

## Rubie Handbag- Day 2

Get your machine ready with a leather needle - size 16. This needle will cope better with the bulk of 4 layers of fabric. Use either a teflon foot or a roller foot for sewing the faux leather as these feet will glide better over the surface of the fabric.

Have your wonder clips at the ready as pins are not an option today.

### STRAP, STRAP TAB AND KEY FOB

Follow **Steps 1 to 9** to create your bag strap, strap tab and optional key fob.

The instructions say to use either glue or double-sided tape (DST). My recommendation is Sew Easy tape, used for quilting. It is a wash-away tape, not that you will be washing your bag. The selling feature is that it does not clog up your needle as you sew. You will find that it does not create a really strong bond but it adheres well enough to hold and then clip together your strap ready for sewing.

### PLEATING THE EXTERIOR BODY PIECE(S)

**Version 1** has pleats on both front and back of the bag. **Version 2** has pleats only on the front.

Follow **Steps 10 to 21** to sew the pleats. The instructions tell you to mark only the beginning and end fold and placement lines. I used a frixion pen to draw the full lines on the right side - one colour for the fold line and one colour for the placement line.

**TIP** - At Step 16, stitch at least 1/4 inch away from the fold of the inside pleats. This will keep the pleat in place and prevent the bag from "growing" when you fill it up.

To remove the frixion pen marks, hover the iron over the leather and give it a **gentle** burst of steam. You don't need to saturate the fabric; just apply enough heat to erase the marks. **DO NOT** place the iron directly onto the leather. You can also try placing a pressing cloth on top and then ironing directly on the pressing cloth. If this does not remove the marks, steaming will do the trick.

If you have chosen **Version 1** you are finished for the day. Maybe a hot cross bun and a cup of tea is in order?

**Version 2** fans - sorry, you miss out on the treat as you still have work to do.

### BACK ZIPPER POCKET

Follow **Steps 22 to 30** to install the zipper and exterior pocket on the back of your bag - that's the piece without the pleats.

