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Sock it to me BAGS!

from Linda McGehee

Wear bright, catchy looking socks for fun — they are always a conversation starter and a good way to get attention! My sock drawers are full of socks for every occasion, holiday, and social event. From Halloween, Christmas, and Easter, to 4th of July, Valentine's Day, and St Patrick's Day, there are appropriate socks to wear. My collection of socks also includes my favorite collection item—frogs.

Speaking of collections, another of my favorites is handbags. So, let's combine the two and make socks into a handbag! It's easy to use one sock to make a small bag or pouch for a cell phone. For a larger size bag, combine several socks together. The choice is yours depending upon the size and style sock the projects begins with. Some socks are long and straight, while others have shape. Adapt your handbag to the socks you choose. There is no cutting and very little sewing. These projects can be stitched by hand or machine in minutes.

Short Socks

Fold sock in half using the heel as the mid point. Stitch up the sides to form the pouch.



Strap Idea

Tuck a small portion of the toe inside the foot of the sock. Slide the ends of a ribbon strap inside the toe area. Stitch across to secure the ends of the strap inside the toe. (top)



Long Socks

For longer socks, tuck the toe inside the sock towards the heel. This becomes a pocket. Stitch across the toe area to hold the toe in place if necessary. Fold this section up to form the bag shape leaving enough extra sock at the top for a flap. Stitch each side to form the bag.



Straight Socks

Determine the depth of the bag by folding the sock. Allow a portion of the top to become the flap and an extra pocket.



Strap Ideas

Attach the strap to the top edge of the bag. Since it is difficult to hide the ends of the strap on a bag with no seam allowances, let the ends of the strap become part of the design. For instance, the ends of twisted cord becomes a tassel.



Straight Socks

Stitch 2 socks together side by side to make a larger bag.



Construction Tips:

1. To maintain the shape and avoid breaking the stitches with wear, use an open zigzag stitch or decorative stitch with stretch to stitch the side seams or combine socks together. Avoid using a straight stitch with socks.
2. Use braided hosiery, ribbon, twisted cord, narrow belting, or rope cording as a strap.
3. The Sew-in Magnetic Snap is a perfect closure for this style handbag. Place a small piece of fabric (1 1/4" circle) on the inside of the sock behind the snap. Stitch through the layers of sock and fabric to secure the snap.
4. Stitch Swivels to the top of the bag using 1 inch ribbon. Interchange the bag on a belt or belt loops rather than using a strap.



Allow socks with individual toes to become the personality of the bag. Depending upon the design on the sock, the toes may become a fringe or a flap.