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### Supplies:

- Pins
- Rotary cutter
- Scissors
- Cutting mat and ruler
- Sewing machine (*Or a needle and thread but who has time for that?*)
- Fabric (Fat quarters work nicely, but you'll need 1- 17.5"x11" of the inside lining, and 1 Fat Quarter or 18"x 22" piece of the outside fabric.)
- 18" x 1/2" strip of any type of stabilizer for the top rim of the bag. I used a [cotton belting similar to this one](#) from JoAnn's, but you can use plastic or anything else you have on hand that will give some stability to the rim of your bag.
- Rice, sand, or crushed walnut shells for pillow filling (*walnut shells can be purchased at the pet store; they are used for reptile cage bedding.*)

Note: All seems are sewn at 1/4" unless otherwise indicated.



### Cutting Instructions:

#### From your outside fabric cut:

- 1 – 3.5”x 10” strap piece
- 1 – 4.5” x 10” pillow piece
- 1 – 17.5” x 8.5” bag outside piece

#### From your inside lining fabric cut:

- 1 – 17.5” x 11” bag lining piece

## The Strap:

The first step is to create the strap that holds the pin cushion to the bag. To do this simply fold the strap piece in half- length wise with the right sides together, so your piece measures 3.5" x 5". Sew down both sides using a 1/4" seam. Make sure to leave one end open.

Turn the strap right sides out and push out the corners with a pencil, or your scissor tip. Just be careful not to cut your fabric!



## The Pillow:

Next lay the strap you just created on the piece of pillow fabric as shown below. Fold the pillow fabric right sides together in half so it measures 4.5" x 5".

Adjust the strap so it's centered on the pillow. Pin all of the layers together. Stitch down both sides, and about a 1/2" in on each end, but make sure to leave an opening in the end so you can turn your pillow right sides out and fill!

When stitching, make sure to catch your strap in the bottom seam (shown below), but fold down your strap so you do NOT stitch your strap in the top seam.



Turn your pillow right side out. It should look like this...



Take a quick minute to press your pillow and strap. Tuck the pillow opening seam in when you iron to make sewing it up a little easier.

If you'd like, do a 1/4" top stitch around the outside of the pillow edge to give it a more finished look. This is a picture of my daughter's project, I forgot to top stitch my pillow. Again, make sure to leave one end open to fill!



Next fill your pillow with either rice, sand, or crushed walnut shells.



Then tuck in your edges and top stitch to close the seam. This is much less noticeable if you top stitch like I did in my daughter's project shown above.



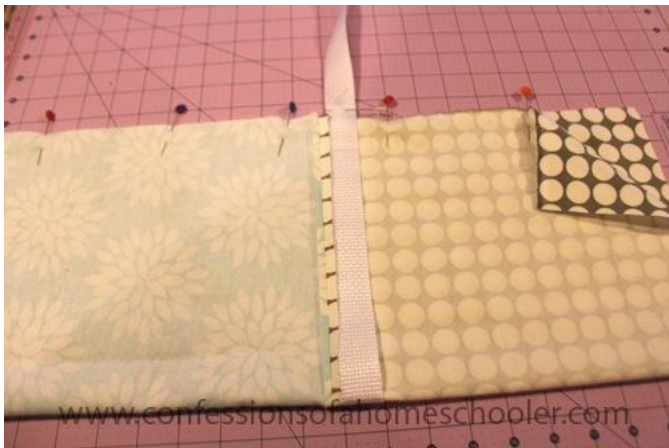
Set your completed pillow and strap aside.

## The Bag:

Next pin your lining and outside bag fabric right sides together along the 17.5" sides and pin. Sew together with 1/4" seam. Press your seam open so that you have a nice edge.



Next turn your project sideways and fold in half like shown below. Pin along the edge and add in the stabilizer for the bag rim so it goes all the way around the project as well. Line it up so it's just along the seam of the inside lining as shown below and pin in place.



Stitch around all three sides as shown below, making sure to catch the stabilizer in your seam. Trim the stabilizer off even with your bag fabric when done sewing. Make sure to leave about 3" at one end open so you can turn the bag.



Next fold your ends like shown below.



Mark about 1.5" up from each corner tip and sew along your line. This will create a box look on the bottom of your bag. Do this on both tips of your outside and lining fabric.





After you've sewn along your line, trim off any excess fabric like below.



Your bag should now be looking like this...



Next turn your bag right side out and stitch up the end seam to finish it off.



Tuck your inside lining down into your bag so it should look something like this, with about an inch of your inside lining showing along the top edge.



Next run a quick top stitch around the edge just to keep it in place.



## The Big Finale:

Adding your strap to your bag is the last step in completing your project! Place your strap along the center backside of your project about 2.5" down and pin in place.



Just make sure you only pin it to one side of your bag, and not both sides or your bag won't open when you're done!



I just stitched a square around the strap and then an "X" inside to make it a little bit more secure.



And that's it! This project took us about an hour and turned out really cute! Now go and make some more because they're fun!



Oh and don't forget to get some fun pins to add to your cushion. No sewer is complete without a cute set of pins.



Then it's time to put your new bag to use! Any small scraps, threads, bits, and bobs can go in here.

