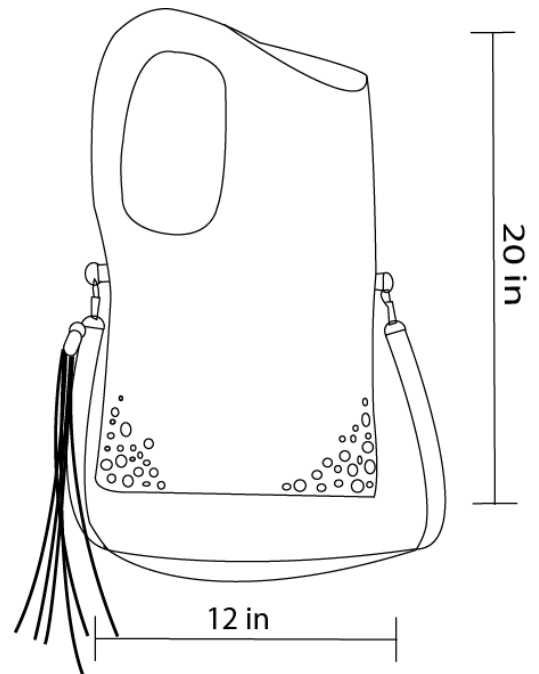


Exclusive Pattern Download
LaRue Messenger/Tote/Clutch



Fabulously simple bag inspired by a great Patricia Field style, & featured in every fashionista's favorite movie, 'The Devil Wears Prada'.

So adjustable & flexible....wear as a tote, messenger bag, or remove the straps and carry the bag as a clutch.

Make it from distressed PVC, with antique style studding & detachable tassel as shown here, or try it in a faux suede or even a sturdy felt.

Lined bag features internal zippered pocket & cell phone pocket.

Laying Flat the bag measures 12" wide by 20" tall by .5" deep.

Try this sharp bag as an easy-to-make gift or a treat for yourself... it's the perfect showcase for your favorite patchwork, or a big funky appliqued, beaded or embroidered motif.

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patterns so hot they're smokin'...

About this style...

This bag is designed to be worn shoulder-bag style with your arm through the 'cut-out', but you can also wear it slung diagonally across your body, or remove the straps and use it as a clutch bag.

Don't be afraid to use unusual fabrics for this bag... even if they are lightweight, mount them on canvas & away you go...BUT you really do need to use a non-fraying fabric, like real or faux suede or leather, even sturdy felt, for the strap, D-ring loops and tassel.

This is a great vehicle for your embellishing talents...you can use metal studs, wool embroidery, applique, stencils, buttons...whatever takes your fancy!

seam allowances & other info

You need around **1/2 yard of 60" wide fabric & lining. Fusible interfacing** is optional. Unless you are already using a non-fraying fabric like felt or real/faux suede/leather, you will need an extra 1/4 yard of this for the strap, loops & tassel trim. Don't forget **1x 12" zipper, 1x 1/2" 'O' ring, 2x 1/2" D-rings & 2xG-ring clamps** and a **4" length of fine chain.**

Seams on this patterns are **5/8"**; all seams are sewn right sides together, unless otherwise stated.

skills needed

You need to be able to...

Understitch & staystitch a seam; insert a centered zipper; assemble & apply a pocket; apply bias binding; do topstitching; work a buttonhole (optional)

You can do it! And if you can't, we suggest a book like The Reader's Digest New Complete Guide To Sewing for in-depth sewing guides.

Order of work...

This is just our way of doing things..if you prefer a different method or order of work, go ahead!

- 1)** Before you start sewing, you may want to interface the front & back pieces to add extra body, bearing in mind this bag should be a little slouchy...it shouldn't flop about, but it shouldn't stand to attention either!
- 2)** Start with the inside zippered pocket...sew the upper & lower pieces together, at the ends of the opening only...you will see the notches 1 5/8" in from the ends...that's where the seam should stop, so you have a flat piece of lining with a slit opening. Press the slit seam allowance back, & let's get the zipper insertion done.
- 3)** The zipper is inserted from the inside of the pocket, except for the topstitching. Turn the work so the zipper & slit are vertical. Start on the wrong side, and work from the bottom to the top of the zipper opening. Try to keep the zipper closed throughout. Pin in the zipper keeping it centered over the opening. Using a zipper foot and a large stitch, machine baste the zipper in place. Turn the pocket piece over so you see the right side, and check that the zipper is laying flat & centered. Sew the zipper in about 1/4"-3/8" away from the zipper opening, using the zipper foot and your usual length stitch. Start at the bottom of the zipper, sew 2 or 3 stitches across, then pivot the work so you can sew straight up alongside the zipper opening to the top. Repeat on the other side of the zipper opening. Press flat.
- 4)** Press the upper edge of this pocket piece under 5/8", and position the pocket on 1 side of the lining... look at the pattern for the pocket position, and follow the marks there...the pocket will align with the bottom & side edges of the bag lining. Stitch the top edge of the pocket into place, about 1/8" away from the turned edge. Do a second row of topstitching about 3/8" in if you are tough on your bags, and carry lots of stuff around in them! Press flat.

finished bag size 12" wide X 20" high

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5a) The phone/small pocket for the **other** side of the lining is done like this: finish the top edge of the pocket; either turn it under twice, first 1/4", then 3/8", and press, then topstitch, OR use self or purchased bias binding along the top edge of the pocket to give a neat finish.

5b) Press the bottom & side edges of the pocket piece under 5/8. At the bottom edge only, pleat the lining (as marked on the pattern) and stitch the bottom pleats into position. Place this onto the lining, following the position marks. Stitch the pocket into place along the sides & bottom, about 1/8" away from the turned edges.

6) Complete the lining by joining both pieces, right sides together, along the sides & bottom edges. Leave an opening about 8" long along the middle of the bottom seam..you'll use this to turn the lining out through later. Press the seams open, clipping the seam allowances at the curved corners.

7) Now is the time to add your chosen embellishment(s) to the front (and back) panels of your bag...studs, beading, stencils, embroidery, appliques...you choose! Or leave the bag gloriously unadorned...

8) Prepare & apply the D-ring loops: use 1 of the 3 D-ring & tassel loop strips. Cut it in half, and fold both of these small pieces in half to create a loop. Slip a D-ring into each ring, and sew them on along the side seam allowances of the bag on either side...see where it says "loop goes here" on the side seams? There! The loop/D-ring assembly should lay so the D-ring lays inside the bag panel.

9) Join the bag front & back, starting at the top of one of the sides, sandwiching in the D-ring loops as you go. Sew along the bottom, & continue up the other side. Clip the seam allowances at the curved corners and either press the seams open or (for real/faux suede/leather) glue the seam allowances back using a suitable adhesive.

10) Turn the lining so it is inside-out; turn the bag so it is the right side out. Drop the bag into the lining, making sure you match up the side seams and (very important!) the oval cut-outs. Join the bag & lining by sewing through all thicknesses along the top edge. Press this seam open, then turn the lining out through the opening along the lining's bottom seam. Hand or machine stitch the lining closed.

11) Complete the body of the bag by finishing the oval cut-out. You do this by joining the lining & bag together with **wrong sides together** around the oval cut-out seam allowance, making sure that both layers of the seam allowance are left raw. Sew the self or lining bias onto the oval cut-out seam allowance, following the stitchline. Clip the bag & lining seam allowances, trim off if necessary, and use the bias to turn them under to the inside of the lining. Hand(blind) or machine stitch the bias into place on the inside of the lining. Press flat.

12) Make the tassel like this: use 1 of the remaining 2 D-ring/tassel loops, and fold it in half so you have a loop. Slip your 'O' ring through the loop, then lay the raw edges of the loop on the **wrong side** of the tassel strip... see where it says "place loop here"? There! You need to have the 'loop' part sitting free of the tassel strip. Glue or stitch the loop in place, then roll the tassel strip around the loop to make a nice fat fringed tassel. Glue or stitch the tassel ends to secure. Use the last D-ring/tassel strip to wrap around the top of the tassel for a nice clean finish...stitch or glue in place.

13) Finally, make & attach the strap. Lay the strap down so the wrong side is facing you. Fold the long top edge down (as marked on the pattern) and glue or pin into place. Fold the long bottom edge up (as marked on the pattern) and glue or pin into place. Sew a single stitchline all along the strap through the middle.

14a) There are 2 ways to complete the strap: you can fold each short end of the strap under, slip the G-ring clamp through this loop then stitch along the bottom of the loop to secure them.

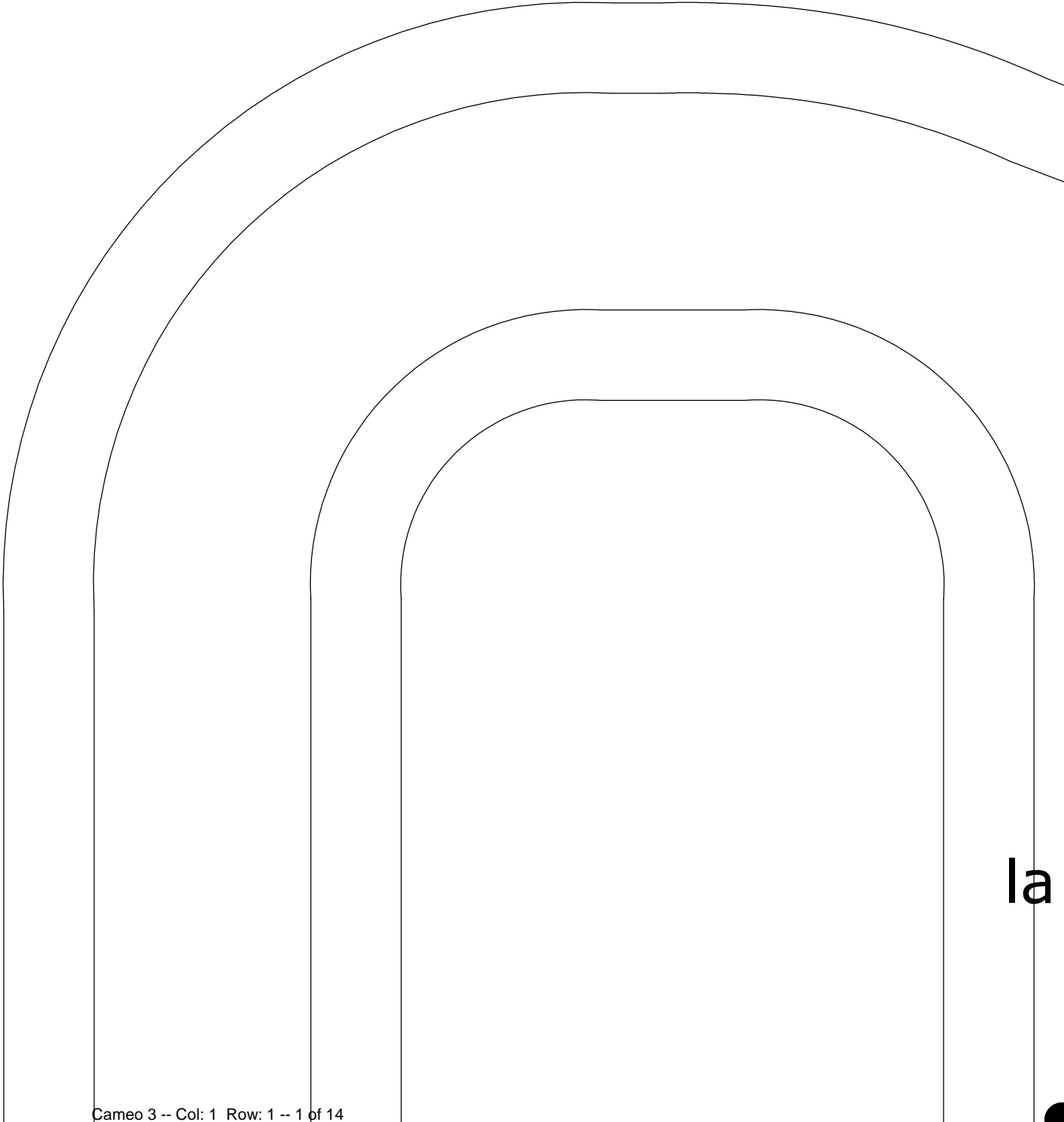
14b) OR...cut a slit OR work a buttonhole where indicated on the strap, and pull one end of the strap through. Thread one of the G-clamps through the strap. Fold the *non-buttonholed* short end of the strap under, and slip the G-ring clamp through this loop, then stitch along the bottom of the loop to secure it.

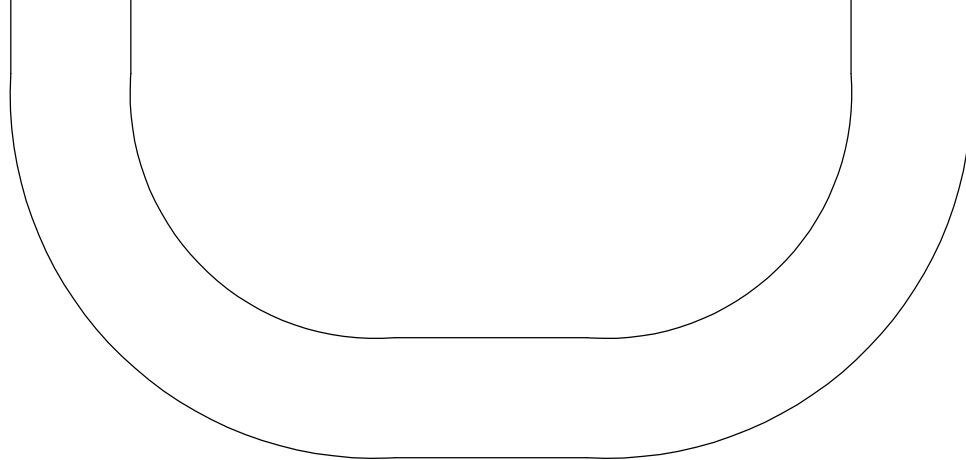
15) Either way, attach the G-ring clamps to the D-rings on the bag. Attach the 'O' ring of your tassel to one of the D-rings with your piece of chain. Try on your groovy new bag & take a look in the mirror...F-A-B-U-L-O-U-S!

Now you *know* you can use a few of these super-stylish bags...they will use up those smaller 'waiting for the perfect project' pieces in your stash...yes, we know you've got them hidden away!...and they are perfect to give as gifts, as well as being a great showcase for your favorite trims and your decorative skills.

Send us a pic of your great new bag, we'd love to see it!

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| OR SLIT |
| IS OPTIONAL |





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D-ring & tas
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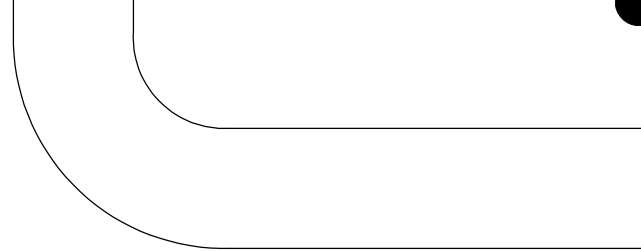
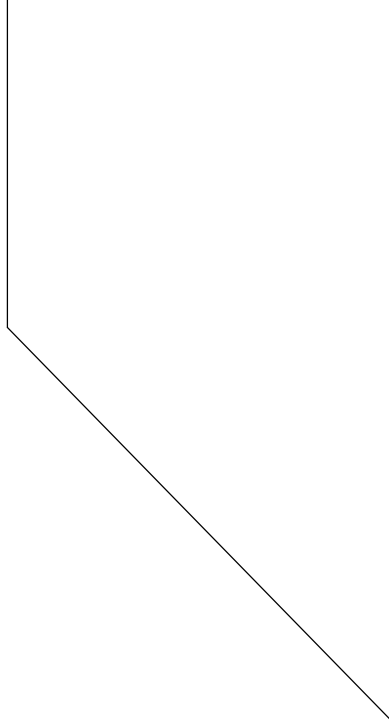
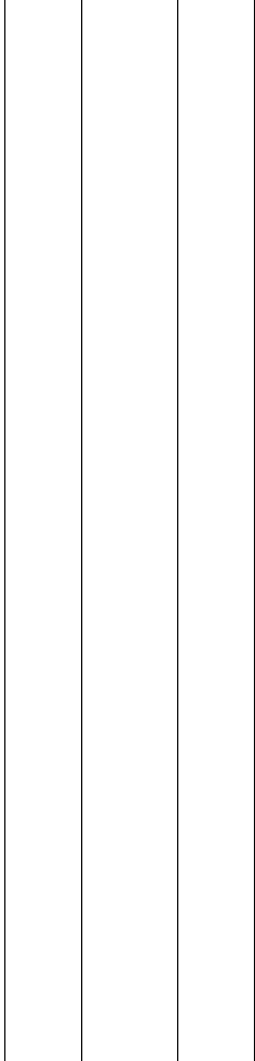
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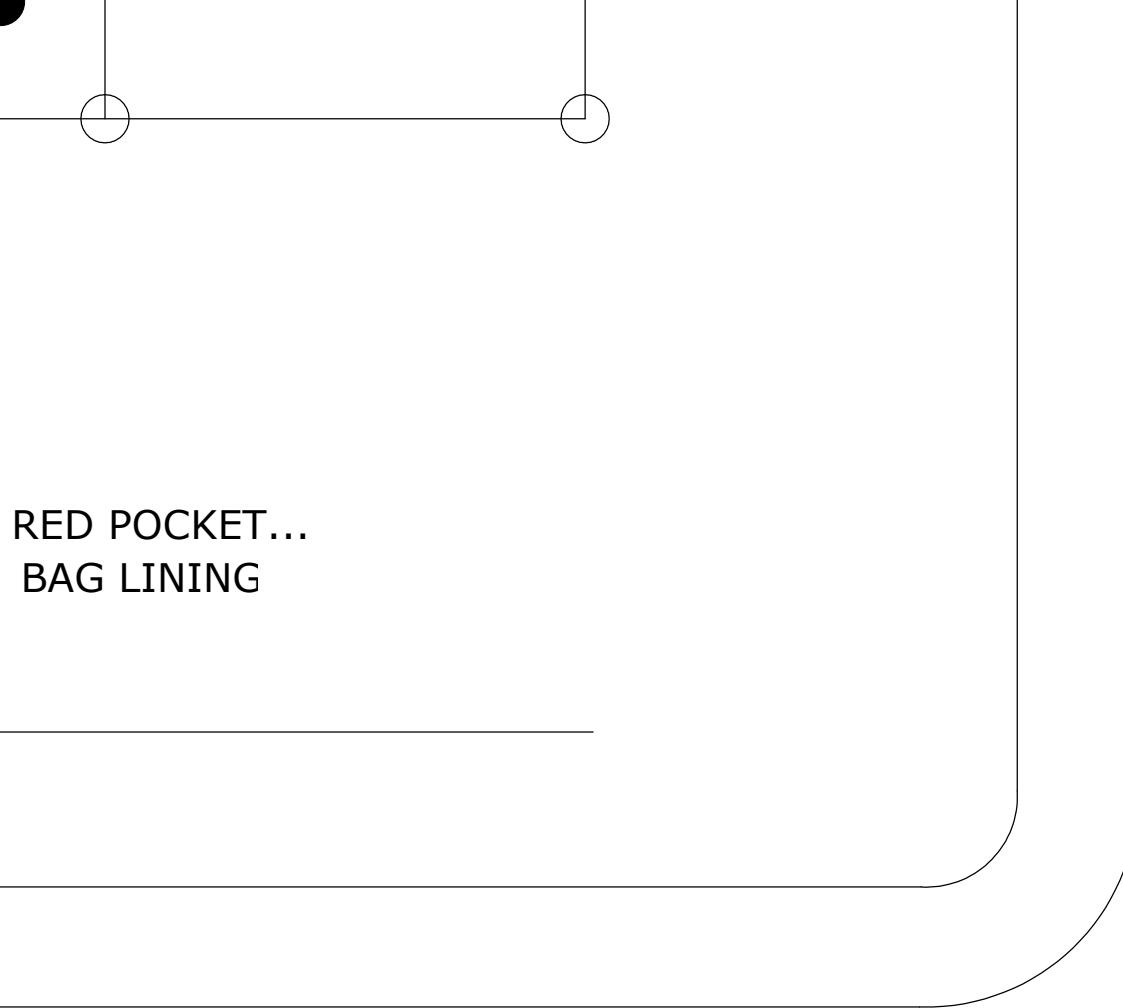
HOT PATTERNS EX
la rue messe
bias strip cut

Cameo 3 -- Col: 1 Row: 5 -- 5 of 14



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la rue messe
small pocket/c
cut 1

HOTPATTERNS
EXCLUSIVE DOWNLOAD
rue messenger/tote/clutch
front & back
cut 1 pair in self
cut 1 pair in lining



sle loop
self

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HOTPATTERNS
EXCLUSIVE DOWNLOAD
la rue messenger/tote/clutch
upper zipped pocket.

Cameo.3 -- Col: 2 Row: 5 -- 12 of 14

cut 1 in lining.



HOT PATTERNS
EXCLUSIVE DOWNLOAD
la rue messenger/tote/clutch
lower zipped pocket.
cut 1 in lining.

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ell phone pocket.
in lining.

STITCH POCKRT TO LINING ALONG THIS LINE

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