

# JEAN PURSES

## **Here are some helpful hints for this work shop.**

Just a reminder that the only thing you will need to bring to this work shop is at least one pair of jeans, and scissors. All other supplies will be provided, however, if you have any special material or patches or lace that you would like to bring for your project, you are more than welcome to do so.

These jean purses can be of various sizes and shapes depending on your personal preferences. I tend to like the children's jean skirt as my preference. I go to thrift stores (mostly savers), craft store sales, and yard sales, etc. looking for old jeans and supplies to use for these projects. I like to look for jeans that either have named labels or already have embroidery on them. If you find jeans with designs on the bottoms you can end up with one larger and two smaller purses. I also purchase heavy type material belts which I use for the purse straps. Thick, heavy ribbon can be pricey if not on sale and you usually need a little more than a yard for the strap. I also hit all the after holidays sales looking for ribbon, buttons, bows, etc. when the prices are greatly reduced.

### **Items needed to make the purses:**

Old jeans or old jean skirts (whatever size you want – adults or kids size will depend on purse),

Fabric (for lining- optional)

Trims (for decorations)

Thick ribbon or similar for strap

Snap or Velcro (to close the purse)

Sewing machine or glue gun

Needle and thread

## **Directions**

1. Cut off the legs of your jeans where you want the bottom of the purse to be. If you want to line your purse go to the lining step.

### **IF NOT**

Go to Step 5 to add the ribbon, lace, patches, etc.

Go to Step 6 to add the strap

Go to Step 9 to sew the bottom of the jeans

### **LINING**

2. The lining should be about 2 "shorter in width and 2 "in length of the actual jeans. After you have cut this fold over about ¼ inch two times at the top and stitch. This will be the top of the lining for your purse.
3. With right sides together, sew the 2 sides and bottom together making sure that the lining does not hang below the jeans.
4. Turn the lining right side out.
5. Add ribbon, lace, patches, etc. to jeans before adding the lining.
6. Add the strap between the jeans and where you will put the lining.
7. Add the lining to the inside of the jeans.
8. Hand stitch the lining to the top of the jeans.
9. Stitch the bottom on the jeans on the outside. At this point you can also add in extra lace, etc.

### **QUICK AND EASY ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO MAKE THESE PURSES**

After you have cut the jeans, either sew across the bottom or use a glue gun to hold them in place. Add rope type or macramé cord (doubled) through the belt loops to form a draw string to pull closed. Add patches, pins, lace, etc. to decorate the bags. I do bags like this with my girl scouts before they attend their first camping trip. These bags are then used to place all their toiletry items in for ready access.

If you have any questions, please call or email me.

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