

GRADE: 11-12	TITLE: Fused Plastic Handbags/Wallets	SESSIONS: 3
National Standards: Visual Arts		
Description		
In this lesson, students learn how to take ordinary plastic grocery bags and transform them into material for constructing original recycled handbags, clutches and wallets.		
PREP	PROCEDURES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create fused plastic bag material sample.</li><li>• Gather a variety of wallets and handbags for style and construction inspiration.</li><li>• Optional: PowerPoint presentation featuring fused plastic bag products.</li></ul>	<u>Session 1</u>  1. Begin lesson with a discussion about art and design and how it relates to function and fashion. Briefly review fashion and accessory trends. Transition into the trend of recycling and upcycling. 2. Show students a tutorial on how to fuse plastic bags to create material, or do a live demo. 3. Have students gather style inspiration for their bags/wallets by looking online, at their own accessories, and at examples you have assembled. *Optional: show PowerPoint of fused plastic bag products. 4. Encourage students to pull inspiration from different pieces to create their own unique look. 5. Next, students should sketch the design of the handbag/wallet they wish to construct and plan the pattern, including measurements.	
MATERIALS		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Plastic bags</li><li>2. Iron</li><li>3. Large paper (for both pattern making and layering between plastic bags)</li><li>4. Needles and thread (variety of sizes and colors)</li><li>5. Scissors</li><li>6. Zippers</li><li>7. Buttons</li><li>8. Pins</li><li>9. Sewing machine (optional)</li></ol>		
OBJECTIVES	<u>Session 2:</u>  1. Demonstrate creating a pattern for a handbag design out of paper. 2. Have students create patterns out of paper. 3. Next, students should fuse bags together to create the amount of material needed for their handbag or wallet. 4. Students should use the pattern as a template to cut the fused bag material.	
ART TERMS	<u>Session 3</u>  1. Demonstrate basic sewing techniques (either by hand or machine), including how to piece together material, how to attach zippers, handles, buttons, etc. 2. Have students create handbags/wallets.	
Functional design Texture Pattern Form Shape Unity		
RESOURCES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Fused plastic bag tutorial link: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNziDXtm1SA">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNziDXtm1SA</a></li><li>- Etsy.com is an excellent resource for images of products made using fused plastic bags. Use the search term “fused plastic bags” to pull up examples.</li></ul>		
EVALUATION		
Is the student able to discuss how function and design relate? Did the student demonstrate basic pattern making and construction techniques? Was the piece completed with care and quality craftsmanship? Is the piece both functional and aesthetically pleasing?		