

# ASG Walker Bag Instructions

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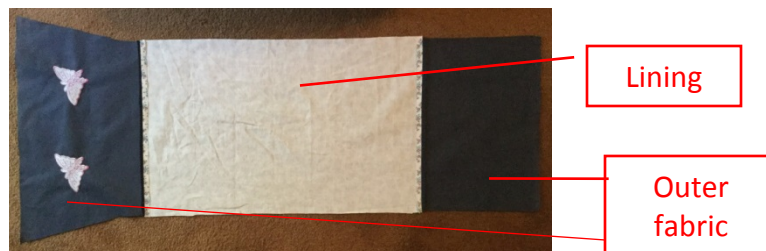
These instructions apply to the **modified** version of the walker bag pattern. This modification was made because the pleats in the cargo pockets were so thick that they were difficult to sew without skipped stitches or overloading the sewing machine. It would not be a problem with quilting fabric, but upholstery fabric is much heavier.

A ½ inch seam allowance is intended, but it doesn't matter as long as you use the same seam allowance throughout. A slightly longer stitch length (3 mm) helps with the heavier fabric. I also found a size 16 jeans needle helpful.

1. Press all pieces to remove any wrinkles. It's easier to do now than after assembly.
  - a. If you want to add any embellishments to the pockets, such as embroidery or trim, this is the best time to do it.
2. Attach the pocket pieces to the main piece.
  - a. With right sides together, stitch short ends of pocket lining pieces to short ends of outer fabric main piece.

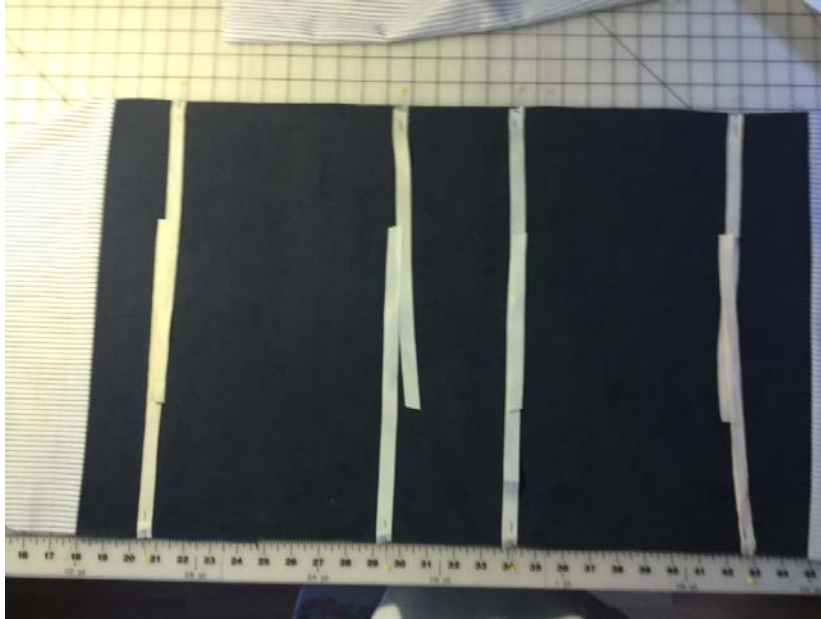


- b. With right sides together, stitch short ends of outer fabric pocket pieces to lining fabric main piece. The example in the photos has embroidery on the cargo (angled) pocket.

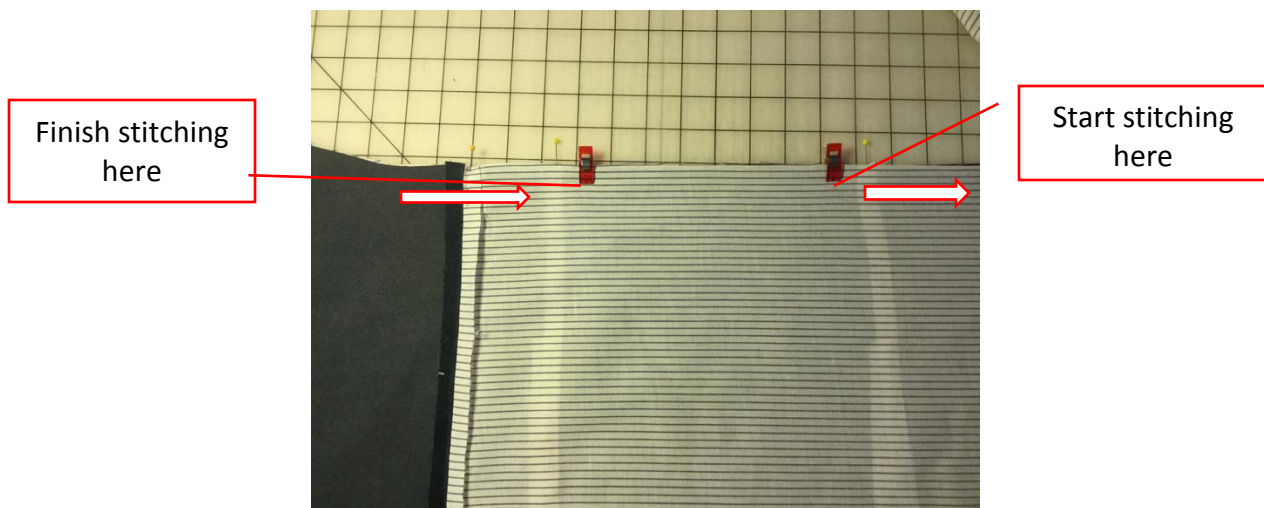


- c. Note: In the photo, the dark fabric is the “outer” fabric. The light fabric is the lining. This seam is the bottom of the pocket, so if the pocket fabric is directional, make sure you sew the side that you intend as the bottom of the pocket. For the cargo pocket, the seam will be the same length as the main piece.
3. Press the seams open.
4. Trim the outer fabric seam allowance with pinking shears or a pinking blade in your rotary cutter to reduce bulk.

5. Pin the 8 ties in place on the right side of the outer fabric main piece. I put them about 2 inches from the seam on both ends and also 2 inches each side of center. Make sure that the ties are on the right side of the fabric. Pin with the pins perpendicular to the fabric so they can be easily removed as you sew.



6. Place the two sections created in steps 2a and 2b right sides together matching edges. Pin all the way around. I like to use pins to hold everything together, but add two clips to remind myself to leave an opening for turning. Match the seams on each side. The open seam allowances will “nest” when you match them because of the difference in thickness of the main (outer) fabric and the lining. This makes it much easier to get them lined up. (Note: the ties are inside the ‘sandwich’. You can see them thru the lining on each side of the red clips.)



7. Stitch all the way around. (I start at the right red clip, stitch around and end up at the left clip) At the corners, stitch almost to the pivot point. Pivot 45 degrees and take one stitch. Pivot another 45 degrees and continue your seam. (See Figures 1 & 2 below.) When you turn to the right side, this will give a better corner on thick fabric.



Figure 1: Fabric turned 45 degrees to take one stitch when turning the corner.

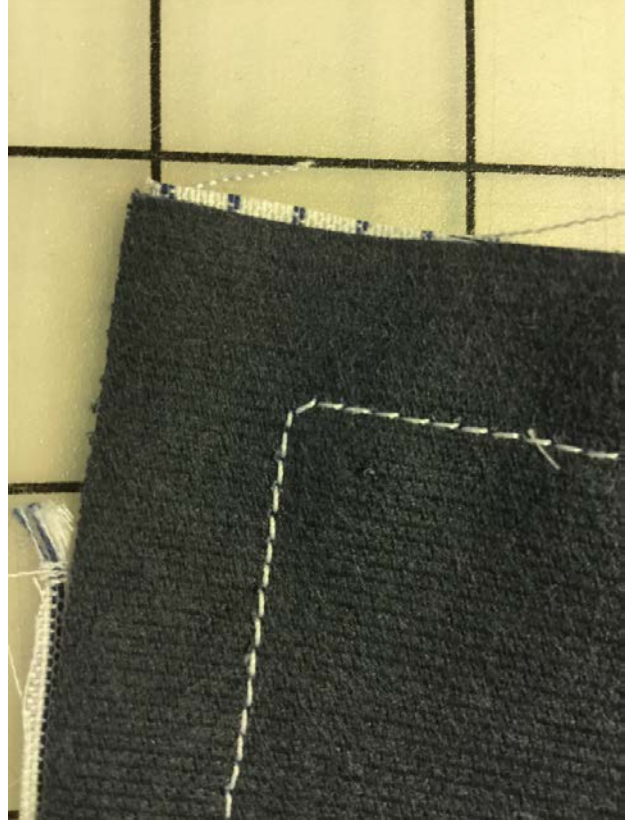
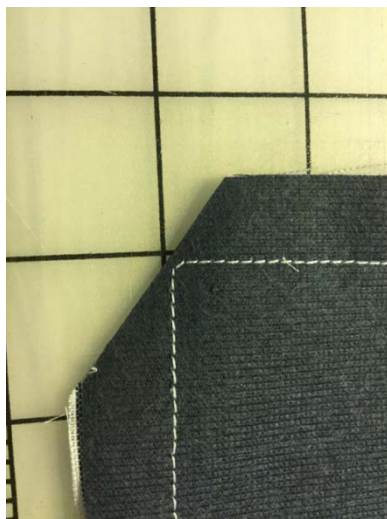


Figure 2: Close-up of the one stitch taken at 45 degrees when turning the corner.

8. Clip corners. Turn to right side.



9. Push out the corners with your favorite tool. Finger press the seam and pin in place for top stitching. Top stitch all the way around including over the turning opening. Be careful not to catch the ties in the stitching. They should be sticking straight out the sides.
  - a. Note: If your machine is capable of moving the needle position, move it to the far right. This allows you to run the edge of the presser foot along the edge of the fabric. It also makes it easier to keep your stitching straight since both sets of feed dogs are engaged and doing the work for you. It gives a more professional look to your stitching.
  - b. Note: When pivoting at the corners, the back of the foot will be off the fabric which makes it difficult to feed. To level the foot, use a “hump jumper” or if your machine came with a “leveling” foot (newer Babylocks have this), this is what it’s for. If you don’t have either of these, fold up a scrap of fabric to the same thickness as the pocket corner and tuck it under the back of the foot so that the foot is level. Continue stitching. Your stitches will all be the same length because the feed dogs have even pressure on them and can do their job.
  
10. Fold up both pockets to the outer fabric of the bag. (Make sure you don’t catch the ends of the ties in your topstitching!!)
  - a. On the regular pocket end, just top stitch up the sides. Start stitching about ¼ inch from the bag bottom to avoid the really bulky area. Stitch to the pocket top. Back stitch a few times at the top of the pocket to reinforce it. Repeat on the other side of the pocket. I found it easiest to “mirror” my stitch so that the needle moves to the far left and I use the left edge of the presser foot as a guide along the edge. The bulk of the fabric will be under the throat of the machine which is a bit awkward, but the bag is narrow enough that it will fit. You need to stitch in the same direction (bottom of pocket to top) to prevent shifting of the fabric. There are 4 layers under the foot and only the bottom layer is being fed.
  - b. Top stitch about 2 inches from the bottom of the pocket parallel to the bottom of the bag. Top stitch to make 1 or 2 smaller pockets as desired.

- c. On the cargo pocket (the one with the angled sides), top stitch from the pocket bottom up to the start of the angled area (about 2 inches). Stop with the needle in the fabric. Pivot just the pocket piece to meet the edge of the bag. This will form a 'pleat' or fold (see photo). Continue stitching to the top of the pocket.



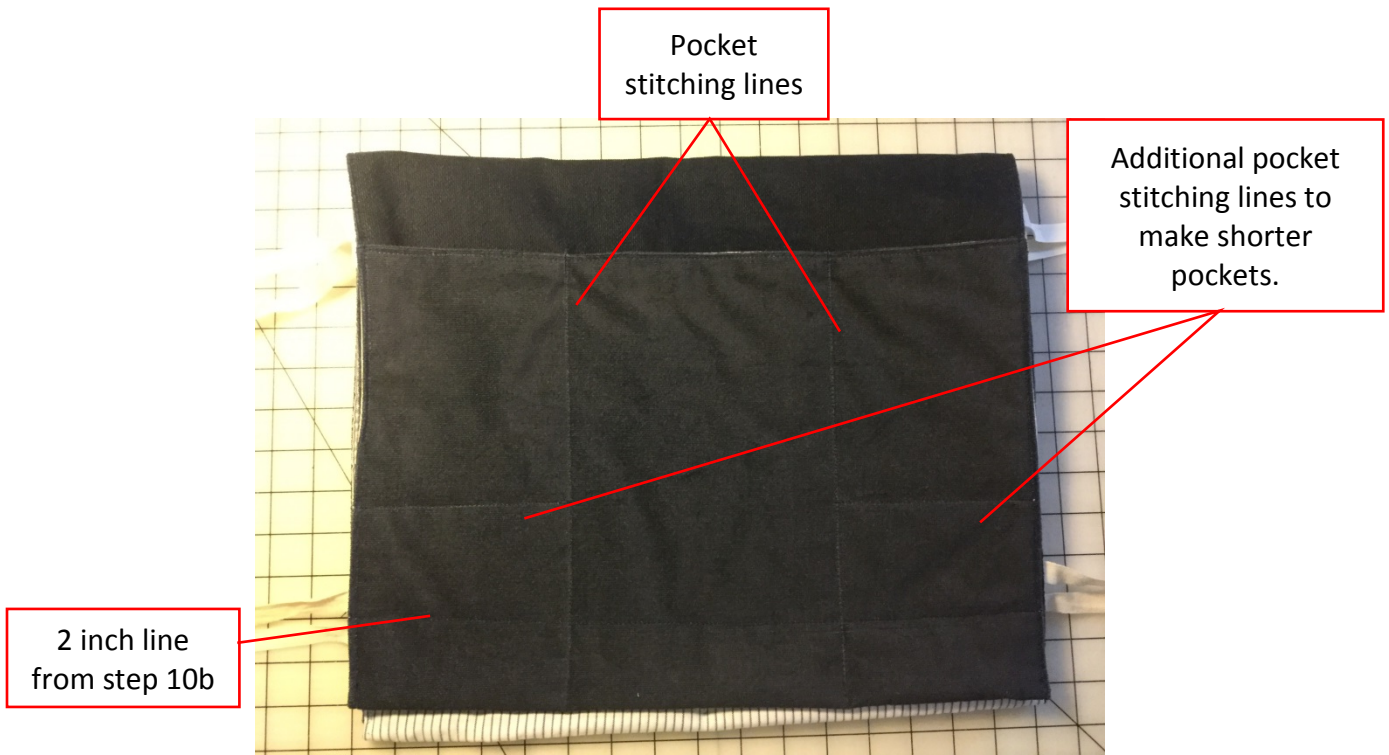
Back stitch to reinforce. Repeat on the other side of the pocket. Top stitch about 2 inches from the bottom of the pocket parallel to the bottom of the bag. Top stitch down the center to make 2 cargo pockets. When you smooth out the pocket, the 'pleats' will be on the sides of the pockets.

11. Stitch the ASG label in the 2 inch space below either pocket. (If your machine has 4 or 8-way feed, it's really easy to sew on the label without having to turn the bag.)





Cargo pocket side of finished bag.



Multi- pocket side of finished bag.