

ROLL INTO *Style* WITH by **annie.com**

Inspired by the classic bowler-bag silhouette, these two patterns showcase a curved top, roomy interior, and wide-opening top.



Ultimate Travel Bag 2.0

Finished size:

13¾"H x 14½"W x 4½"D at top,
13¾"H x 18½"W x 8"D at bottom

PBA251-2

pattern only • \$14.95



Fabric used:

Kismet by
Valori Wells
for FreeSpirit
Fabrics



Bowl Me Over 2.0

Finished size:

10½"H x 10" W x 2½"D at top,
10½"H x 13"W x 5"D at bottom

PBA249-2

pattern only • \$14.95



Fabric used:
Mystical Sea by
Batik Textiles



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READ MORE ABOUT THE
HISTORY OF BOWLER
BAGS INSIDE >>



Credit: International Bowling
Museum and Hall of Fame

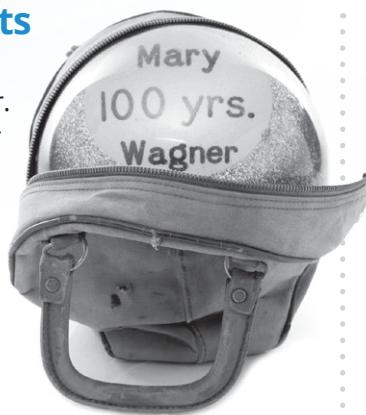
From Brunswick to By Annie

How the bowler bag rolled out of the lanes and into your sewing room

The history of bowler bags traces a unique path from a utilitarian 1920s athletic accessory to an iconic fashion staple. Originally designed with a large, boxy, or barrel-like structure to securely carry heavy bowling balls and shoes, the shape caught the eye of luxury designers by the late 1990s and inspired Annie Unrein to design two sewing patterns based on the silhouette.

1920s - 1940s Utility Roots

The first bowler bags were made of heavy canvas or hard, sturdy leather. They featured a rounded or cylinder silhouette tailored specifically for a single bowling ball, with a small compartment sometimes added for shoes.



Credit: IBMHOF, eBay

1950s - 1970s The Golden Era

As bowling boomed in popularity across America, these bags transitioned into personal statements. Brands like Brunswick and American Tourister produced bags with vibrant colors, floral prints, or custom leather tooling.



Credit: IBMHOF, Poshmark, Pinterest

2000s High Fashion Takeover

The early 2000s marked a major cultural shift. Iconic fashion houses reimaged the athletic staple into sleek, miniature, or monogrammed luxury handbags. Today, bowler style bags are a popular choice for a classic, sleek look.



Credit: L'Étoile de Saint Honoré, Dior, Gucci



Credit: IBMHOF



Fabric used: *Stitched* by Alison Glass for Andover



My take on bowler bags

I've always loved the timeless shape of classic bowler bags, and how they combine style and practicality so beautifully. Their distinctive curved silhouette, roomy interior, and wide-opening top make them just as useful today as ever.

When I designed the **Ultimate Travel Bag 2.0**, I wanted a travel bag that had all the capacity and function of a duffel but with a softer, more feminine shape. I needed a bag that could keep up with busy travel days, so I packed it with pockets, a wide-opening top, comfortable carrying options, and even a trolley sleeve that slips over rolling luggage handles. It quickly became one of my favorite travel companions.

As much as I loved the Ultimate Travel Bag, I realized it was a little too large for my everyday needs. That inspired me to create a smaller version that captured the same classic bowler-bag charm in a size perfect for errands, classes, guild meetings, and more.

That bag became **Bowl Me Over 2.0**. Together with my longtime friend and pattern tester, Jan Swartz, we refined the design to include just the right combination of pockets, carrying options, and organization features. Jan always gets a smile when she hears quilters say that Bowl Me Over is their favorite bag. I couldn't agree more!

Whether you're packing for a trip with the Ultimate Travel Bag or heading out for the day with Bowl Me Over, I hope these bowler-style bags bring as much fun and function to your adventures as they've brought to mine.

Fabric used in Bowl Me Over 2.0: *Kaffe Fassett Fall Collective 2019* for FreeSpirit Fabrics

Annie

THRU 8/30/26

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Bowler bags BY YOU

"Seeing these bags made in so many wonderful fabric combinations over the years has been one of the greatest joys of my work."

- Annie



Bowler Me Over 2.0 by Cathy B



Ultimate Travel Bag 2.0 by Casey B



Bowler Me Over 2.0 by Loan



Bowler Me Over 2.0 by Monica H



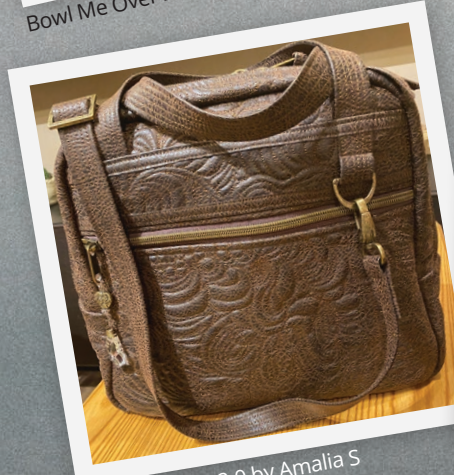
Ultimate Travel Bag 2.0 by Clare C



Bowler Me Over 2.0 by Cindy V



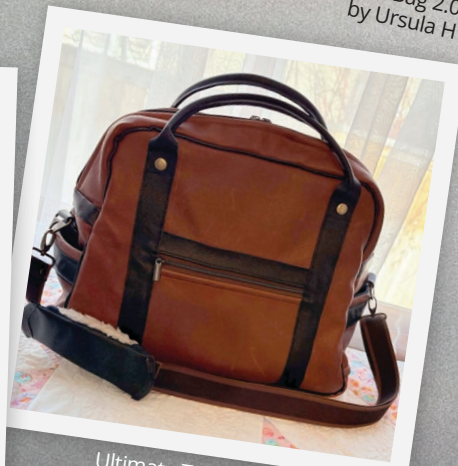
Ultimate Travel Bag 2.0 by Ursula H



Bowler Me Over 2.0 by Amalia S



Ultimate Travel Bag 2.0 by Charlotte C



Ultimate Travel Bag 2.0 by Dee L