



How to Make Your Winner Designs Microwave Bag for Popcorn

Written by Linda Winner of www.WinnerDesigns.com

Love popcorn but don't like all of those added chemicals?!
This Popcorn Bag makes it easy to pop healthy and tasty popcorn!
Add your own seasonings to customize to your taste.



In my video, [Make a Microwave Popcorn Bag - No Raw Edges!](#), I show how to make a popcorn bag with no raw, open seams. You'll use the French Seam method to get nicely finished seams.

BTW - The Microwave Bag Template not only make a Popcorn Bag, but you can make a Potato Bag perfect for potatoes, corn on the cob and more. Check out my video to see how: ["Make a Microwave Potato Bag - No Raw Edges!"](#).

To make the Popcorn Bag, I use 3 Winner Designs Templates:

1. the [Microwave Bag Template](#)
2. the [1.5"/3.5" Box It; Square It; Place It Template](#)
3. the [2" x 5" Strap Template](#)

These templates, like all of my templates, have a No Slip Backing that **really** 'grabs' your fabric as you cut. This makes the cutting process fast, easy and accurate. This is especially important if you're making several and want them to look uniform, consistent and professional.

With fabric in the microwave, nothing is fool-proof. Be sure to read my Handout, ["How to USE Your Winner Designs Microwave Bag for Popcorn"](#). If making to give or sell, print this to include with your Popcorn Bag.

Please read directions all the way through before beginning cutting and sewing!

These directions support my [video](#) so be sure to watch it first before starting and refer to it as needed.

Materials Needed:

Templates:

[Microwave Bag Template](#) 11" x 12"
[Box It; Square It 1.5"/3.5" Template](#)
[2" x 5" Strap Template](#)

(Box It; Square It; Place It Templates have "Cut Marks" so you can cut into the corner to create boxed corners. Check out my [Cut & Sew Perfect Boxed Corners!](#) video to see how they work!)

Fabrics:

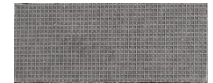
- Outer - 100% cotton non-directional fabric (no metallics) at least 12" x 25"
- Lining - 100% cotton non-directional fabric (no metallics) at least 12" x 25"
- Strap (optional)- 100% cotton non-directional fabric (no metallics) at least 12" x 25"
- You'll find lots of suggestions about fabrics and **washing your fabrics** on the [video](#)

Other:

Sewing Machine, Basic Sewing Supplies, Iron, Scissors, [Clips](#) or Pins, [Stiletto](#)
[100% Cotton Thread](#)
[Heat Erasable Fabric Marker](#) or Pencil
[Metallic Template Marker](#)

1. Cut Outer and Lining Fabrics:

- a. Start with Outer Fabric and Lining Fabric bigger than double the length of the [Microwave Bag Template](#).
- b. Fold Outer Fabric in half right or wrong sides together lengthwise so that it's just a bit larger than 11" x 12".
- c. Place template so bottom of template is evenly lined up with the fold of fabric.
- d. Use your rotary cutter to cut around the 3 raw edges of the fabric. Put aside for a minute.
- e. Repeat process with lining fabric.
- f. Put these 2 pieces aside for a few minutes to cut the Strap.



No Slip Backing



Microwave Bag, Strap, Box It Templates



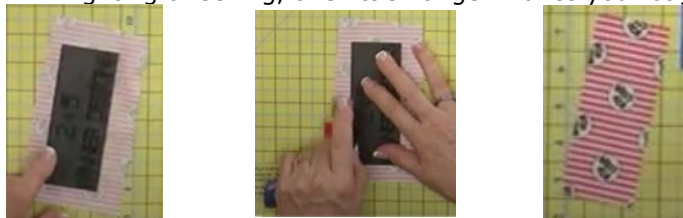
Cut Marks

2. Cut Optional Strap:

- Use the [2" x 5" Strap Template](#) to cut 1 piece of fabric for your 2" x 5" Strap/Handle.

This Strap is optional but it's nice to add for a few reasons:

- It gives a bit of safety and security when removing the Popcorn Bag from the microwave as the bag will be hot!
- A hanger is a great way to hang your bag when not in use.
- If gifting or selling, this little hanger makes your bag stand out from others!



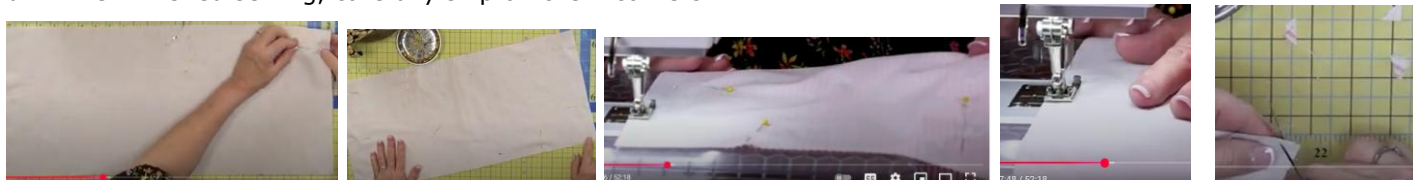
3. Sew Optional Handle/Tab:

- At ironing board or cutting mat, fold one long edge of the 2" x 5" fabric in towards center but less than you normally would if creating binding. (see pic) You can press, finger press, or use a stiletto as I did in the video.
- Turn fabric and fold other side towards center.
- Then fold the 2 folded edges in towards center. Give it a good 'press' whether with your iron, finger or stiletto.
- At sewing machine, stitch close to the edge down the side where the 2 folded fabrics are lined up evenly. Turn and stitch down short side, then turn and stitch down folded side. Turn again and stitch short end of fabric.
- Fold in half lengthwise so the 2 small edges are lined up evenly. Stitch the 2 ends together close to the edges.
- Put aside for now.



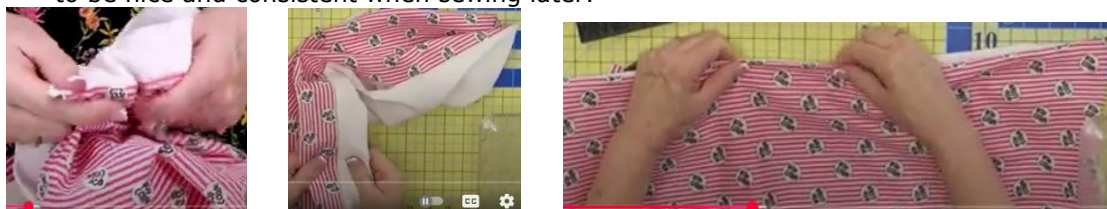
4. Sew Outer and Lining Fabrics Together:

- Take Outer Fabric and Lining Fabric and place the 2 fabrics right sides together.
- Pin or clip all the way around but leave an opening about 2" on one of the long sides about 5" - 6" from the edge. Place a pin going in the opposite direction to note where this turning area will be.
- At the sewing machine, use a 1/4" seam allowance and stitch all around except where you've pinned to make the turning area. Backstitch at the beginning and end of turning area.
- When finished sewing, carefully snip off the 4 corners.



5. At Ironing Board and Cutting Mat:

- Turn fabrics right sides out.
- Use a [Stiletto](#) or turning tool to carefully poke out all 4 corners.
- We'll sew right sides together later so all edges needs to line up evenly. To 'open up' your seams, I like to give a good 'pull' to separate the lining and outer fabrics. This helps eliminate excess bulk inside the seams.
- In addition, use your fingers to 'roll' the outer fabric and lining fabric to open seams even more.
- At the ironing board, press well. If needed, pull outer fabric and lining fabric apart and press the seams then line them up and press again. This should give you the shape that you sewed before turning making the edges line up to be nice and consistent when sewing later.



- Tuck in unsewn turning area and line up evenly then press that area well. This will be stitched closed later.



6. Fold and Pin or Clip your Popcorn Bag

For the popcorn to stay inside the bag when popping, we need to create an overlap in the bag or a fold over at the top. This will be folded back to add un-popped popcorn and then again to remove the popcorn after it's popped.

- With right side up on outer fabric, fold one finished edge back about 3" – 3 ½". (You might notice that the red bag has a larger folded area than the black bag. If making many play around to see what you like best. I like the flap on the red!)
- I use the [Box It; Square It 1.5"/3.5"](#) Template as a guide but you can use whatever you have. Pin then move template to the other side to make sure that the width is consistent from left to right.
- Make sure, when pinned or clipped, that both left and right sides are consistent.
- Take other long end of right side of fabric and fold on top of folded back fabric. Line up all folded edges evenly.
- Reposition bottom pins or clips to hold down small folded plus the large piece that's been folded on top.
- Add clips or pins to the left and right sides.

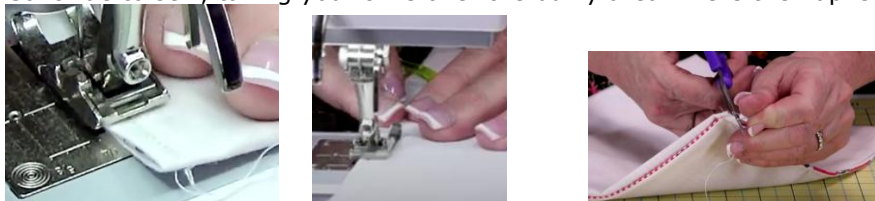


7. Pin and Sew Strap and Sides to Create your Bag:

- Locate where the unsewn turning area is. (If you've watched my video, you might have heard a 'bloop' here that wasn't edited out!)
- Place strap with the folded edges going inside your bag just below the 3.5" folded down area. Pin or clip in place. If you like, stitch it down ahead of time.
- Using a ¼" seam allowance, start sewing at the folded area on the side without the strap.
- Take your time when you get to the area that's been folded back and sew to the end, backstitching at the edge.



- When finished, flip it over and stitch the area where it has been folded over again. One side done!
- Flip bag to the other side that has the strap. Begin sewing at the folded edge, backstitching at the start.
- When you get to the area where the strap has been pinned in place, remove the pin and carefully stitch over that area back and forth a few times to secure the strap in place.
- Continue to sew, taking your time over the bulky area where the flap is. Turn over and stitch the area again.



- Trim off threads.
- Turn right sides out and 'fanagle' your fabrics. Push out sides and corners at the top and bottom so seams are nice and open.
- Give everything a good press, especially at the bottom corners, pulling fabrics so there's no bulk at the seams.

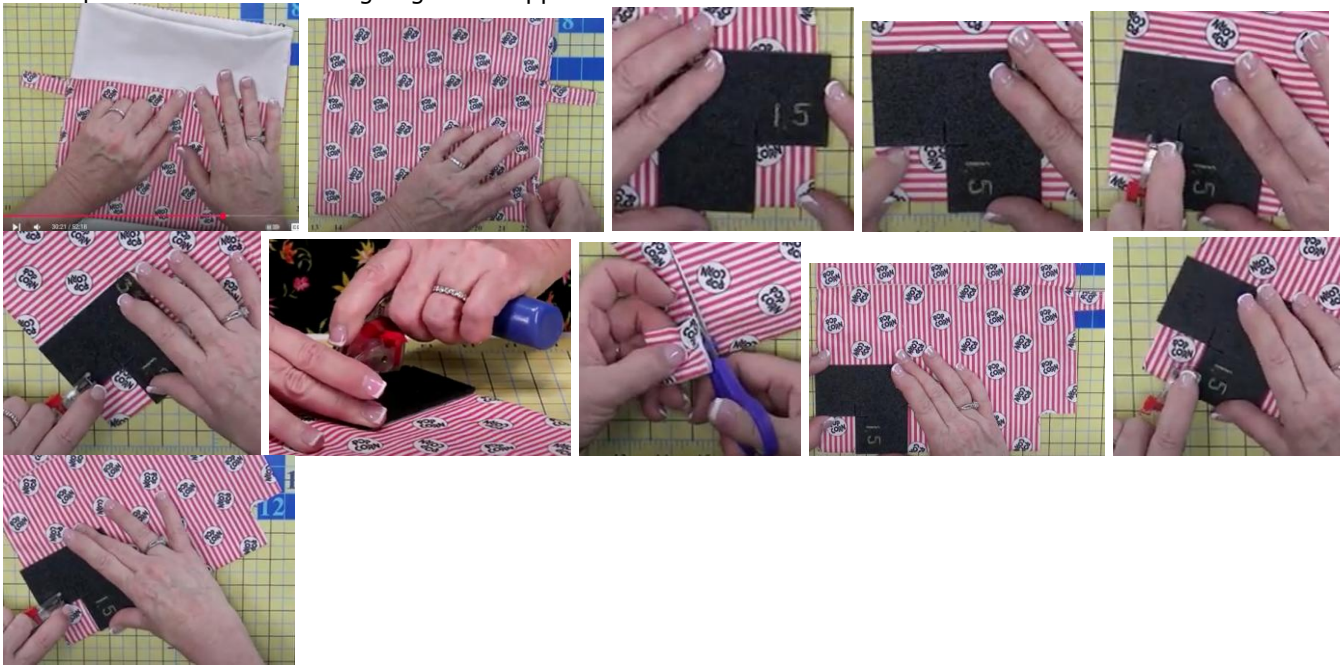
8. Cut Boxed Corners (watch [video](#) at around 30 minutes):

To create the boxed corners, I use the inside part of my [1.5"/3.5" Box It; Square It; Place It Template](#) which is 1.5". But you can use whatever method you like. Watch my [Cut & Sew Perfect Boxed Corners!](#) video for more.

I also use my rotary cutter but you could use a marking tool and the template to draw lines then cut with scissors. If using the template, practice first on scrap fabric to get the feel of the template and the Cut Marks.

- Prepare your bag first by pulling out fabrics at the bottom seams so there's no excess bulk inside. Then press so they are 'open' and flat.
- Keep in mind that you have sewn side seams but no sewn bottom seam since the fabric was folded at the bottom. To make the boxed bottoms consistent, we'll move the template to line up evenly with the folded edge at the bottom. But on the sides, we'll move the template past the sewn edge about ¼" to account for the seam allowance. I like to turn my fabric and template to a position to make each cut easier.

- c. Keeping your non cutting hand out of the way of the rotary cutter, cut one side into the Cut Marks. To remove your cutter, place your non cutting palm down on top of the template. Lift the cutter up and back towards you.
- d. Reposition your rotary cutter on the 2nd side of the Box It Template and cut.
- e. You may need to use scissors to trim a few threads since you've got one bulky side and another side that is not. If you're not comfortable, use a marking tool and draw your lines with the template then cut with scissors.
- f. Repeat the boxed corner going in the opposite direction on the other side.



9. Sew Boxed Corners (watch [video](#) at 33 minutes 50 seconds):

- a. Fold the top flap open and reach inside one side of the area that has just been cut.
- b. Move the fabrics so the cuts line up nice and even to form your boxed bottom.
- c. Check that the lining fabrics are lining down nice and flat without any puckers.
- d. Use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance or even a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " and stitch from one edge to the other, backstitching at the beginning and end and also at the middle seams.
- e. Repeat the process on the other side.
- f. Trim threads and any excess bulk. If you have a wider seam, trim it down consistently so that it won't show in the next step.



10. Sew French Seams (watch [video](#) at 36 minutes 20 seconds):

- a. Now that your bottoms are sewn, turn the bag so the raw edges are inside. Check your sewing to make sure you there are no areas where the fabric was missed.
- b. Reach inside and push out the bottom corners to make them as flat and consistent as possible.
- c. With French Seams, we want the raw edges that were just sewn to become invisible inside of the seams that we'll now sew. If you trimmed down your seams, use $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. If not, use a bit wider than a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.
- d. At the machine, work on the side with the side seam facing up. Stitch from one corner to the other, backstitching at the beginning and end.

- e. Peek inside your bag to check out your seam. You may even want to turn it out to check. You want a nice finished edge with no raw edges or threads showing.
- f. If needed, rip out the stitches and sew again with a larger seam allowance. Or trim down the raw edges a bit then stitch again.
- g. Repeat for the other side. Trim all threads.
- h. Turn right sides out and play with the bottoms so the corners are pushed out and look nice.
- i. Give everything a good press.



That's it; you're done!



Watch the end of my [video](#) for more on how to use your bag, different seasonings, etc.

Print out my ["How to Use Your Popcorn Bag" Handout](#).

Then call someone and head to your kitchen to pop some popcorn!

Grab those flavored salts and see which you like best. Or make up your own concoctions.

Gather round the TV and watch a favorite movie or show.

Or, plan a special occasion by creating a slide show with old photos and videos and take a trip down memory lane!

I promise whoever sees this Popcorn Bag will want there own! Christmas gift or birthday gift? Done!

Find tins, bins, boxes or bags that will hold a bag of unpopped popcorn, a couple of different seasonings, a can of Popcorn Spray, the Popcorn Bag and the ["How to Use...Handout"](#). What a great gift to give or sell!

The more you make, the better they will look and the easier and faster they'll be to stitch up. Make one then use the assembly line method for all the others. Have fun!

You can find lots of other No Slip Templates at www.WinnerDesigns.com. Want a custom template? Just call!

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