

“Quick & Easy” Cat Purse

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For questions/comments/corrections, e-mail Flora.

For a cute purse that you can use to carry the “bare essentials,” turn this EASY design into a show-stopper. *Note: Make any changes in these designs that you wish. For example, you may prefer a dog instead of a cat—or a different width for the sides, a different flap, no button, etc.*



SUPPLIES NEEDED (suggested sizes are approximate, and additional “common” sewing notions will be used):

THREE 6"x11" scraps of your chosen fabric, and THREE MORE for lining. (These *may* be the same fabric.)

*If a coordinating fabric is used for the side strip, then **one fat quarter** will suffice for all six of the above pieces.*

THREE ovals of batting. If available, use **BLACK** batting with darker fabrics.

Approximately 22"x6" of identical or coordinating fabric (plus a 20"x2" strip of batting) for the SIDES.

THREE 12"x14" rectangles of HEAVY CUT-AWAY stabilizer. Choose either **BLACK** or **WHITE**, whichever better matches your choice of thread color.

Your choice of THREAD. Do not use the colors listed in the complimentary designs. (They are generic.) **YOU SELECT** the shades you want. The **SAME** color may be used **THROUGHOUT** (with the exception of the cat's inner eyes). The color in the **BOBBIN** (one bobbin case will suffice) should be the **SAME SHADE** as the upper thread.

Complimentary embroidery designs: “CatPurseFace.ART,” “CatPurseBack.ART,” and “CatPurseFlap.ART.”

Additional Items: **ONE** button, and a purse strap. The latter may vary from fancy purchased chains, to converted bracelets, to heavy duty 60" boot laces, etc. The button may be clear, covered, solid, or decorative.

Bernina Embroidery Machine (for the .ART files) with a large oval hoop.

STEPS FOR STITCHING EACH ONE OF THE THREE PROVIDED EMBROIDERY DESIGNS:

A. Hoop one layer of heavy cut-away stabilizer in your large oval hoop, then stitch Step 1. Remove the hoop from the machine, **BUT DO NOT REMOVE THE STABILIZER FROM THE HOOP**. Spray **BOTH SIDES** of the stabilizer (the portion that is the *inside* of the design) with a temporary spray adhesive (such as 505). Flip over the hoop, and adhere a 6"x11" scrap of your chosen fabric (or lining) onto the **BACK side** of the sprayed stabilizer (with right side of fabric visible from the back). Flip the hoop back to the top side. Cut a piece of batting slightly smaller than the design stitched in Step 1, and position the batting **EXACTLY INSIDE** that stitched shape. (This smaller size of the batting prevents its outside edge from “bearding” later, because the batting will be completely **INSIDE** the design with no “overhang” around the edges.) Next, use an adhesive spray on the **WRONG SIDE** of a 6"x11" scrap of your chosen fabric, flip it over and place it atop the batting that is already adhered to the stabilizer.

B. Carefully stitch Step 2. Remove the hoop from the machine, **BUT DO NOT REMOVE THE FABRIC FROM THE HOOP**. Carefully and closely trim away the **TOP** fabric (and any batting that might be showing). Cut it as **CLOSELY** to the stitched outline as you can, taking care not to snip the stitches or the stabilizer. Now carefully turn the hoop over and do the same close trimming with the lining.

C. Return the hoop to the machine and embroidery **ALL** of the remaining stitches. *Note: With the CatPurseFace.ART design, the only suggested thread change occurs with the “whites of the eyes.” If your fabric is light (or if you are happy with what would appear to be the inner eye color), simply skip this step. You **MAY** even eliminate this step in your computer before you send it to the machine. In this case, there will be no need for any thread change throughout the entire design.*

D. Remove the hoop from the machine, and now remove the fabric from the hoop. Trim any remaining jump stitches from both front and back, then **CAREFULLY** trim away the stabilizer **VERY CLOSE** to the outside edge **WITHOUT** snipping any of the satin stitches. This will serve as your outer edge, and if you see any undesired fabric “bearding” on the outside of your satin stitches, trim again carefully and/or touch them up with a fabric pen.

FINISHING YOUR CAT PURSE: **E.** Cut a side strip by making a tube from your 22"x6" fabric and batting.

Turn and press. With the **WRONG SIDES** together, stitch the tube siding to the purse front and back. Then stitch the flap onto the purse back, sew on an optional button, and attach a strap. (Option: The strap *may* simply be a continuation of the siding, if desired.) Voilà! You have finished!! Carry your new cat purse with pride!