

## Rubie Handbag- Day 1

The instructions that come with your pattern are very good so we'll be following those, with a few extra tips and tricks thrown in along the way. When I tell you to refer to a **Page Number** or a **Step Number**, I am referring to the pattern instructions.

There are 3 different versions of this handbag - refer to Page 3 for illustrations of the options. The idea of this sew-along is to challenge yourself by sewing faux leather so instructions will be geared to versions 1 and 2. If you are dead-set against leather, and/or feel more comfortable working with fabric, the pattern does include instructions for a third version which is fabric only.

### CUTTING OUT YOUR BAG

**Leather pieces** - DO NOT pin pattern pieces to your leather as this will leave holes where you may not want them. Instead, lay the pieces on the leather and trace around, using a frixion pen. If you have participated in previous AUSSEW-Alongs you'll know I am a big fan of frixion pens. These little beauties are available at most stationery shops. Marks can be easily removed by applying heat (i.e. an iron) - more about that when we start sewing.

Work with a single layer of fabric only.

You can work with your leather right side up or wrong side up. If you have a dark colour, it may be easier to see your trace lines on the wrong side. **NOTE** - If tracing on the wrong side of the fabric, be sure to lay your exterior body pieces right side (printed side) face down as illustrated. I've used pattern weights to keep the pattern from shifting while I trace.

**Fabric pieces** - You have a pattern piece for the bag lining and for the exterior slip pocket.

Refer to the chart on Page 6 for additional pieces to be cut from leather, from lining fabric and from interfacing.

**TIP** - If your leather is soft you may want to interface the exterior body pieces as well. This will give your bag a better shape.

### PREPARING YOUR BAG PIECES FOR SEWING

Follow **ALL STEPS** under Prep Work on Page 5.

