

If the Shoe Fits... Make a Purse!

The "Sunshine Backpack" is made using the "Convertible Clutch" pattern. Follow the instructions in the pattern, making the changes outlined below.



Holey Sneakers, Batman!

by Jeanne Delpit

To add a bit of fun and whimsy, the basic clutch pattern was modified to create a backpack.

Supplies

Note: These supplies are for making the large purse (about 12" x 6" x 2½").

- White sneakers
- 18" x 22" rectangle of white canvas
- 16" x 18" rectangle of OESD Fiber Form
- Two 16" x 18" OESD Fusible Fleece
- Assorted ¾"-wide grosgrain ribbon in rainbow colors
- Isacord embroidery thread in rainbow colors
- ½"-diameter polyester or cotton cord in rainbow colors
- Water-soluble or disappearing marking pen
- Straight pins
- Bulldog clips
- Jeans needle, size #90/14
- Binder Attachment #84 with Foot #94 OR Binder Attachment #88 with Foot #95
- Eyelet Embroidery Attachment #82 with Foot #92
- Dual Sole Walking Foot #50
- Seam Sealant
- Clear tape for wrapping cord ends

Basic Instructions

- Follow steps 1-4 in the "Convertible Clutch" pattern by VickiTricks Designs, but do not quilt the fabric. Use Dual Sole Walking Foot #50 to stitch across the fabric when creating the base of the bag.



- For the backpack style shown, mark the fabric for the handle placement according to the pattern. Mark the placement for the eyelets in the base of the bag for the cord to create the backpack look.



- Fold the base of the bag up into place, aligning the cutouts at the base of the bag.

Tip: For thick layers use bulldog clips instead of pins to hold them in place.



- Fold over the purse flap and align in place. Mark the location of the eyelets to create the closure (no magnetic closures were used in the backpack). Insert a straight pin through the flap and the front section of the bag, making sure that they are aligned. Using a fabric marker, mark the eyelet placement locations on the top flap and front of the bag.

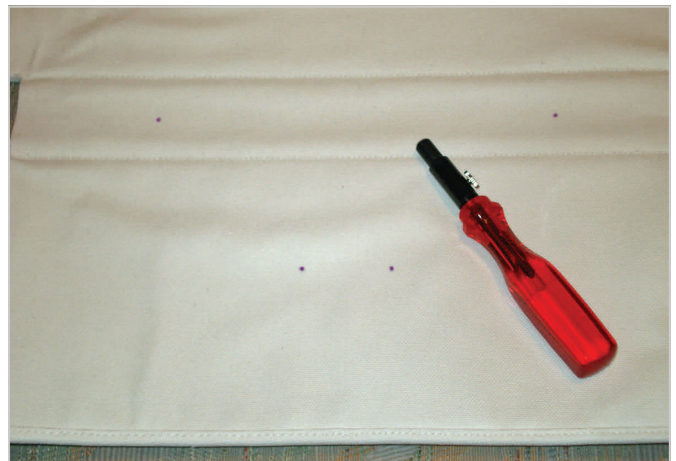


- To familiarize yourself with Eyelet Embroidery Set #82 see the Helpful Hints for Eyelet Stitching sidebar on page 3, and visit this link—

http://www.berninausa.com/product_detail-n25-i157-sUS.html

—to be taken to the Eyelet Embroidery Set video on the BERNINA of America website.

- Using the appropriate punch or awl, create holes for the eyelets using the center of the marks as placement guides.



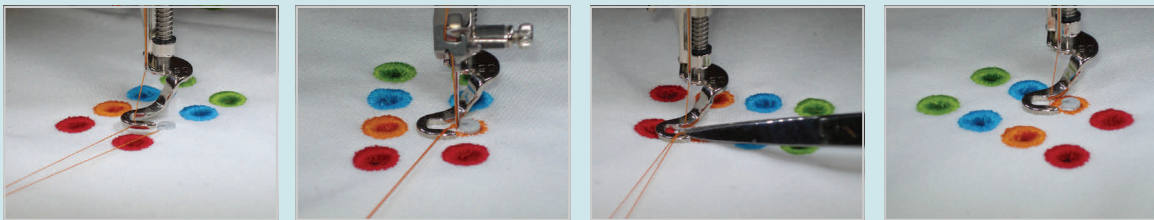
Helpful Hints for Eyelet Stitching

- Take advantage of the Temporary Altered Stitch Memory found on all computerized BERNINA sewing machines. Make stitch #1 (the straight stitch) into a narrow zigzag for the first eyelet stitching pass by setting the stitch width at 2.0mm. Set stitch #2 (the zigzag stitch) for your preferred stitch width for the second pass. Then just toggle between #1 and #2 as you create your eyelets to save time and ensure accuracy.
- Remember to drop the feed dog!
- To lock the stitches at the beginning of the eyelets, first use the Needle Up/Down function found on most BERNINA sewing machines to bring the bobbin thread to the surface.

As you begin the first pass using the 2.0mm zigzag, catch the needle and bobbin thread tails inside the zigzag stitches to secure them in place.

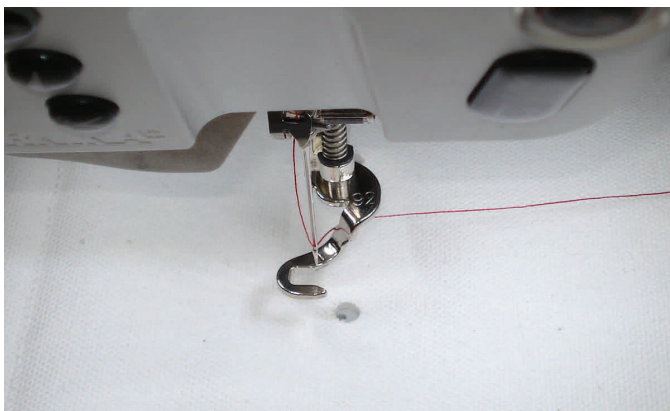
When the first pass is complete, clip the threads—be careful not to cut the needle thread!

Complete the second pass, creating the desired eyelet thickness.

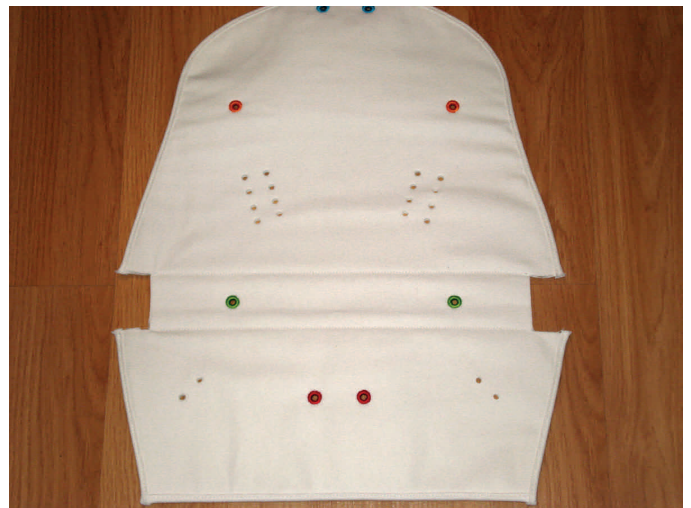


- Attach the Eyelet Embroidery Set #82 and Foot #92 to the sewing machine. Insert a size 90/14 Topstitch needles into the machine. Thread the machine with Isacord thread in the desired color. Thread the bobbin for embroidery tension.
- Stitch the eyelets, changing colors as desired.

Note: Alter the zigzag width for the second pass around the eyelet depending on your personal preference. In the sample the zigzag width was 3.6mm for the handle/strap eyelets and 3.0mm for the decorative eyelets.



- When all of the handle/strap eyelets are complete, add more eyelets to the bag as desired.



- Continue constructing the backpack following Step 5 of the “Convertible Clutch” pattern instructions.
- Due to the thickness of the canvas and additional layers, do not follow Step 6 of the pattern instructions. Instead, stitch the side seams together by hand.

- For the backpack, the remaining pattern instructions will not be used.
- Braid about three yards of polyester or cotton cord together for the straps. Creating this long cord is necessary to ensure that there will be enough to adjust the length of the straps as needed to position the backpack as desired. Use tape to secure the ends of the braided cord and to form a strong point for easy insertion through the eyelets.
- Tie a knot in one end of the braided cord strap. Insert the other end of the strap through one eyelet beginning at the lower inside corner of the backpack. Pull the strap until the knot rests at the bottom of the inside of the backpack.
- Leaving enough braided strap to allow the backpack to sit in a comfortable position on your back, continue weaving the straps up the side to the top eyelet (one of the original handle markings on the clutch pattern).
- Weave the braided strap into the next eyelet, staying to the inside of the backpack so the strap doesn't show, and weave it back out of the other eyelet on the top (the other original handle markings on the clutch pattern).
- Once again, leaving enough braided cord strap so the backpack fits your back comfortably, and staying even with the first exposed section of the strap for balance, weave the strap back down to the last eyelet, ending up on the inside of the backpack.
- Fine tune the strap lengths, and then tie a knot in the end of the strap (inside the backpack where it will not show). Cut off the excess cord and wrap the end of the braid with tape.

Note: If you think you may later want to have longer straps on your backpack, do not cut off the excess cord after tying the knot. Just leave it inside the backpack—no one will see if from the outside.

- Weave a length of grosgrain ribbon, from inside to outside, on the front of the backpack. Fold the front flap over the front of the backpack and thread ribbon through the corresponding eyelets to create the closure. Apply seam sealant to the ends of the ribbon.

Weave assorted ribbons through the remaining eyelets for decoration. Apply seam sealant to ribbon ends.

- For an extra touch of color, use permanent markers to color the grommets of your sneakers to coordinate with the colors of your eyelets. Remove the existing shoelaces and replace them with lengths of grosgrain ribbon. Use seam sealant on the ends of the ribbons to keep them from fraying.



- Have fun wearing your new sneakers & backpack!

