

Miniatures in Minutes

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Everlasting Tree Foundation: Wine Bag

The Everlasting Tree foundation is the fastest of the foundations in Miniatures in Minutes (C&T Publishing). It takes a little under 2 hours to cut the fabric, sew up the foundation, remove the paper, and press. This project uses two of these foundations to put together a lovely wine bag.



Fabric Requirements:

In addition to the fabric requirements for the foundation listed in the book, you will need 1/4 yard for the bag lining and 1/8 yard for the bag handles.

Additional Supply:

Fusible fleece – a seventeen inch square is plenty

Cutting Directions:

For the foundations, follow the directions in the book: Remember that you are sewing up two foundations, so be sure to double the patches you cut with one exception: for the outer sashing strips, cut only one (instead of two) per foundation.

In addition to the cutting directions listed in the book for the foundations, cut the following:

- Inner Border: cut four at 3/4" by 6 1/2" (These are exact dimensions: as always, I actually cut my strip a little wider and use a specific technique for adding narrow borders. You can find a pdf file describing my method on the MISC page of [my website](#).)
- Upper Border: Cut two at 3 3/4" by 6 1/2" (see adjusting measurements tip below)
- Lower Border: cut two at 3 1/2" by 6 1/2" (see adjusting measurements tip below)
- Lining: Cut two at 6 1/2" by 15"
- Handles: Cut two at 4" by 12" (NOTE: I had one of those mind wandering moments when I cut my handles and they are really too short. I'm giving you directions for straps that are a much better size than those displayed in the photo)

I like the total length of the wine bag (unfinished) to be 15 inches. The foundation and narrow borders measure 8 3/4" (finished). This means that the strips I cut for the top and bottom borders should measure a total of 7 1/4". (For example, in the directions given above, 3 3/4 plus 3 1/2 equals 7 1/4). I decide how that measurement is split between the top and bottom based on the fabrics I am using.

From Fusible Fleece:

- Cut two at 6" by 14 1/2"
- Cut two at 2" by 11 1/2"

Assembly Directions (*always use quarter inch seams*):

1. Sew up two of the Everlasting Tree foundations using the directions from *Miniatures in Minutes*. Do not add the far left sashing strip to either foundation.



2. Add border strips to the top and bottom of each foundation.



3. Place the foundations right sides together and sew the side seams (do not sew the top or bottom).

Tip: If you sew so that the pieced triangle section is on top, you can be certain that your stitch line is keeping the triangle points nice and sharp.

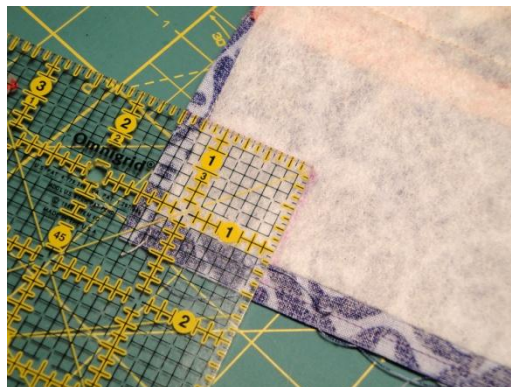
4. Iron the fusible fleece onto the foundations leaving approximately 1/4" on all sides.



5. Turn the tube rightside out and stitch in the ditch along the edge of the foundation to further secure the fleece to the bag.



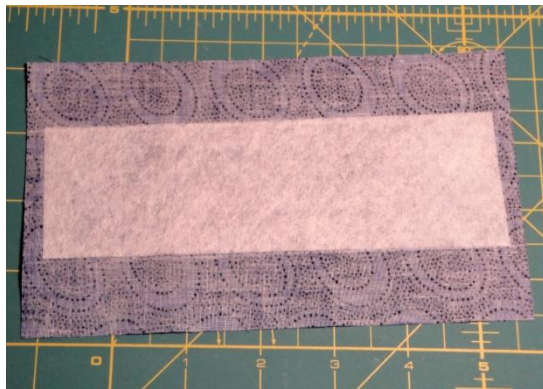
6. Turn so the bag is once again inside out. Stitch the bottom seam. Line up your ruler at the 1 1/2" mark along the side and bottom fabric edges. Trace the outline with a marking pen. Do this to both bottom corners, front and back.



7. Fold out the drawn lines so that they become a straight line across. Sew on the line, reinforcing the stitching at the beginning and end. Trim the left over fabric to 1/4".



8. Sewing the Handles (make two): *Remember that the cutting directions I gave here are a little longer than what I made, so the size of the fabric and fleece you will work with are slightly different than what you see in the photos. The technique, however, is the same.*
 - a. Center the fusible fleece on the wrong side of the handle fabric and press.



- b. Fold the edges in over the fleece and press.



- c. Fold over again, bringing the edges together. Press. Topstitch along each edge. I also stitch a quarter inch in from each of the topstitched sides for a neat appearance.



9. Attach the handles to the bag: Measure one inch in from the side seam and pin the handle in place. Stitch along the top edge to secure. Attach the other end of the handle in the same way. Attach handles to both sides of the bag.



10. Make the Lining:
 - a. Place right sides together and sew the side and bottom seams. Leave a three inch opening on one side for turning.
 - b. Box the bottom corners using the method described in steps 6 and 7 above.
11. Turn the bag inside out. Turn the lining so that the right side is out.

12. Place the lining inside the bag and match up the side seams. Pin securely. Stitch.



13. Turn the bag right side out using the opening in the lining. Stitch the opening closed.

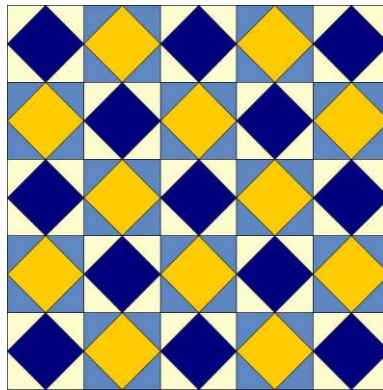
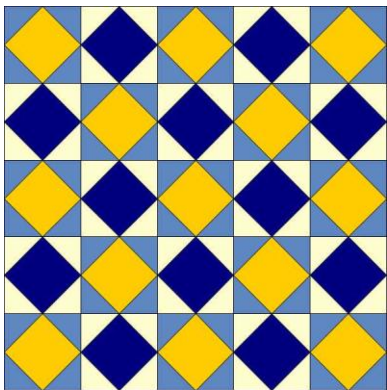
14. For a neater finish, top stitch the edge of your bag.

15. You're done – enjoy!

Another Wine Bag for your Viewing Pleasure

There is a wine bag pictured in Miniatures in Minutes that I made using the Square in a Square foundation. (p.6)

I once again made up two foundations. In order for the design to circle without interruption, I alternated the light/dark placement on the fabrics between the two foundations.



Using the Square-in-a-Square foundation results in a wider bag so the borders strips and lining fabrics are cut 8" wide (instead of 6 1/2"). Other measurements adjust accordingly.