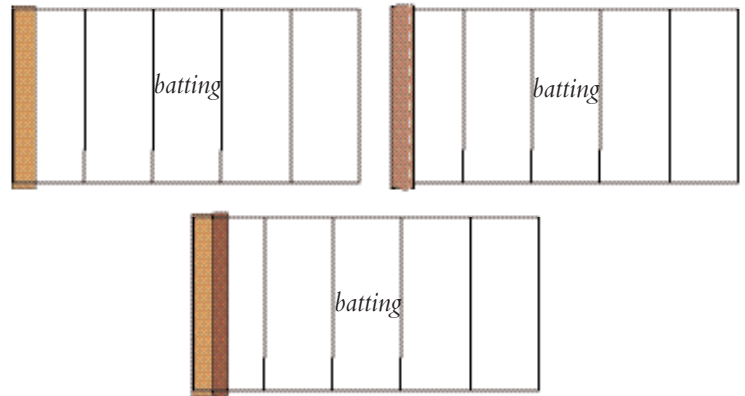
### Assembly

**Step 1** Draw vertical lines on the batting as a guide to help keep the strips straight while they are stitched in place.



**Step 2** Position a 2-1/2-inch wide **ASSORTED PRINT** strip, right side up, on the left edge of batting. Now position a second 2-1/2-inch wide strip, wrong side up, on top of the first strip. Stitch through the 3

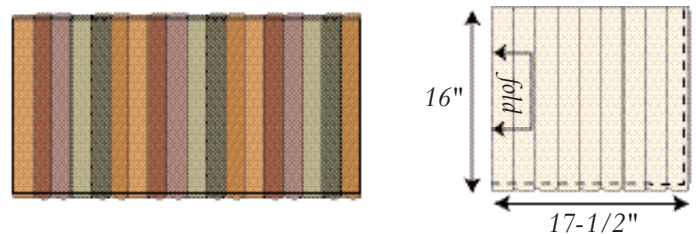
thicknesses, 1/4-inch from the right aligned raw edges. Fold back the second strip and finger-press or lightly iron.



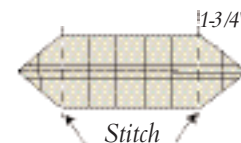
**Step 3** Continue adding the strips in this manner until the batting is completely covered. Be very careful to keep the strips parallel to the edges of the batting.



**Step 4** Trim the strip pieced unit to 16 x 35-inches. With rights sides together, fold the prepared strip pieced rectangle in half crosswise. Stitch the side/bottom seams of the bag using a 1/4-inch seam allowance; press.

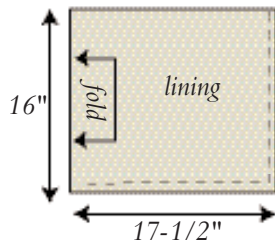


**Step 5** Fold the bottom flat. Stitch across both triangle tips approximately 1-3/4-inches in from each point and hand-tack the triangle tips down to the bottom seam line. Turn tote right side out.



**Step 6** With right sides together, fold the **FLORAL** lining rectangle in half crosswise. Stitch the side/bottom seams of the lining using a 1/4-inch seam allowance; press. Make a flat bottom for the

lining as in Step 5. With wrong sides together, insert the lining into the bag. Pin or baste the top raw edges together.



## Strap Assembly

### Cutting

From **COORDINATING PRINT**:

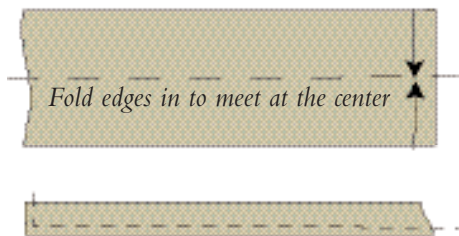
- Cut 2, 5 x 30-inch strips (or to desired length).

From cording:

- Cut 2, 10-inch long pieces

### Assembly

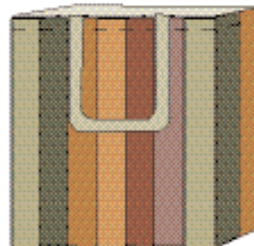
**Step 1** To make the straps, with wrong sides together, fold both long edges of the 5 x 30-inch **COORDINATING PRINT** strips to meet in the center; press. Fold in half again so the strips measure 1-1/4 x 30-inches; press. Topstitch the edges.



**Step 2** Position the 10-inch long cording on the center of the strap. Wrap the strap over the cording and stitch the folded edges together. Stitch the strap at each end of the cording to keep it in place.



**Step 3** With raw edges aligned, position the straps evenly on the outside of the bag (about 4-1/2-inches from the sides). Stitch in place.



## Binding

### Cutting

From **COORDINATING PRINT**:

- Cut 1, 6-1/2 x 44-inch strip for binding

### Attaching the Binding

**Step 1** Fold the strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together; press. Trim one end at a 45° angle; turn end under 3/8-inch; press. With right sides together and raw edges aligned, stitch the binding to the top raw edge of the bag using a 1-inch seam allowance. The straps will be layered between the bag and binding.



**Step 2** Turn the folded edge of the binding over the top raw edge and to the inside of the bag. Hand stitch the binding in place.

**Step 3** Flip the straps up and machine stitch them in place to secure them to the binding.

