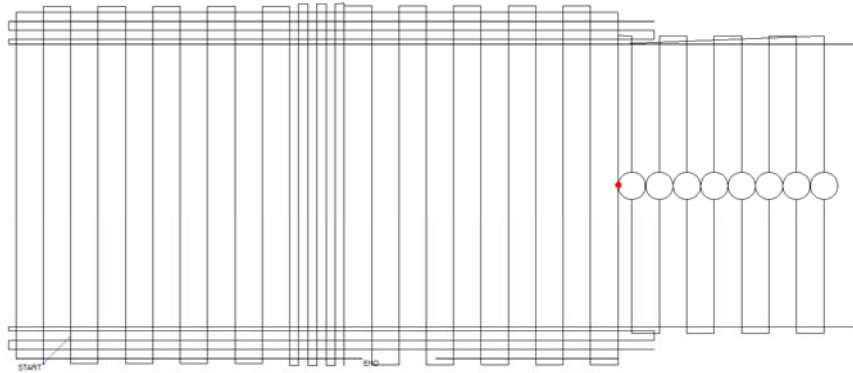
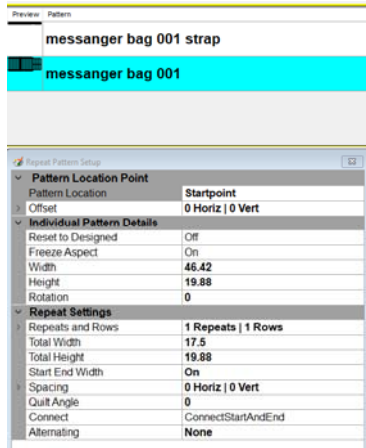


Messenger Bag Instructions

Load your longarm with a backing (this will not be seen), batting, and your fabric for the outer bag. I choose an upholstery fabric that was slightly heavier than regular cotton. Set your machine to pause at jump stitches and set your stitch length to 16 spi. It will stitch every and pause at the circles going down the front. You could do raw edge applique using a contrasting fabric for the circles if you wanted.

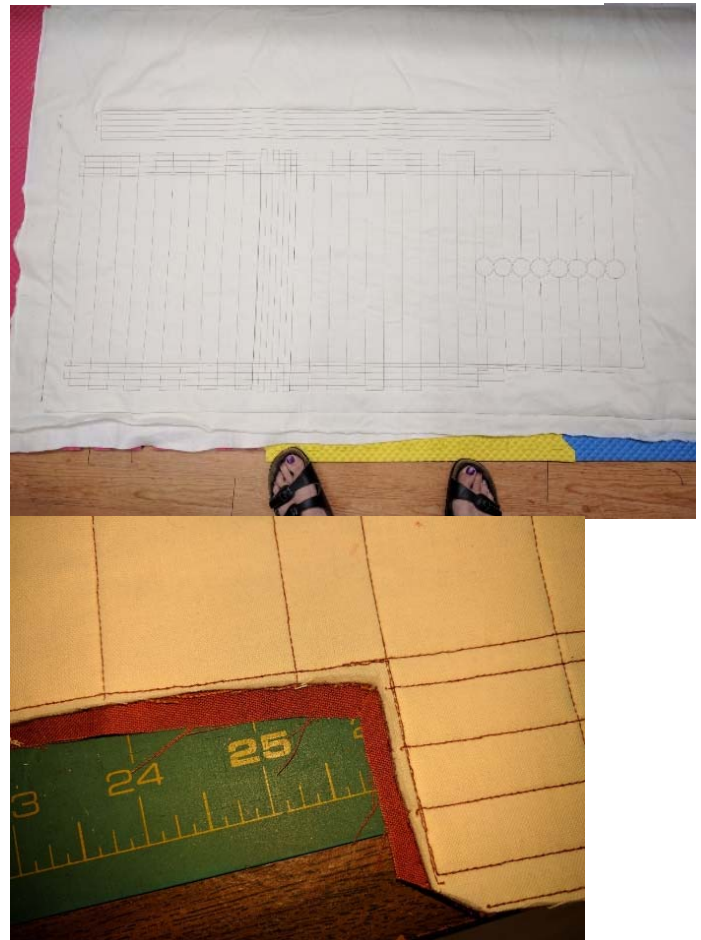


When the top has been stitched, the machine will pause, and for Statler users, a message will pop up telling you to put your lining in place. The machine will then quilt all around the bag, leaving an opening for turning.

Pull the backing back and then load the messenger bag strap and quilt it out. If you want to turn the handle and top stitch put the backing fabric down when prompted. If you want to bind the edges of the handles you can skip the backing.

Trim about 1/4" away from the outside stitching lines.

To make it easier to turn I trimmed the batting and backing closer than 1/4". Clip the corners as illustrated.



Turn through the opening. Since the flap is very visible, I pinned all around the edge making sure that the backing (lining) was not visible. I then used spray starch and pressed it. Then I top stitched all around the edges of the flap. Then top stitch across the opposite end as well.



The bottom of the bag has several parallel lines of stitching for reinforcing the bottom. Use a chalk marker or something similar and mark the outside lines that indicate the bottom.

Put the right sides together lining up your chalk marks and the top edge. Stitch down both sides.



To make the bottom of the bag flat, center the seam and pull the fabric out on either side.



Pin open the seam.



Stitch across the triangle that is created using the parallel stitching lines as our guide.



Turn the bag right side out.

Turn your handle and top stitch around it.

You will need to attach it to your bag.



Finished Bag