

Requirements:

- ◆ Double Diamond Ruler™ 1.5
- ◆ Fusible web (Heat'n Bond Lite™ recommended)
- ◆ Sturdy Fusible Interfacing (Décor-Bond™ recommended)
- ◆ Rotary Cutter (45mm Olfa™ recommended)
- ◆ Fabric glue (Permanent or Temporary)
- ◆ 3 fabrics for the Double Diamond front-side of the strap
 - the Main fabric,
 - the Contrast fabric, and
 - the Background fabric.
 Solid fabrics (or fabrics that read as solids) work the best, although prints produce interesting effects too. Choose light, medium, and/or dark fabrics with good contrast.

- ◆ 1 fabric for the back-side of the strap. It can be one of the 3 fabrics already chosen for the front.

Directions: These directions make a 31" long strap. If a longer or shorter strap is desired, just cut the following fabric strips to that length.

Step #1 - Prepare the Fabric

- ◆ Cut fabric:
 - Main fabric: 3½" x 31"
 - Contrast fabric: 3½" x 31"
 - Background fabric: 2¼" x 31"
 - Fusible webbing: 3" x 31"
 - Décor-Bond™ Fusible Interfacing: 1¾" x 31"
 - Fabric for Back-side of Strap: 2¾" x 31"
- ◆ Center fusible webbing to the wrong side of the Main fabric. Fuse following manufacturer's instructions. Peel off the paper.
- ◆ Fuse this piece to the wrong side of the Contrast fabric in the same manner. You now have a rectangle that will hereinafter be referred to as the "fused piece".
- ◆ Fold the fused piece lengthwise with the main fabric on the outside. Press with steam.

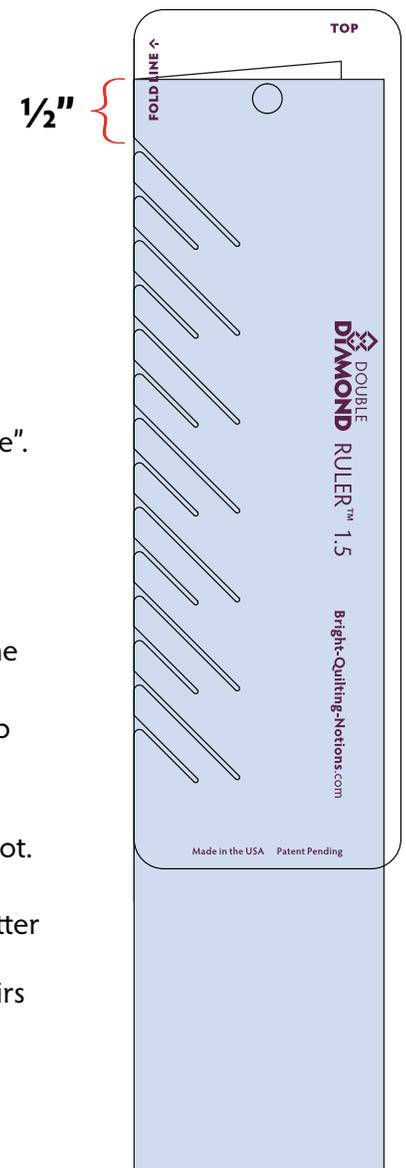
Step #2 - Cut Slits in Fabric

- ◆ Lay the fused piece in front of you so that the fold is on the left.
- ◆ Place the Double Diamond Ruler™ on top of the fused piece. Put the edge of the ruler marked "Fold" along the folded edge of the fused piece. (See Diagram.)
- ◆ Put the edge of the ruler marked "Top" near the top of the fused piece. The top of your fused piece doesn't necessarily have to align with the top of the ruler.
- ◆ Place the opening of the first slot ½" down from the top of your fabric.
- ◆ Position your body so that you can easily glide the rotary cutter through each slot. You may need to rotate your cutting mat.
- ◆ Insert your rotary cutter blade at the opening of the top slot. Roll the rotary cutter from the fold toward the center of the ruler. Stop when your blade comes up against the end of the slot. Do not attempt to go any farther. Rotary cut all 7 pairs of slots on the ruler.

Finished strap Measures 1¾" wide x 31" long



Pattern by Kim Templin



- ◆ Move the ruler down the fold. Reposition the first set of slots on the ruler over the last set of cuts just made. Continue rotary cutting slots until you have a total of 39 diamonds cut. (If your strap is a different length than the 31" called for in this pattern, continue cutting slots until you get near the bottom. Stop making Double Diamonds when you have about 2" left at the bottom of the fused fabric.)

Step #3 - Fold and Tuck the Diamonds

- ◆ Unfold the fused piece. Press flat with the Main fabric facing up.
- ◆ Starting at the bottom, fold back each diamond flap exposing the contrast fabric underneath. Be careful not to catch the tip of the iron on the flaps.
- ◆ Tuck each diamond flap under the diamond below it. Press.
- ◆ To temporarily tack down the flaps, place a small dab of glue where each diamond tucks under the diamond below it. Press.
- ◆ Place fabric glue (temporary or permanent; liquid or glue stick) liberally on the back of the Double Diamond piece. Center the background fabric right side up beneath the Double Diamond piece. Press together.
- ◆ Use a product like Fray-Check™ on the raw edges if you are concerned about fraying, although this is not usually a concern if quality fabric is used.
- ◆ Trim the Double Diamond piece to 2¾" wide. Do this by measuring 1⅜" out from the center of the diamonds and trim. Repeat on the other lengthwise side.
- ◆ Voilà...Double Diamonds!

Step #4 - Make the Strap

Front-side of the Strap:

- ◆ Carefully center the Double Diamond piece onto the sturdy fusible interfacing. You can mark or fold the halfway point on the interfacing and the Double Diamond piece so that you can position the pieces properly. You should have approximately ½" gap on each side of the Double Diamond piece. Press.
- ◆ Chalk a ½" line down each long side of the Double Diamond piece for a guideline. Now carefully fold both lengthwise edges under ½". Press to the back of the interfacing.

Back-side of the Strap:

- ◆ Using the 2¾" wide back-side fabric, chalk a ½" mark down each long side. Carefully fold both lengthwise edges under ½". Press with steam. This will give you a 1¾" wide strap, the same as the Double Diamond front-side.

Sew the Front-side to the Back-side:

- ◆ Place the front and back pieces wrong-sides together. Due to the thickness of the interfacing, a little adjusting might be needed to make the back-side width match the front-side. Pin as you go down the length of the strap.
- ◆ Using matching or invisible thread, top stitch a ⅛" seam down both lengthwise edges to secure all layers.
- ◆ Sew a straight stitch down the center of the Double Diamond to secure the flaps. You can also couch fibers or fancy yarn down the center as an embellishment. Just make sure each diamond is tucked under the next one as you sew.
- ◆ Voilà...a beautiful Double Diamond Purse Strap!

