

MANHATTAN MESSENGER BAG

by Diane McCauley

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Take recycling to a new level and create an easy, slouchy messenger bag created with a few cast off sweaters, a tee and a bit of denim. Or, use new or vintage retro prints to craft a full-featured, classic messenger bag complete with four exterior pockets, and one roomy interior pocket. Whether you are looking for a generously sized handbag or a compact bag to carry work to school or the office, this bag is just the ticket. Approx. 12 1/2" W x 10" H x 3" D.

Materials Needed:

RECYCLED SWEATER MESSENGER BAG:

Three or four coordinating wool sweaters (one striped or patterned), felted according to directions

One old pair of jeans

One generously sized T-shirt

If you just can't give up a pair of jeans or a T - purchase 1/2 yard canvas, denim or similar heavy fabric and 1/2 yard of T-shirt knit.

4" hook and loop tape (such as Velcro®)

Water-soluble glue stick (i.e. "school glue")

FABRIC MESSENGER BAG:

2/3 yard 45" cotton main fabric (paisley as pictured)

1 yard 45" cotton contrast #1 (geometric as pictured)

1/2 yard 45" cotton contrast #2 (stripe as pictured)

2/3 yard 45" cotton contrast #3 (small print as pictured)

2/3 yard 45" cotton canvas or cotton duck (sometimes called cotton drill)

6 inches hook and loop tape (such as Velcro®)

1/2 yard 3/8" elastic

RECYCLED SWEATER SCARE – use materials from the remainder of the sweaters used in the Sweater Messenger Bag

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