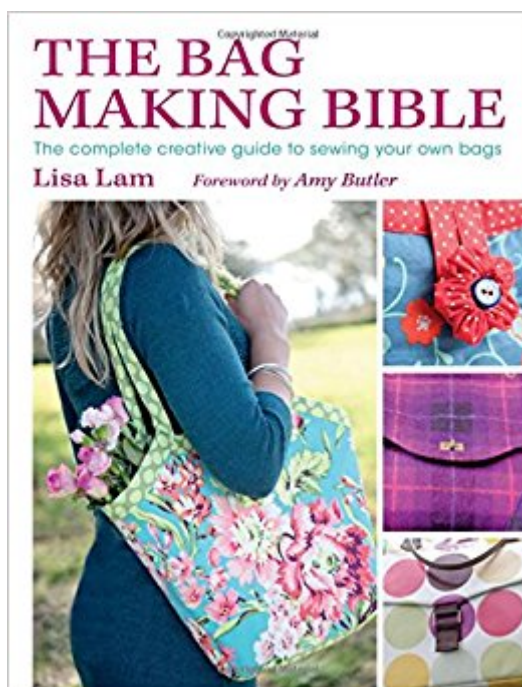


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# The Bag Making Bible: The Complete Guide To Sewing And Customizing Your Own Unique Bags



## Synopsis

"The Bag Making Bible" is the first book and resource of its kind - a technique-led approach to sewing your own designer bags and purses. It explains in detail how to create and construct the component parts of the bag. From adding styles of bag pockets to inserting zips and closures, using interfacing and reinforcement tricks, and fitting linings and various styles of bag handles, and much, much more. It also introduces and demonstrates the myriad materials, hardware, and tools and techniques available to the modern crafter, including using the sewing machine. Each chapter is fully illustrated with helpful colour photography and ends with a unique, step-by-step project that builds the ultimate handbag wardrobe. A separate pull-out section of full-size patterns enables readers to get started right away - no photocopying or enlarging required! Each bag design stands out in its own right, each to be made and loved for years to come. Full instructions are included to make: a funky laptop/messenger/office bag 3 kinds of book bags an ultra-organised nappy/craft tote a multi-pocketed travel bag a rigid cocktail clutch an over-the body hobo bag, and more. Whether you are making your first bag, or you want to add professional looking pockets to an existing pattern, or even if you are looking for a tempting bag project to really sink your sewing teeth into, "The Bag Making Bible" will be your 'go to' resource for information and inspiration.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lisa Lam has a successful website which has specialised in purse and bag making supplies since 2005.Â This unique site through which Lisa showcases her passion and sewing talents to theÂ world has become a valuable source for bag making advice and inspiration.Â Lisa designs her own range of sewing patterns and kits as well as regularly contributing to numerous sewing magazines. She regularly writes in her colourful craft blog: [u-handbag.typepad.com](http://u-handbag.typepad.com) where she shares her sewing and crafting obsessions with thousands of readers.

Lisa Lam is obviously an extremely talented bag maker, and the bags she shows in this book are proof of that. It's a lovely book, full of inspirational photos, but my problem with the book lies with the instructions for each bag pattern. If you are buying this book for inspiration, then go for it. However I would caution that if you are buying this book for instructions on how to make the bags, it is extremely confusing. I've been sewing for over ten years and know how to read a pattern. I feel that Lisa tried to compress her patterns to fit neatly into each page and did not give enough space to thoroughly explaining each step of the pattern: a) instructions for each step are too brief b) there are only photos for some steps; on steps without photos she leaves me confused c) the photos are cropped to show only a small piece of the bag she is working on, so I cannot figure out which way the zipper/fabric/etc is supposed to be facing

This is a pretty good and you get patterns but I have bought 6 books now and the best seem to be on my knitting books on felting projects. I have yet to get a book that actually shows me step by step BUT this is probably the closest. I would suggest buying ALL bag making books used for a few buck, like I did this one. Even with shipping at \$4 it is a lot less than new. I knit up 100% wool yarn and wash it in the washing machine in hot water and it then comes out like a felted fabric which I then make bags, hats and other items out of it. I just recently got into making purses and it seems that I am researching and self teaching myself on how to make a good bag. But, these books do help and at least with some you get actual pattern pieces for bag structures, so that helps.

I have dozens of books of handbag patterns and general bag-making information that I have collected over the years; now that I have this one, I suspect the others will be gathering dust. Everything I could ever want to know is covered in immaculate detail and gorgeously photographed. It's all here for the beginning bag-maker and for the experienced ones as well, plus beautiful new designs in luscious fabrics. I have followed Lisa Lam's blog for a few years, and have been consistently impressed with her skills, and simply amazed at her generosity in sharing her

knowledge freely and cheerfully; her creativity is inspiring, and her teaching skills are powerful. Since I live a whole continent away, I have not been able to meet Lisa in person, but her warmth radiates across the miles via internet and e-mail. I was expecting a lot from Lisa's first book, and not only does she not disappoint, she has delivered even more than I could have imagined. Truly a **MUST-HAVE** for anyone who sews, especially if you have ever had even the slightest impulse to sew up a purse or tote of your own!

Lisa Lam's Bag Making Bible is certainly that! While her designs may be simpler than some other patterns I have found, Lisa L. gives sewers of any level the ability to understand bag construction in general, what tools and supplies are needed, and then one is ready to go in designing on your own. The detailed instructions are written and printed clearly in a readable font size, accompanied by actual photography and not just pencil illustrations. This was very helpful to me as a visual learner. I plan on practicing with the enclosed patterns in the book, and then will have the skills I need to follow instructions on more complicated patterns or design my own. If you are a sewing teacher you will appreciate this book as a great how-to book to use with your students in sewing projects.

I am learning a lot about what it takes to make a proper bag,,,,,,or better said,,, a bag that has some real class to it. I have had a few other books, but they did not go into the same kind of depth of detail as this author has done~At her suggestion, I will use leather handles to upscale my work, ( if I am sewing a hand bag) ,, I love all her clever ideas!Details are what elevates hand made bag from a Becky Home Ecy bag,,, to an upscale, Where- Did -You- Get- That- Bag?No matter which pattern I use...hers or from any other book or paper pattern, I have a far better understanding of what I am dealing with, and most importantly HOW to do things correctly~,~,~ Buy this book if you desire to upscale your work, then go back and use her patterns ( included are 2 bags I simply **MUST** make!) or any other bag patterns~ I own another bag book,that I \* thought \* was good,,,,, but can clearly see the difference between the 2 designers,~ one designer has cute, ( as in fabric cute) bags, while,this book gives me the tools and information I need to succeed at making my very own designer looking bags,,, Big difference,,,,,,,I love it!

When I got this book and looked through it I thought, "Where have you been all my life?" I've made a lot of bags using a lot of different patterns (Vogue, McCalls, Simplicity), my own patterns, borrowed patterns; I've even taken a couple of "purse-making" seminars (not cheap!) in search of the perfect purse, but experienced nothing but disappointment. I think I've found the book that will

turn my life around! The instructions are clear, easy to understand, it's obvious that she put a lot of thought into these; the pictures are actually helpful (sometimes they are so arty you can't see what you are supposed to be making) and best of all she includes patterns on substantial paper! I can't say enough about how classic the styles are in this book (thank goodness there are no freaky bags: shaped like a flying saucer! a birdhouse! a squirrel!). I read the whole thing cover to cover, chose my material and I have to say moving forward, I think this will be one of my "go-to" books; you know, the one on the shelf that gets dog-eared and has post-its sticking out!

I having been sewing all my life, but have just recently ventured into bag making. Most of the techniques in this book I am familiar with, but Lisa has shown me how to apply all my knowledge to bag making. I refer to it all the time and I am thrilled with the results. Her passion for sewing shines through and I found her instructions easy to follow.

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