



Simply Sublime Bags: 30 No-Sew, Low-Sew Projects

Jodi Kahn

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random house why break the bank for a designer bag when you can easily make your own unique fashion statement in simply sublime bags you ll find 30 do it yourself clever and affordable handbag projects all of which require little to no sewing. with inventive methods of construction like duct taped reinforced and iron fusing these hip handbags totes and clutches have all the looks that bag lovers want the shine of patent leather chanel style chain straps or even funky logos and each can be personalized to your own taste. the materials are easy to find in hardware home office supply and fabric stores sometimes even in your own closet softcover 128 pages. made in usa.

Simply Sublime Bags: 30 No-Sew, Low-Sew Projects Details

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Penelope says

These projects go beyond most of your typical no-sew bags and you can make some tote worthy bags with just a stapler and duct tape. These are great projects for teens and craft groups, but not for the sewing enthusiast. If you want a quick, easy project that you can be proud of and don't need to haul out the sewing machine, there are many stylish options in this book that would fit the bill. Happy stapling.

Jenni says

Everything in the book is super cute, for sure. I liked that most of the purses could be created from recycled things and the book doesn't necessarily urge you to go out and get fancy fabric. There was some repetition of styles (at least two different purses that were just your basic "placemat purse"), but overall, it was fun to read. The only thing I was kind of surprised by was the tagline for the book ("No-Sew, Low-Sew") actually meaning, "You can duck tape some of these things together."

Adriana says

Easy instructions and nice designs. Many of the bags that are in stores can be made at home with inexpensive materials.

Tamara says

Bags are exhausting. But I love some of the designs. This even shows you how to make bags out of pillowcases, old Twister boards, and placemats. No-sew, low-sew and recycled products are featured. Very cool for the hip crafter

Joanie says

eeehh... I hope you like oil cloth...

Dorcas says

Going to try out the zipper pouch and keyhole clutch for the library. Yay, for duct tape and staples. :)

Lynne says

I may well try making a tote bag from place mats!

Casey says

I liked this book, it was just what I was expecting ... clever, sometimes off-the-wall, ideas for making bags at home. The subtitle of "Low-sew, no-sew" is true, since many bags need no sewing (staples & duct tape, anyone?), and the ones that do need sewing are so simple even I (!) could manage it!

I also like where she gets her materials from ... she uses things such as placemats and pillowcases which are already sewn, to reduce the amount of sewing required. And the pillowcases are the zippered kind - so no need to sew a zipper!

I think my favorite idea is the simple, vinyl makeup bag, which you melt the seams together using an iron. No sew!

Her ideas were very creative, and even if you don't like any of the bags in the book, it will get you thinking outside of the box and help you make your own creative bag.

Rebecca says

I think I may have found my calling. Sewing is fast and this book provides great instructions for incredible stuff!

Marsha says

interesting bags with interesting materials, but nothing startling.

JayeL says

I really only glanced through this book as it is due at the library and I am not going to have much time to get to know it intimately. One of the things I like about it is the tone in which the author writes. Her introduction is really nice in that she tells the story of her sewing life.

As with many project books, there are a few projects that I really like and others that I would never make. Still, Jodi Kahn talks about the project in a conversational way. She tells the reader why he is having them do things and gives tips about the materials. There is an undertone of encouragement in the writing, which I like.

I also like the novel materials that she uses. One thing that I thought was a great idea was the t-shirt bag. She

uses Duct tape a interfacing, which I think is ingenious.

Definitely worth a look.

Allison says

This book is full of great, fashionable, affordable AND EASY bag ideas. Although I would've liked to see a little more variation in the bags shown (and less use of duct tape), the book was EXACTLY as I expected, and like I said, many of the ideas are downright cute and trendy.

Overall, a great book!

Mary McDonough says

I guess in general, with crafts and sewing, you get back what you put in. This book's focus is keeping you away from the sewing machine, and I'd much rather stitch a bag than use tape or other adhesives. Not for me. I didn't like the look of the finished products.

Ligaya says

Interesting, but ultimately nothing new here. I always worry about the durability of projects like these and would much prefer putting in the (slight increase in) effort that sewing a seam would give a handbag over a melted vinyl "seam" but if you don't have a sewing machine, I guess you're stuck. Some projects are clever AND pretty, some are laughable, some look like kids' camp crafts. I don't think anyone would mistake silver bubble wrap as a Chanel bag. I liked the reuse of wrappers, Monopoly money, and duct tape as fabric - that idea has lots of possibilities.

Rebecca Schweitzer says

Overview: If you ever wanted to try your hand at making your own purse, but you have little or no sewing skills, start with this book. From purses lined with duct tape to potholder glasses cases to the chic place mat bag on the cover, you'll find project made from affordable materials that actually look like nice bags.

Pros: About half of the book offers true no-sew and low-sew projects that can easily be made by anyone who is new to sewing, crafts or DIY anything. Best of all, the materials are common-place and inexpensive so you don't have to make a big investment to try things. You'll find bags made from pillow cases, place mats, ribbon, old T-shirts, wallpaper, candy wrappers and even a bubble mailer. The bags get upscale touches from craft store purse handles, zippers and closures, which are easy to find and often on sale or clearance because of changing styles. You won't find yourself in the sewing expert section of any fabric stores. In fact, you'll find most of your supplies at the dollar store or even laying around your own house.

Also, the book offered a good mix of teen girl crafts like candy wrapper pouches and grown-up options like a

ribbon clutch. A lot of the bags don't look crafty or homemade at all, at least not in the professional photos in the book...

The other half of the book lands itself in the con section below for sewing machine requirements. However, the sewing machine projects are still simple enough that they would be a great place to sewing machine novices to start learning.

Cons: The book's tag line, "30 no-sew, low-sew projects," impiled a needle and thread would be the most required so I expected my lack of sewing machine would be no problem. However, as mentioned above, such a machine would actually be quite helpful with about half of the projects. And most of the bags that need a sewing machine are exponentially cuter than the ones that don't. I was a bit bummed because I think I'm beyond the candy wrapper travel pouch days and what to make the grown-up place mat tote bag.

Favorite Projects: Perhaps the easiest sewing related project is the pot holder case. Find a cute pot holder, fold it in half, whip stitch the bottom and side. Keep you glasses, sun glasses, iPod, smart phone or (if you find a larger top holder) your Nintendo DS cozy and stratch-free inside. I'm currently tracking down the perfect pot holders for my sunglasses and DS. Since most dollar stores and clearance bins have cute ones, I should get cute cases at super low prices.

A zipper pillow cover was transformed into a surprisingly cute bag with just some snaps, nylon ribbon and an iron. No sewing! Plus, it looks really easy to clean and folds up small so it's great for everything from groceries to shoes to an extra travel bag.

Another great no-sew project is the fringe duct tape bag. It does not look like duct tape. There is no sewing required, but a grommet tool is needed. Although, the inventive person may find a way around that.

If you have an old twister game, you can turn the mat into a tote. I think this would the cutest ever board game tote for game night!

My favorite project in the book was the picnic tote. It's probably the most complicated and sewing intensive project too, but I am determined to conquer it before summer is out. It's just too adorable.
