

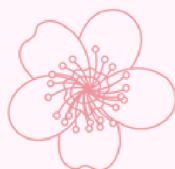
Japanese Knot Bag Making Guide

PLUS

Free full size bag
pattern for you!



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wabi-sabi

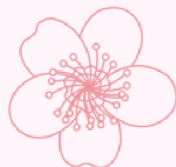


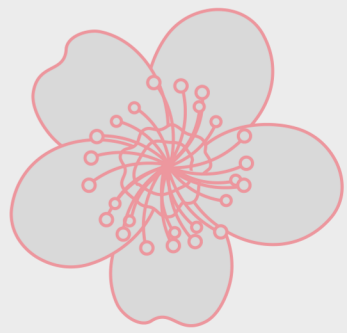


Claim your free full size
knot bag pattern
& make one for yourself



わびさび
wabi-sabi





Making your Wabi-Sabi Japanese knot bag - kit & pattern



1

The first stage of any successful sewing project is to **gather together everything you need before you start.**

Your kit comes in cardboard packaging and a biodegradable potato starch tough sack. Here at wabi-sabi we believe in avoiding plastic packaging as much as we possibly can.

Inside you will find the wabi-sabi Japanese knot bag panel in the fabric of your choice with a piece of plain lining fabric - feel free to replace this with a lining of your choice.

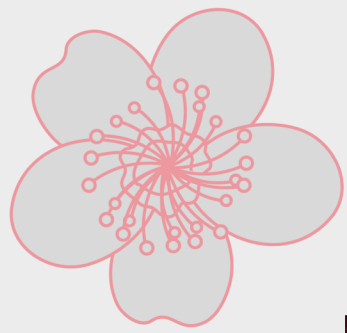
We also include a piece of ultra light weight fusible interfacing (if you have ordered the kit).

We also include a pattern and this can be used as a template and allows you to make as many bags as you want to in your own fabric in the future!

We also supply a free full size bag pattern with this kit, so you can make one for yourself too! (just subscribe to our blog and follow us on Instagram!) - let me know that you have and I will email you a free 'human' size bag pattern!

If you are using the pattern on its own please see the following pages for guidance on how to place the pattern pieces on your fabric.

We also have a video for you to follow if you prefer a visual guide!



Making your Wabi-Sabi Japanese knot bag - kit & pattern



1



Gather together everything you need

2 A sewing machine (optional)

A hand sewing needle.

Some good quality sewing thread.

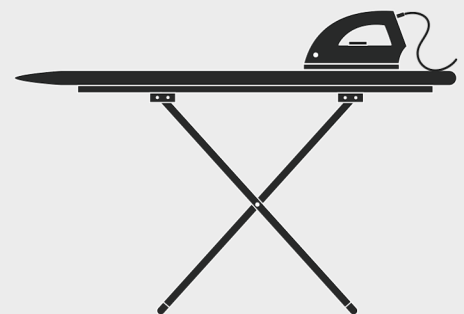
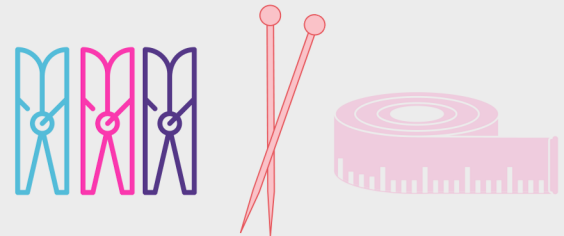
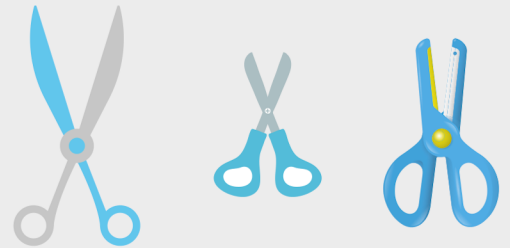
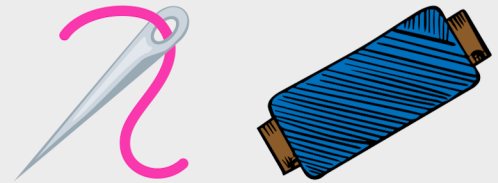
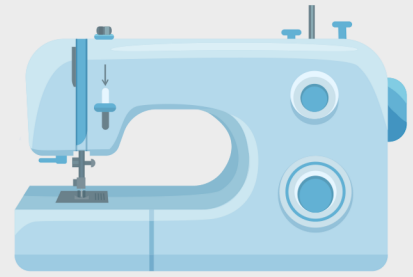
You can sew our projects together by hand or use a machine - it's up to you!

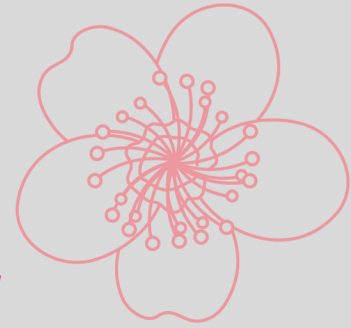
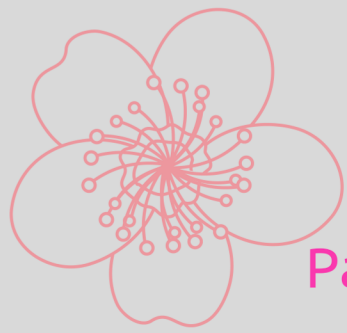
You will also need some fabric scissors for cutting out your pieces, snips for cutting loose threads are useful but not essential. If you are cutting out the paper pattern pieces you will also need some paper scissors.

Fabric clips are best to hold the layers of fabric as you sew. Adhesive seam tape is also useful.

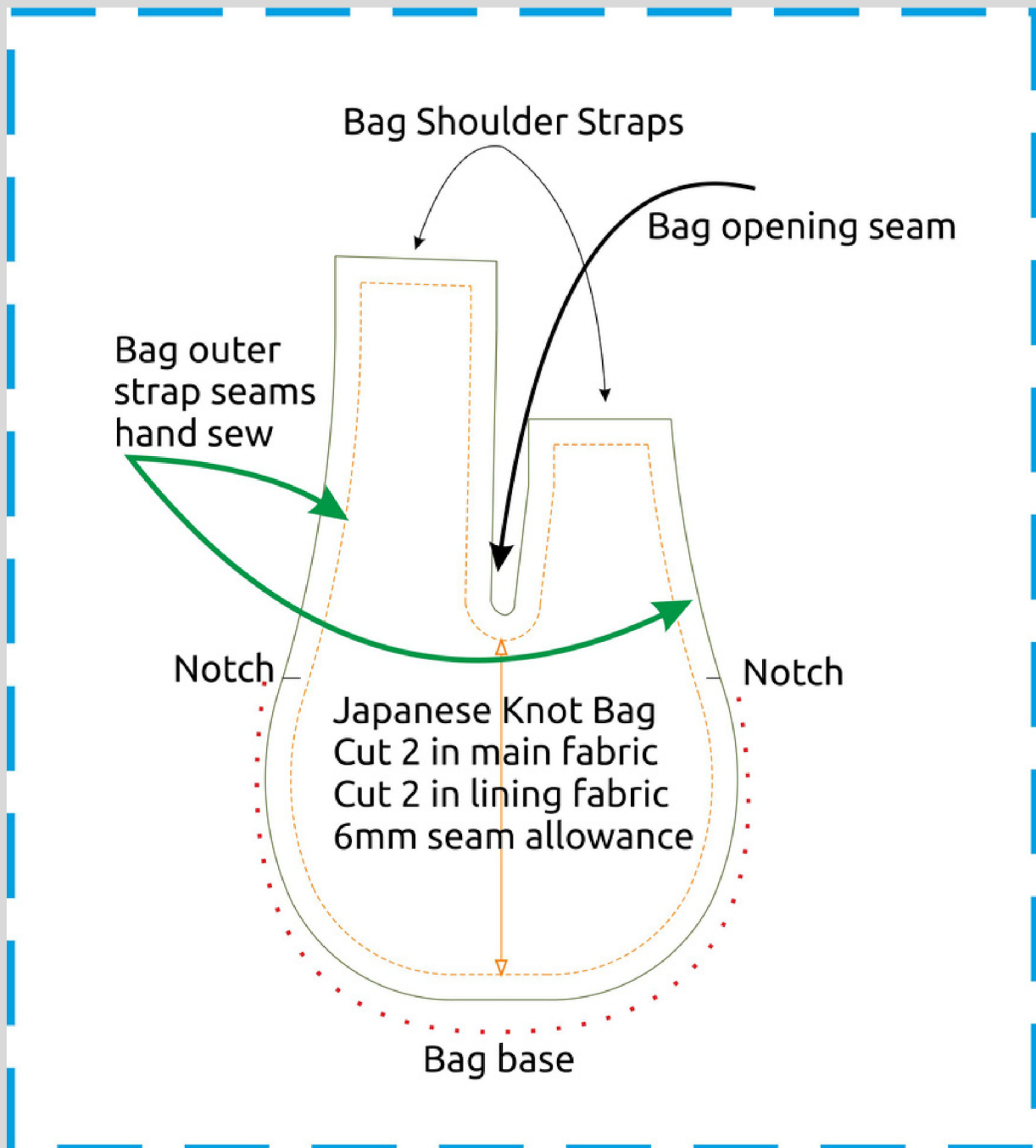
Note we do not recommend using pins if you are making for or with a child - disappearing fabric marker pens are also useful but not essential.

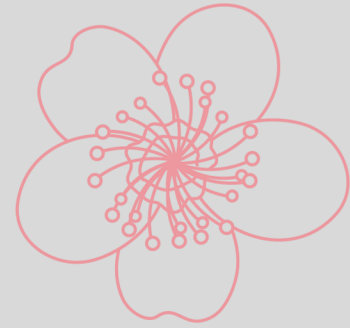
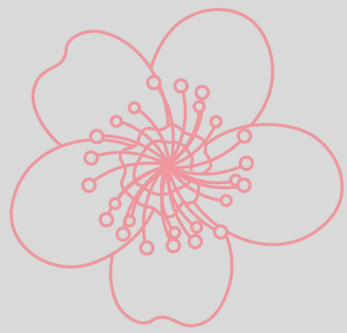
A pressing station to press your seams as you go along and again please make sure children are supervised at all times.





Parts of the bag - to help you follow the instructions





Cutting out & fusing



3 You may want to press your fabric & lining before you start to cut out.

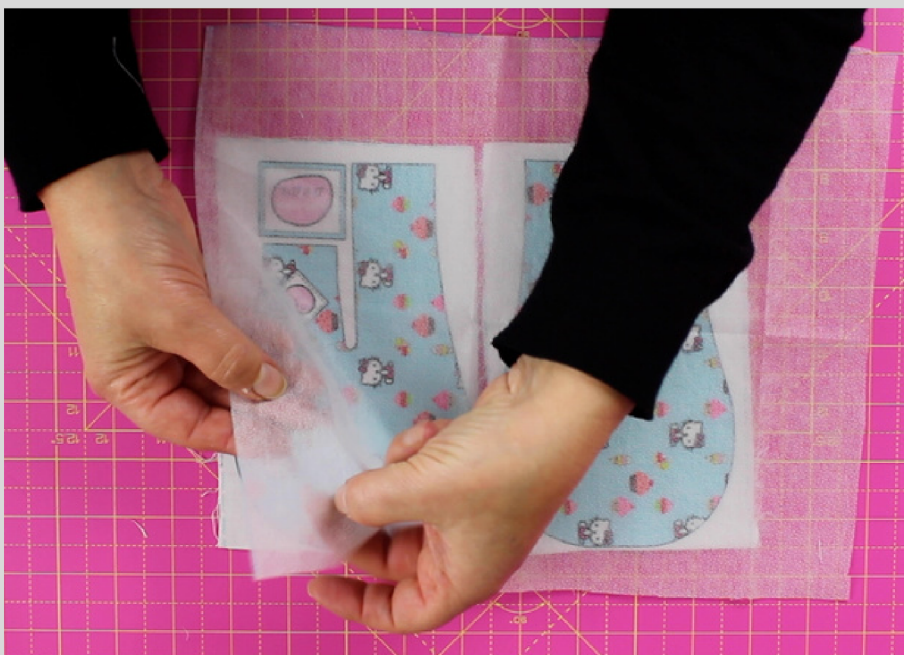
The first step is to stabilize the bag fabric pieces, this will give the bag some body and strength.

Place the sticky side of the 'couture' weight interfacing to the wrong side of the bag piece before cutting them out.

PLEASE NOTE: As we print and cut the fabric, the grain may shift a little, so take some time to gently pull the fabric into position so that it looks straight when you are placing it on the interfacing piece.

The bumpy side of the interfacing is the sticky side, the smooth side is the non sticky side.

It is advisable to test applying the fusing on a small scrap of fabric before you fuse the main pieces, to establish the heat and pressure required to fuse.

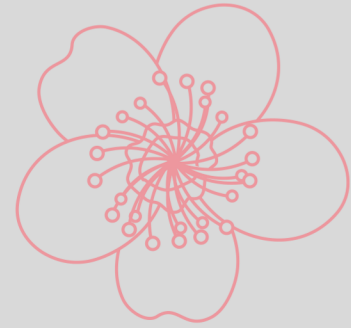
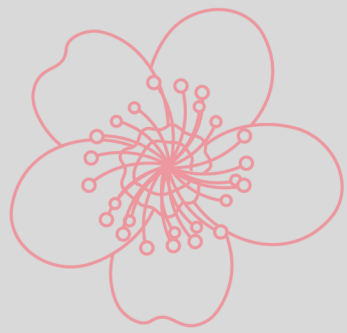


Cutting out & fusing



- 3 Trim down the interfacing so that it is the same size as your fabric piece. Preferably with no overlapping edges, as they will stick to your ironing board cover.





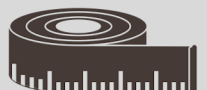
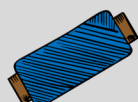
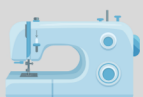
Cutting out & fusing

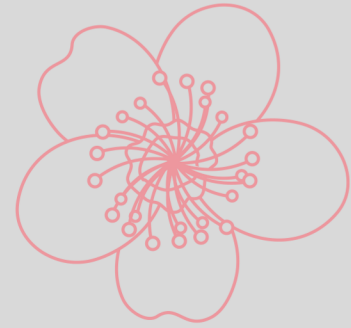
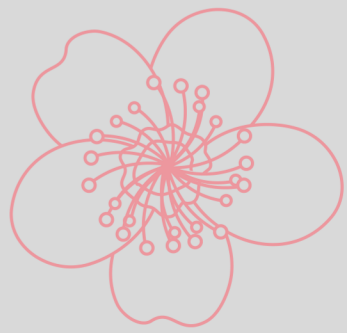


3 It is important to note that fusing is NOT an ironing motion, it is a combination of heat and pressure that allows the resin to melt and fuse to the fabric.

From the fusing side, press down and leave the iron in position for several seconds, your trial piece will tell you how long.

If you are using the pattern on its own with a fabric of your choice please follow the guidelines on the following pages for cutting out your bag in your own fabric.



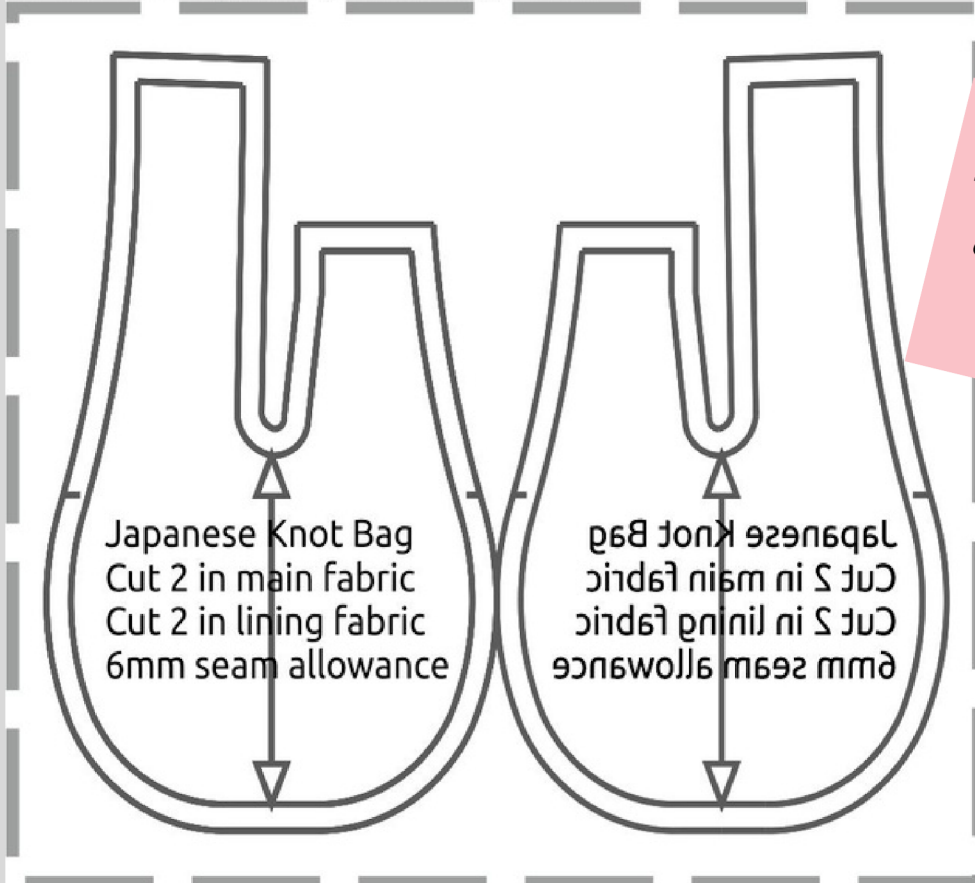


Cutting out continued

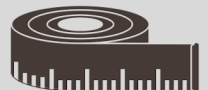
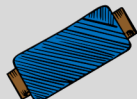
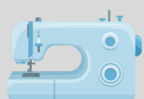
3 Here is a guide to help you cut out the bag in your own fabric - so you can carry on and make lots more bags!

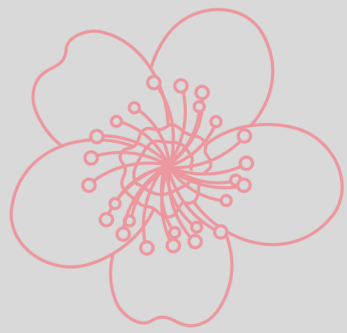
Suggested lay plan guide for cutting on a flat piece of fabric. Note that the bag pattern piece is flipped over for the second piece so that you have a pair of pieces for the bag - Cut 2 bag pieces in bag fabric and 2 in lining fabric.

Fabric piece required: 23cm x 19 cm for main fabric & the same quantity for lining fabric



Note: Flip the bag pattern piece to create a mirror image





Lets prepare to start sewing!

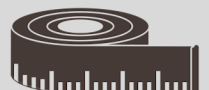
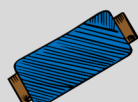
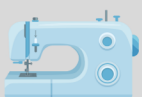
Sewing the main bag seams

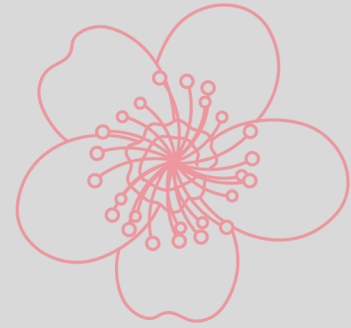
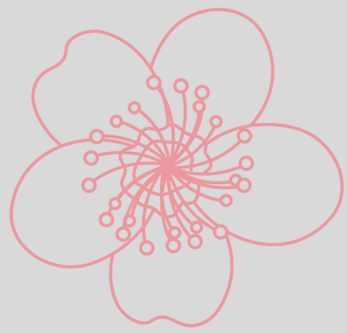


- 4** Here you can see that my bag panels are now fused, making them much stronger and more durable. It is always best to fuse the bag pieces or fabric piece you are using before cutting out, this is called block fusing and works well for bags.



The bag seams do not need to be overlocked or neatened as they are fused and also the bag is lined. The lining pieces do not require fusing.

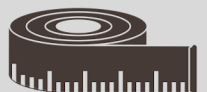
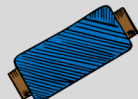
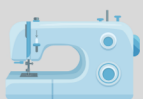
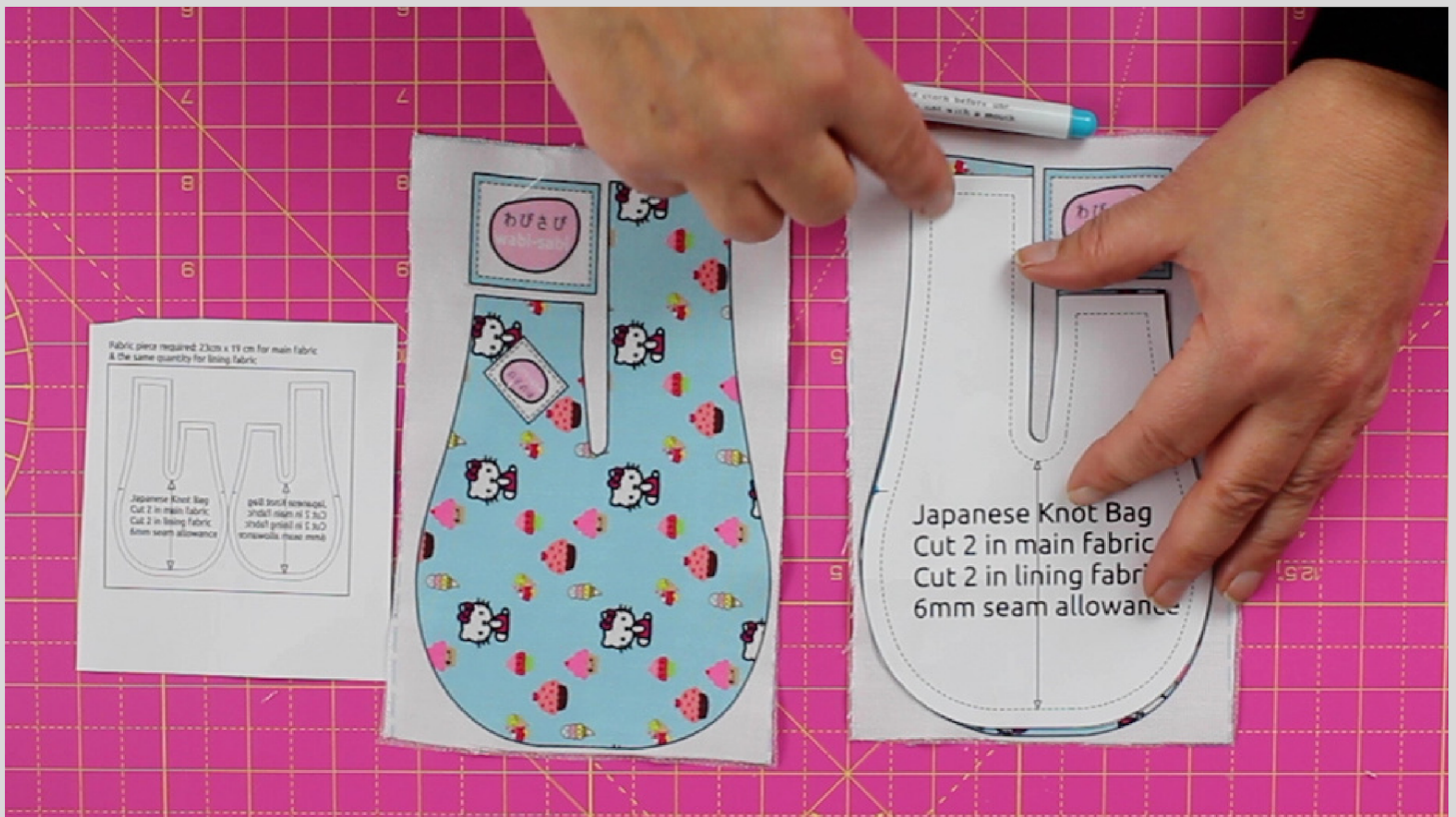


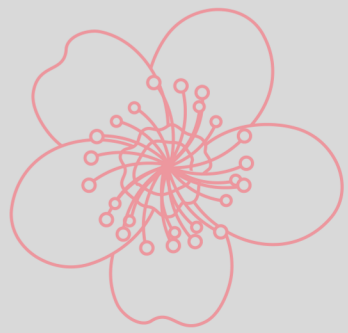


Bag & pattern shape

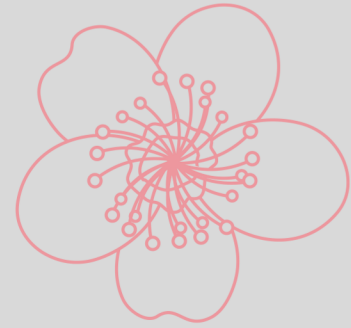
4 You may notice that the printed paper pattern pieces and the bag panel shapes do not match exactly. This is due to the printing process and will not effect the bag at all.

If you are cutting the bag in your own fabric then your bag pieces will be exactly the same shape as the pattern pieces, of course.



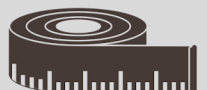
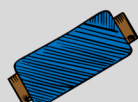
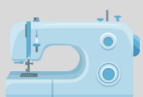
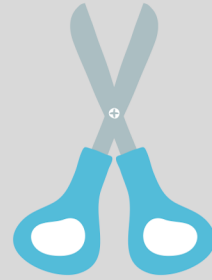


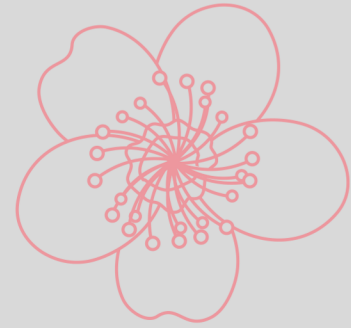
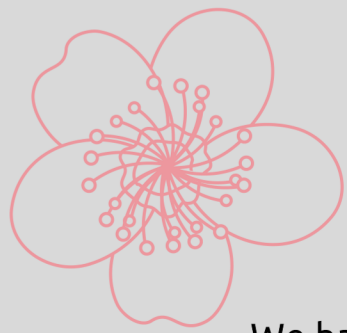
Some more pictures to help you



4

NOTE: cut just outside the perimeter of the shape

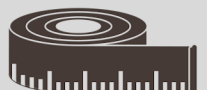
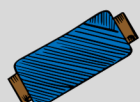
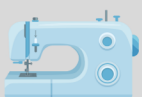


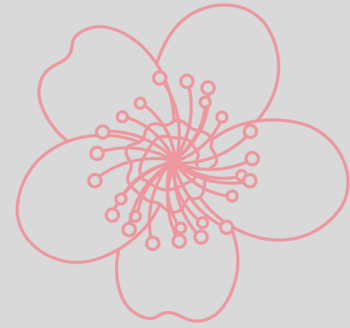


Small logo squares

4

We hate waste here at Wabi-Sabi. so we printed some small logo squares in the spare space on your fabric panel - you could use them as labels on your full size bag, or perhaps you have other ideas. We would love to see what you do with them, please share your ideas with us on Instagram and Facebook!





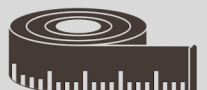
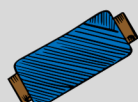
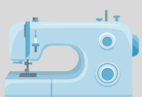
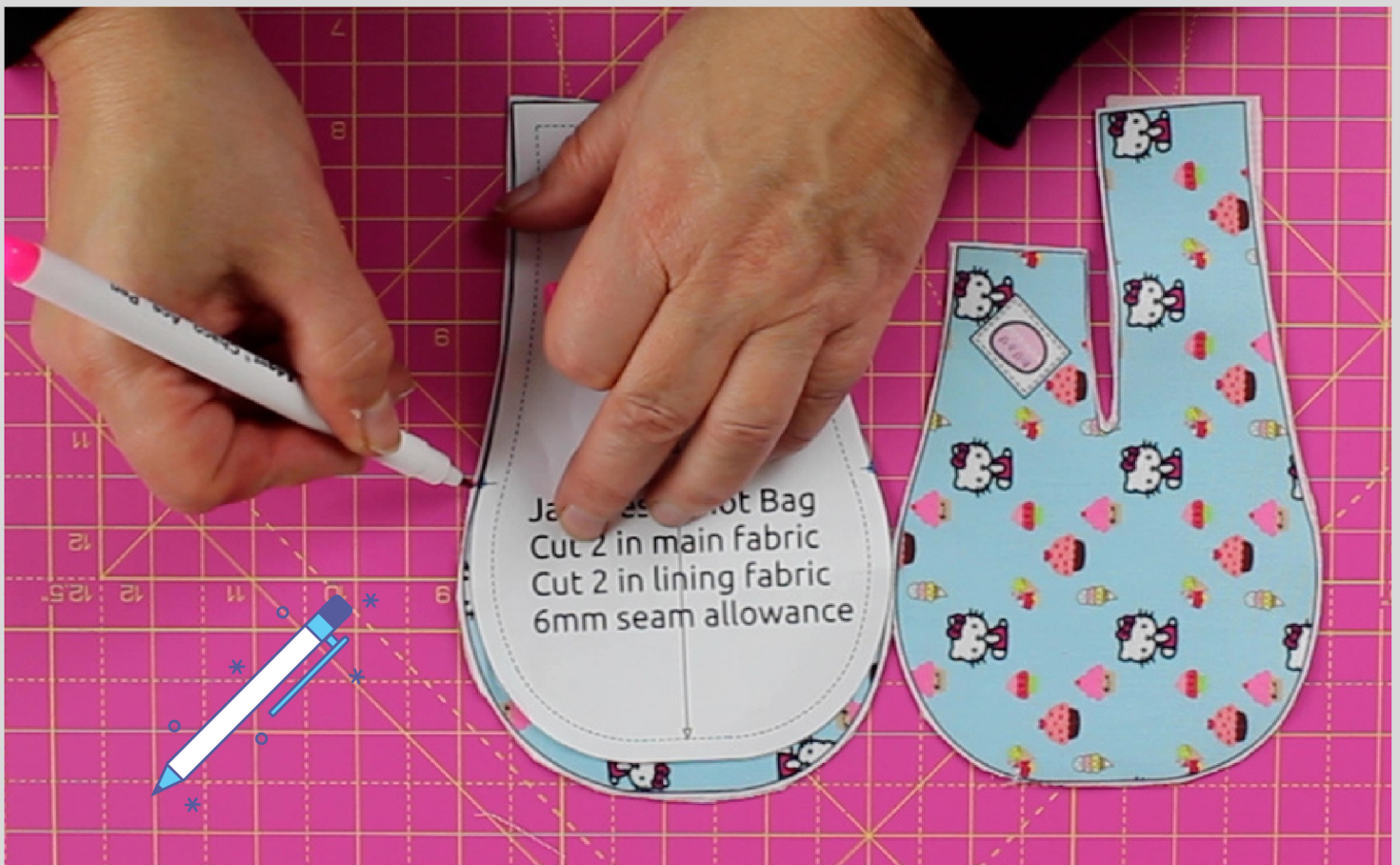
Marking the notches

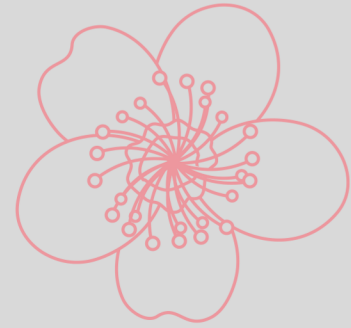
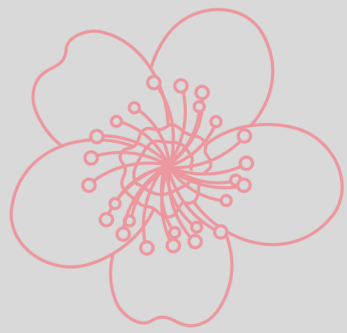
5

Now take the pattern pieces supplied and use them to mark the notches from the pattern on to the fabric pieces.

Note that the fabric may not be exactly the same shape as the pattern piece, this is due to the printing process. This doesn't matter, we only need the measurement of the notch position. Place the edge of the pattern to the edge of the bag, matching at the top and mark the notch - I use a disolvable fabric marker pen to do this.

Do the same for both bag pieces, note that you will need to flip the bag pattern piece over to mark the second bag piece.

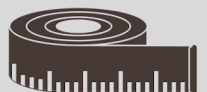
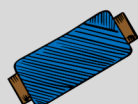
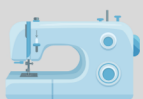
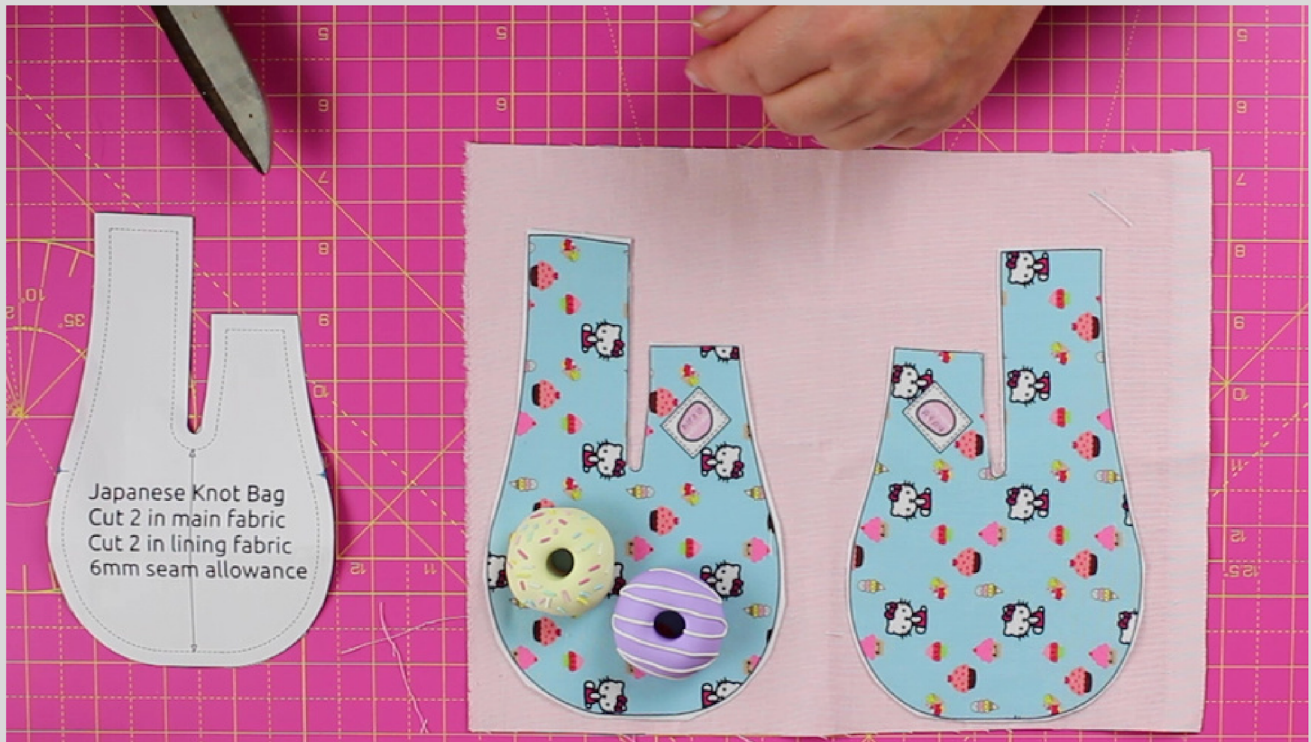


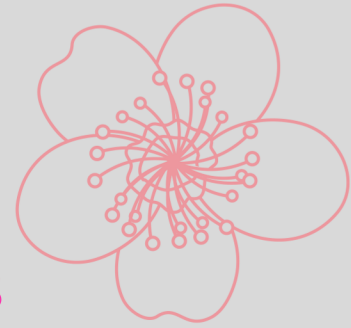
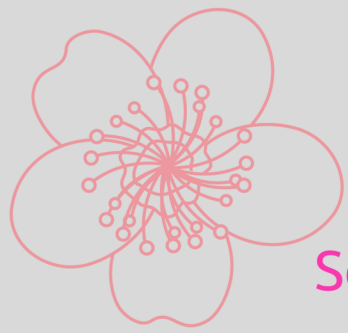


Cutting out the lining pieces

6 Use the bag pieces to cut out the lining pieces, this ensures that the bag and lining pieces are exactly the same shape.

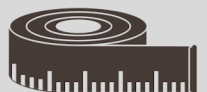
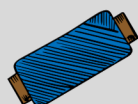
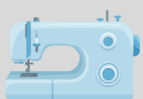
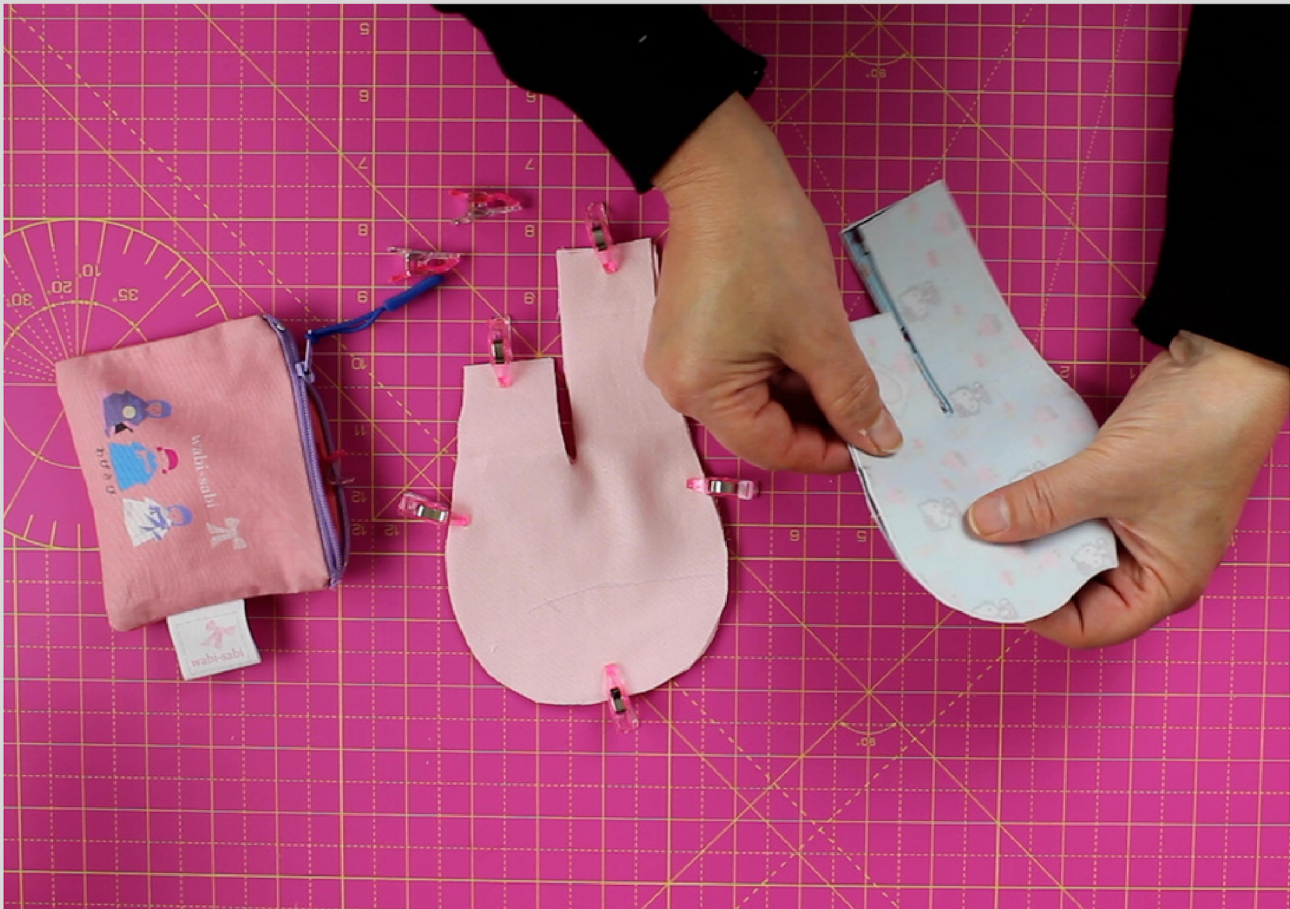
Go ahead and mark the notches on the lining sections as you did for the bag pieces.

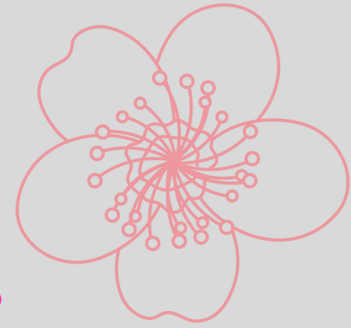




Sewing the main bag & lining seams

- 7 Place the bag pieces right sides together, do the same for the 2 lining pieces. Use clips to hold the edges in position.

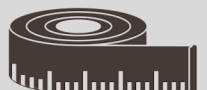
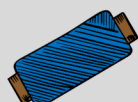
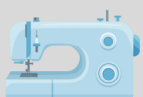
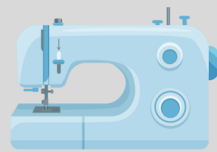


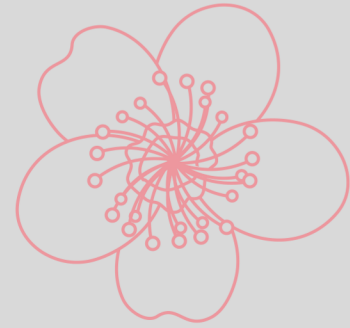
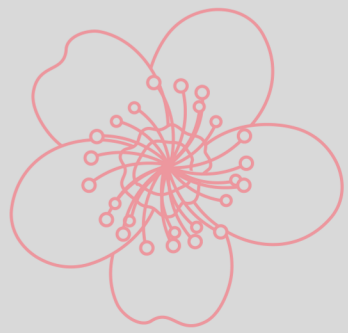


Sewing the main bag & lining seams

7 Sew the base of the bag by stitching from notch to notch do this for both bag and lining pairs.

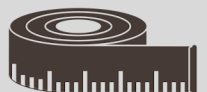
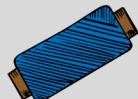
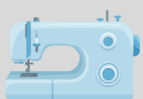
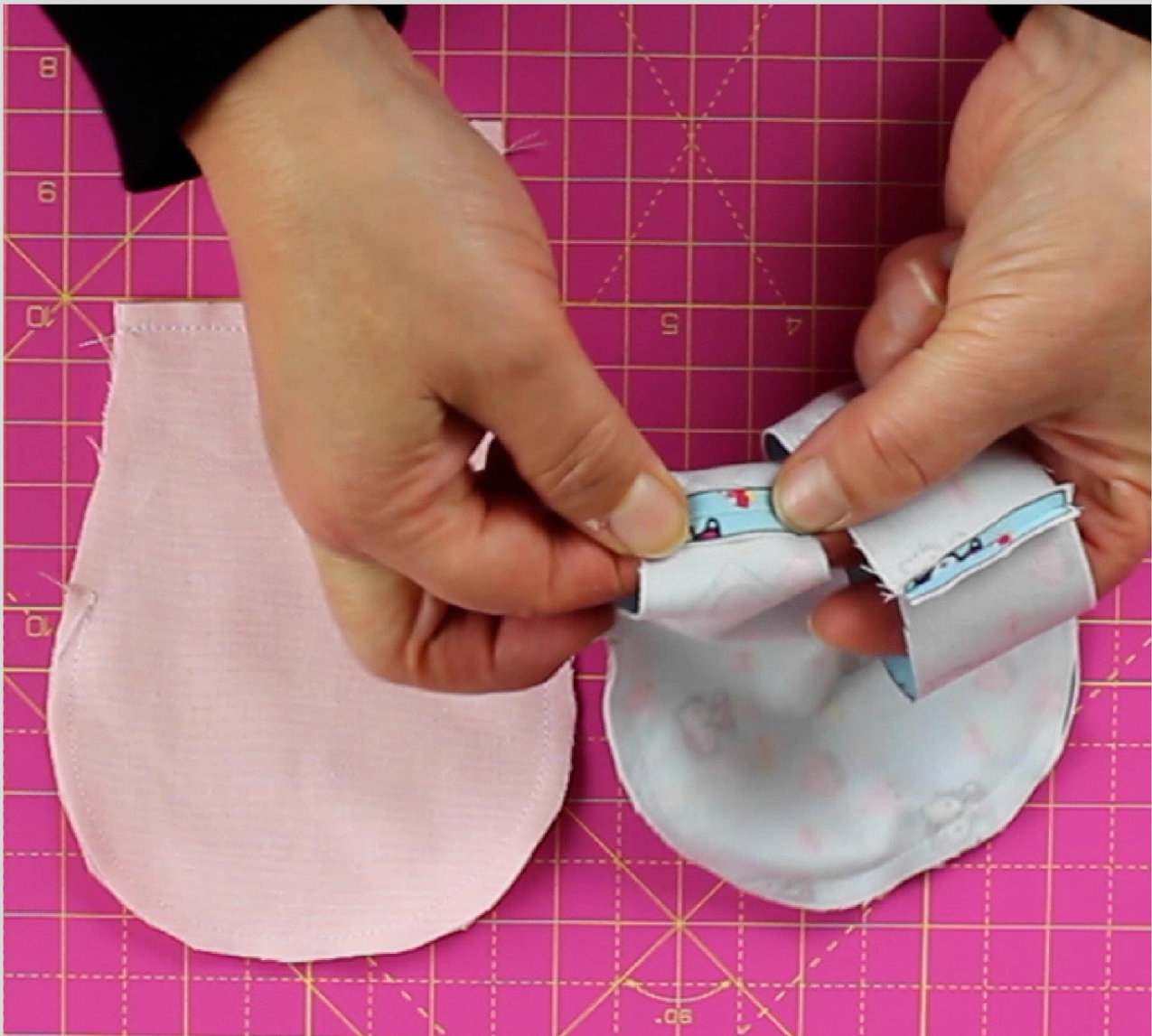
Now sew the shoulder strap seams on both sets of pieces .
Don't forget that I have a video of the making process if you need more help here.

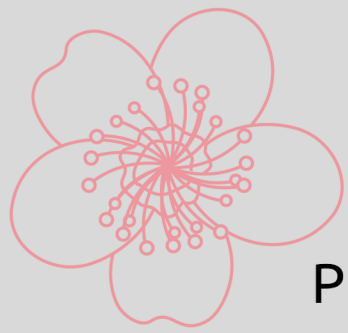




Press the strap seams open

- 8 Press the shoulder strap seams open so that they lay flat.

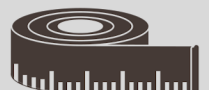
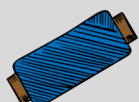
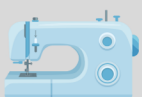




Preparing the outer bag strap seams

9

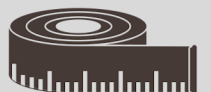
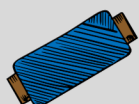
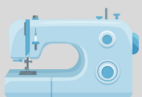
This next step is a little fiddly but it makes the final stage of the bag making process much easier - press or use adhesive seam tape to hold back the outer bag strap seam allowances. Make sure that the bag strap shoulder seams stay open when you do this. You will be hand stitching these seams later.

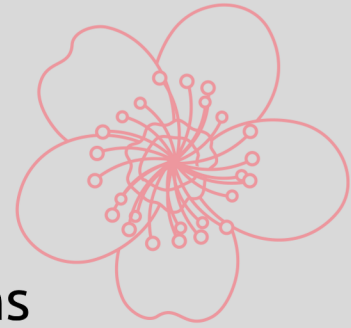
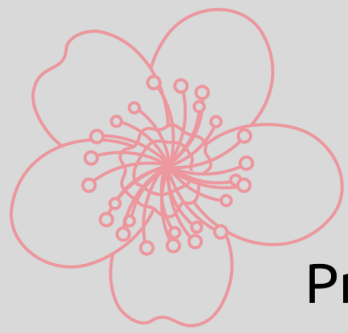


Preparing the outer bag strap seams

9

I use adhesive seam tape, but if you don't have any then you can press in creases - you are simply pressing the seam allowance back into position for later,

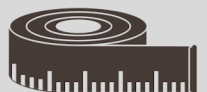
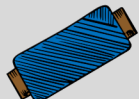
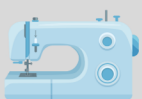


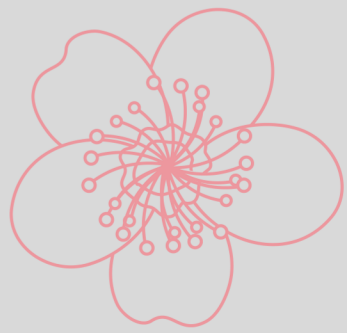


Preparing the outer bag strap seams

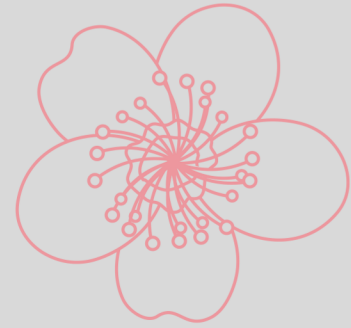
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This is how your bag will look with the outer bag strap seams held back.



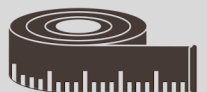
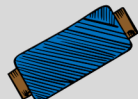
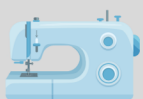
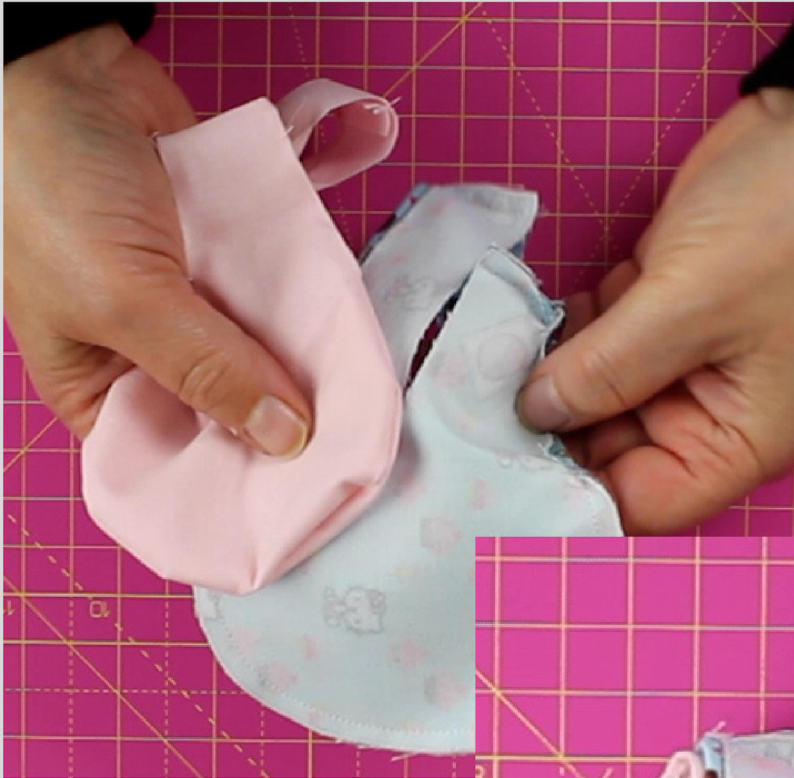


Combining the bag and lining



10

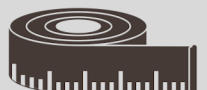
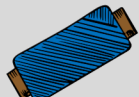
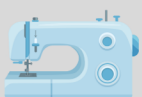
Now turn the lining through so that the right side is to the outside - slip the lining inside the bag so that all right sides are together.

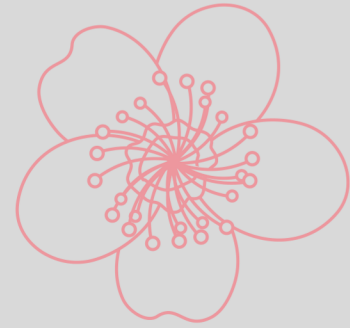
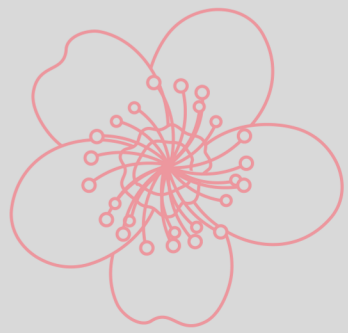


Sewing the bag opening seam

11 Hold the edges of the lining and the main bag fabric together at the bag opening seam, this seam curves, so take your time to make sure that everything is laying flat before you sew - hold into position with fabric clips.

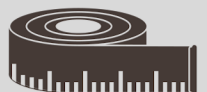
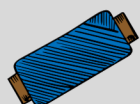
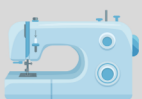
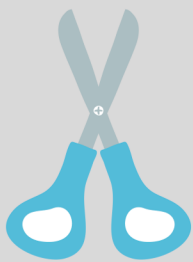
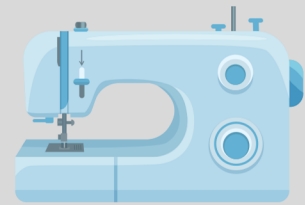
Also make sure that the bag shoulder strap seams stay open.

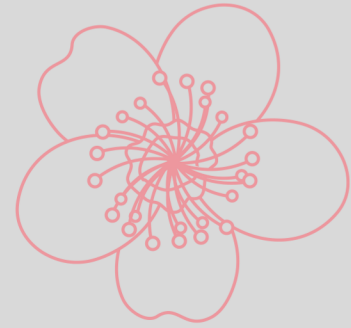
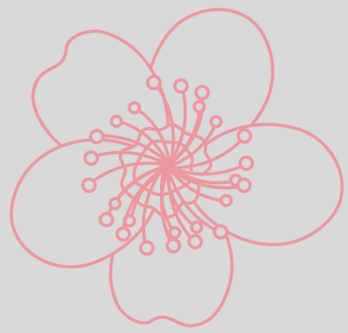




Stitch the bag opening seam

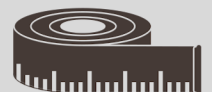
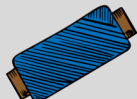
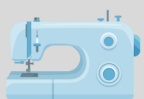
- 11** Stitch the bag opening seam, take care that all the fabric lays flat as you stitch into the curves. Now clip into the curved edges to ensure that they can open up and lie flat when you turn them through.

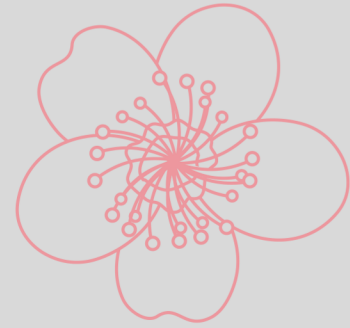
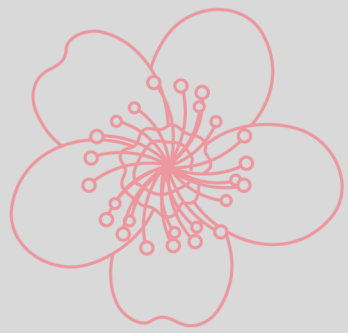




Stitch the bag opening seam

- 11** Here you can see the clipping in, this allows the curved sea, to open and lay flat when the bag is turned through

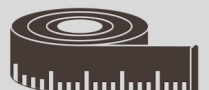
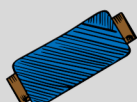
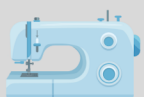


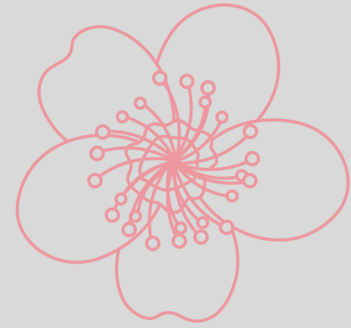
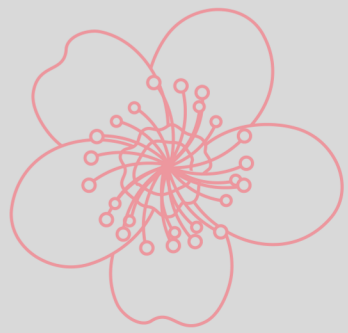


Turn the bag through

12

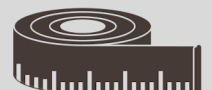
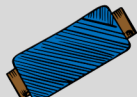
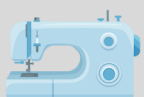
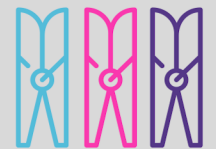
Gently pull the bag lining out so that the right side is visible - then tuck the lining inside the main bag, matching all the seams. use your fingers to pull the bag into position and gently roll the seams with the warmth of your hands to make them lay correctly.





Turn the bag through

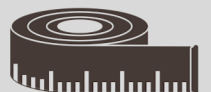
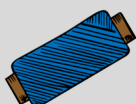
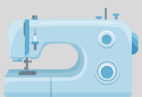
12 Make sure all seams match and lay flat - this is where the tricky work you completed earlier helps. The final stage of making the bag is much easier as we already have the seam allowance tucked inside and ready to sew.



Completing the final bag handle seams

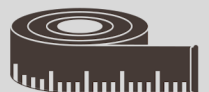
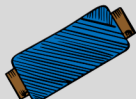
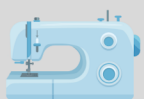
13

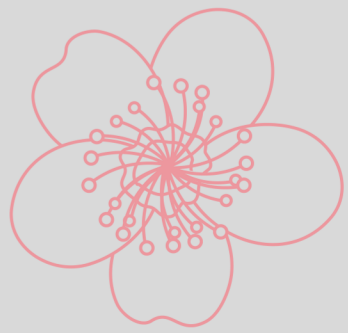
The final step is one that is best completed by hand - use a hand stitching needle to close the outer strap seams together, stitch close to the edge. I chose to sew mine by machine, but it is quite difficult and not advisable if you are a beginner. Stitch close to the edge with an overcast stitch.



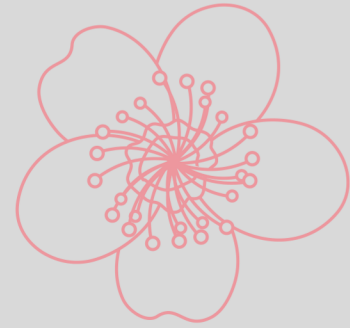
Completing the final bag handle seams

13 Trim all loose threads and gently pull the bag into shape.





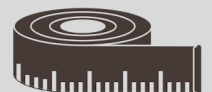
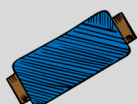
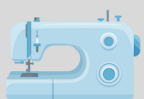
Give your bag a gentle press

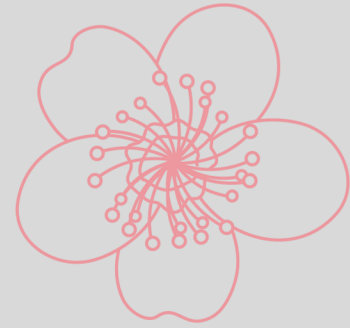
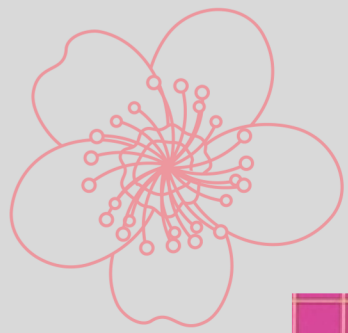


14



Your bag is complete! Give the bag a gentle press, snipping all loose threads before you try the bag on your doll.



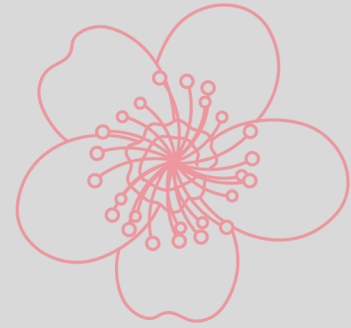
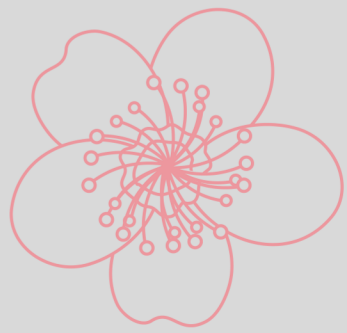


Try the bag on!



Why not make one for yourself - with our free full size PDF pattern!





Need more help?



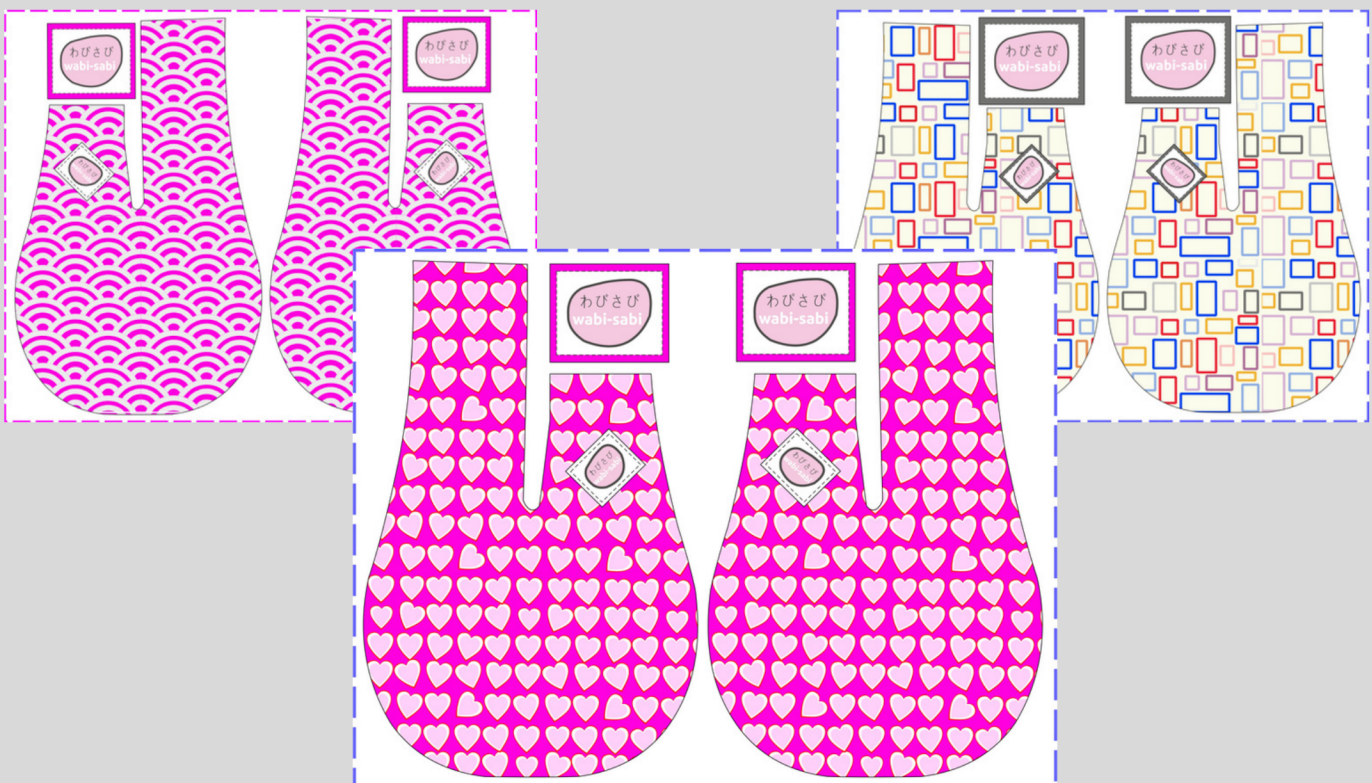
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Why not try one of our other bag kit designs we have 7 different patterns!



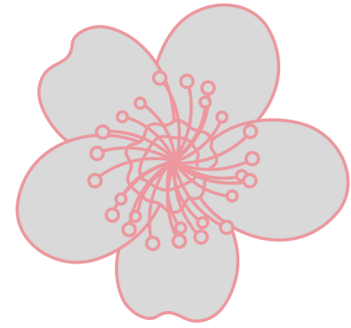
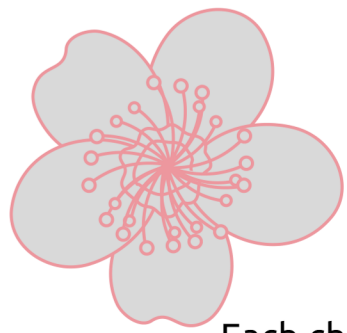
Why not try one of our other projects

Now your project is complete - why not try one of our other Wabi-Sabi doll kits - we have a range of characters!

We also have kits for our doll outfits, and each doll has it's own unique fabric and specially designed t-shirt.



Itsuki is one of our favorites!

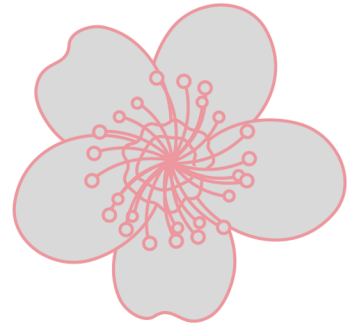
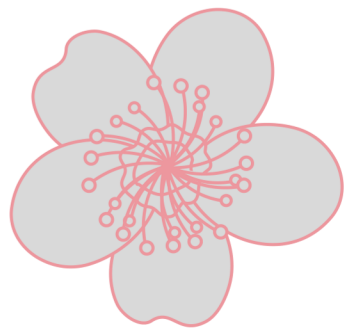


Each character has their own t-shirt and specially designed fabric!

Itsuku wearing a unique t-shirt design and shorts made in a favorite fabric.



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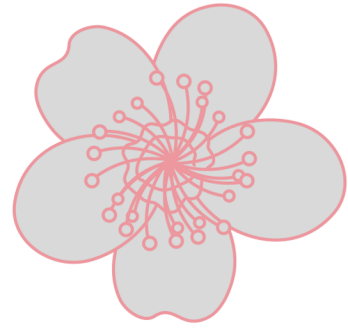
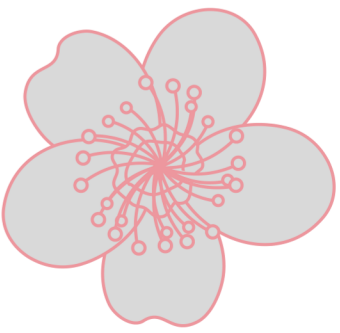


We also have lots of doll sized fabric prints and doll sizes trimmings in our Etsy shop



Have you tried our bag & purse projects?

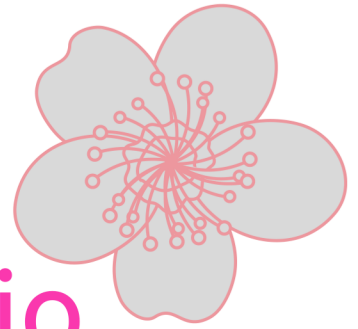
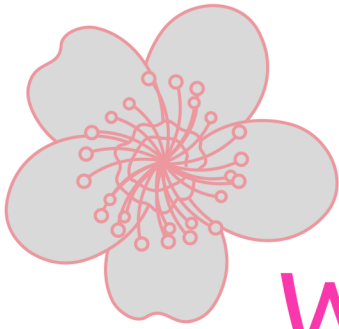




Plus lots more Wabi-Sabi creative projects!

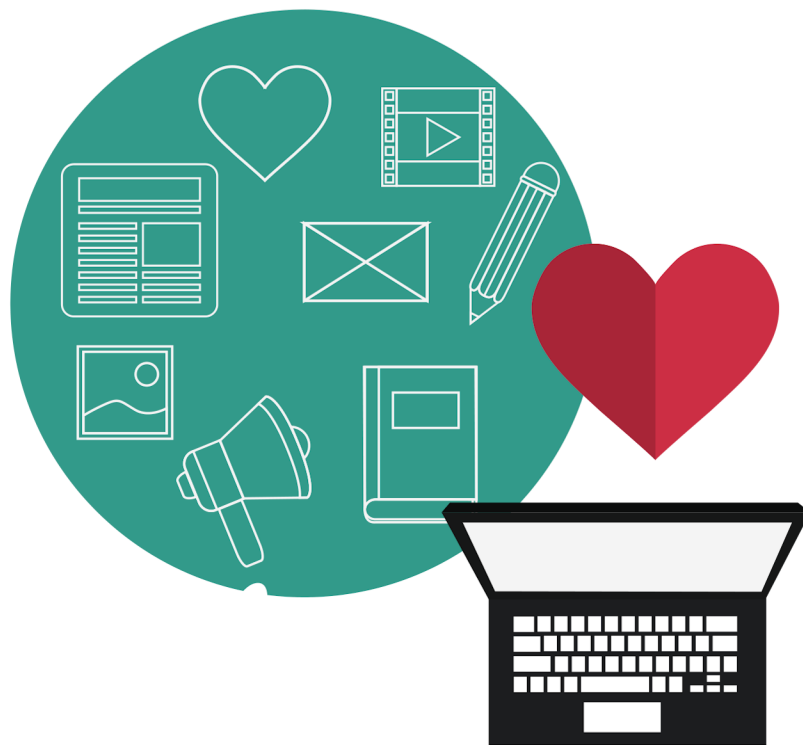


and lots more to come...



Wabi-Sabi Studio

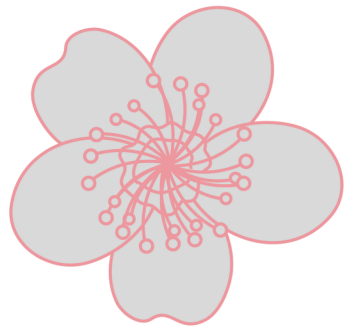
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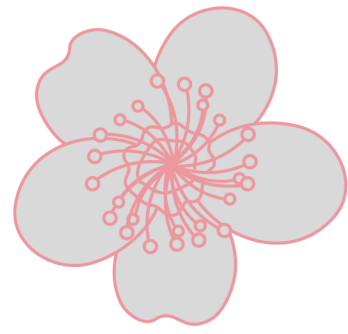
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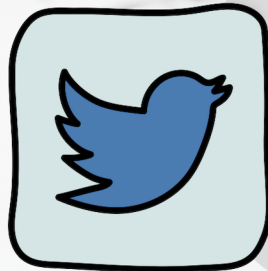
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