

## Boston Backpack

This fabulous triangle backpack is a smaller handbag / purse sized bag that you are sure to fall in love with! Featuring a long side zip for access to the bag inside, this smart backpack also has two zippered pockets on the front, and another generous sized zippered pocket on the back as well. The straps are adjustable, and the clean lines of this design mean you can dress this bag up or keep it as a casual everyday purse as you choose.



Bag Dimensions are 9 inches wide at the base x 16 inches high and 1 ½ inches deep.

### You Will Need:

½ metre ( ½ yard) fabric for the outer (We used a bright red canvas fabric.)

½ metre ( ½ yard) fabric for the lining

1 metre (1 yard) light-weight fusible interfacing

½ metre ( ½ yard) light-weight fusible pellon

4 zips in a contrasting colour – 1 x 5 inch; 1 x 7 inch; 1 x 8 inch and 1 x 13-14 inch

2 silver 'buckle' sliders (1¼ inch width for strap) to make the straps adjustable

3 silver "O" rings approx. 1 – 1 ½ inch diameter



(slider)

### **Bag Construction:**

Please read all instructions fully before beginning. All measurements are in inches, and unless stated otherwise, a ¼ inch seam allowance has been used.

Referring to the attached Cutting Guide, carefully cut the required bag pieces from the bag fabrics, interfacing and pellaon as required.

### **Straps:**

First make the straps and tabs. Fold the bottom tabs in half lengthways so each tab is 4 ½ inches long. Tuck in the seam allowances and topstitch closed. Loop each tab through one "O" ring and sew the ends together with a scant seam to keep the ring in place on the loop.

Repeat this also with the smaller handle top tab. Fold in half, tuck in the seam allowances and topstitch the edges together. Loop through the remaining "O" ring and sew ends together as shown.

The straps are made in the same way. Fold in half lengthways, tuck in the seam allowances along the length and at both ends, pin well and topstitch.

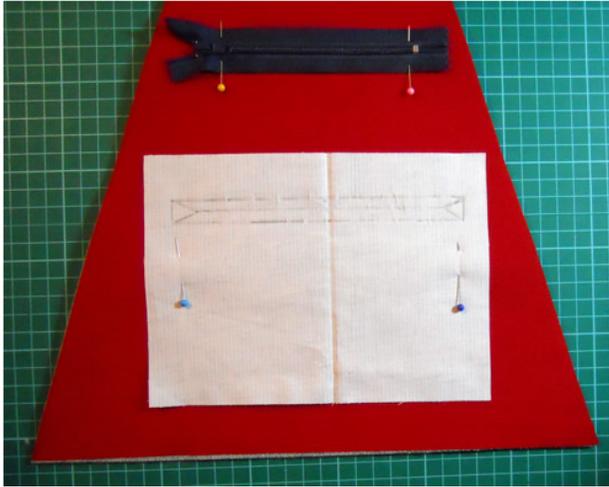
Overlap two ends on an angle as shown here and loop them through the top "O" ring before sewing all layers together to secure the straps to the top "O" ring.



### **Bag Front:**

The front of this backpack has two inset zippered pockets. The lower zip is the 7 inch one, and the 5 inch zip is above it.

For the lower zip, measure up 5 ½ inches from the bottom raw edge on the bag front panel. The zip will be centred on this line.



To start, mark and make a hole for the zip. To do this, use a fabric marking pen on the wrong side of one pocket piece (2) and draw a rectangle 6 ½ inches long and 3/8 inch (1cm) high as shown. This rectangle needs to be drawn at least 1 - 1 ½ inches (2.5 -4cm) down from the top of your pocket piece.

Then draw a centre line along the rectangle, with a 'V' shape at each end.

Position the pocket piece with right sides together so that the centre line of the zip markings lies on the 5 ½ inch marked line on the bag front panel.



Sew the pocket to the bag front panel along the marked outside lines of the rectangle.

Taking care not to cut the stitching, then cut along the marked centre line and along the 'V' shapes to the corners of the rectangle.



Pull the pocket piece through the hole to the wrong side of the bag panel and carefully press seams on both sides to flatten.

With right sides up, then position the zip carefully under the hole, (so that the zip is also facing up), and pin in place. Using your zipper foot, topstitch around all four edges of the rectangular hole to secure the zip in position.

(Note – the zip is slightly longer than the hole, so you will need to centre the zip and trim the ends after sewing in place.)

To finish the pocket, turn the panel over so that the wrong sides are facing up, and lay the remaining pocket piece face down on top of the first. Pin all edges together and carefully sew all sides of the pocket together, taking care not to catch the bag panel as you go.

The upper zip is inserted in exactly the same way. Measure down 9 inches from the top of the bag front panel and use pins to mark that line. As before, mark a 4 inch length zip rectangle on the wrong side of one pocket piece (1), and centre and align it over the marked 9 inch line on the bag front panel. Insert zip and finish this second pocket in exactly the same way as you did for the first one.

### **Bag Back:**

The back panel of this backpack also has a vertical zippered inset pocket as shown in the first photos above. Use the 8 inch zip and pocket pieces (3). The best way to position this zip is to mark a 7 ½ inch zip rectangle on the wrong side of one pocket piece, then lay the pocket on the right side of the back bag panel to see where it best fits. The bottom markings for the zip will be approximately 3 inches from the bottom raw edge of the back bag panel. Make sure the whole pocket piece fits comfortably within the bag panel and does not overlap into any of the seam allowances.

Insert this zip in the same way as you did for the two on the front panel, and finish the pocket before pressing well.

### Assembly:

Now insert the final 13 inch long side zip. Lay the bag front panel down with right side facing up. Position the zip (right side down) along the right hand edge, matching raw edges. The bottom edge of the zip should be about 3 inches up from the bottom raw edge of that panel.

Use your zipper foot and sew the zip to the front panel.

Flip open the zip, and lay the back panel face down on the front panel, matching the top and bottom edges neatly, before pinning and sewing the zip to that panel also. The two panels should now be joined by the zip in the middle.

To finish that side, with right sides together, pull the ends of the zip out into the seam allowance, then sew over each end and continue down (or up) to sew the rest of those two panels together along that edge.

Open the zip and fold the bag panels over so that right sides are together. Now position the handle top tab at the top of the bag. Match raw edges and sandwich the tab between the front and back panels of the bag, so the “O” ring is in the middle of the bag layers. Poke the long strap ends out of the zip opening to keep them out of the way. Sew across the top to secure the tab at the top of the bag.

Sew down the other long angled side of the bag. Before sewing across the bottom seam, mark a point 2 inches in from each corner on the bottom edge, and insert one of the bottom tabs so that the outer edge lies on that marked point. (Insert so that the “O” ring is in between the bag layers, and the raw edges match.) When both tabs are pinned in place, sew across the bag bottom seam to close the bag and secure the tabs.

To make the bag base, pinch together the bottom corners – align the side seam on top of the bottom seam, mark down 1 ¼ inches from the sewn corner point and sew across that line at right angles to the other seams. Repeat for the other corner and trim before turning bag right sides out.

### Lining:

The lining is simple. With right sides together, mark the points on the right hand edge where the zip starts and stops down the side. Sew around all edges of the lining from marked point to marked point, and leave the zip portion open.

Make the bag base in the same way as you did for the bag outer. Fold over and crease the seam allowances along that open zip portion.



Simply insert the lining into the bag, and pin the openings together along the inside of the zip. Hand sew in place to finish the lining.

**Final Assembly:**

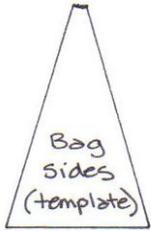
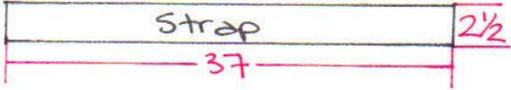
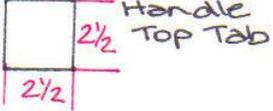
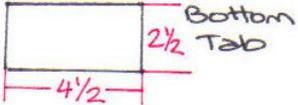
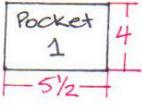
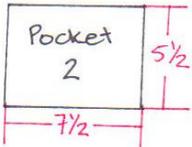
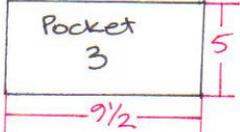


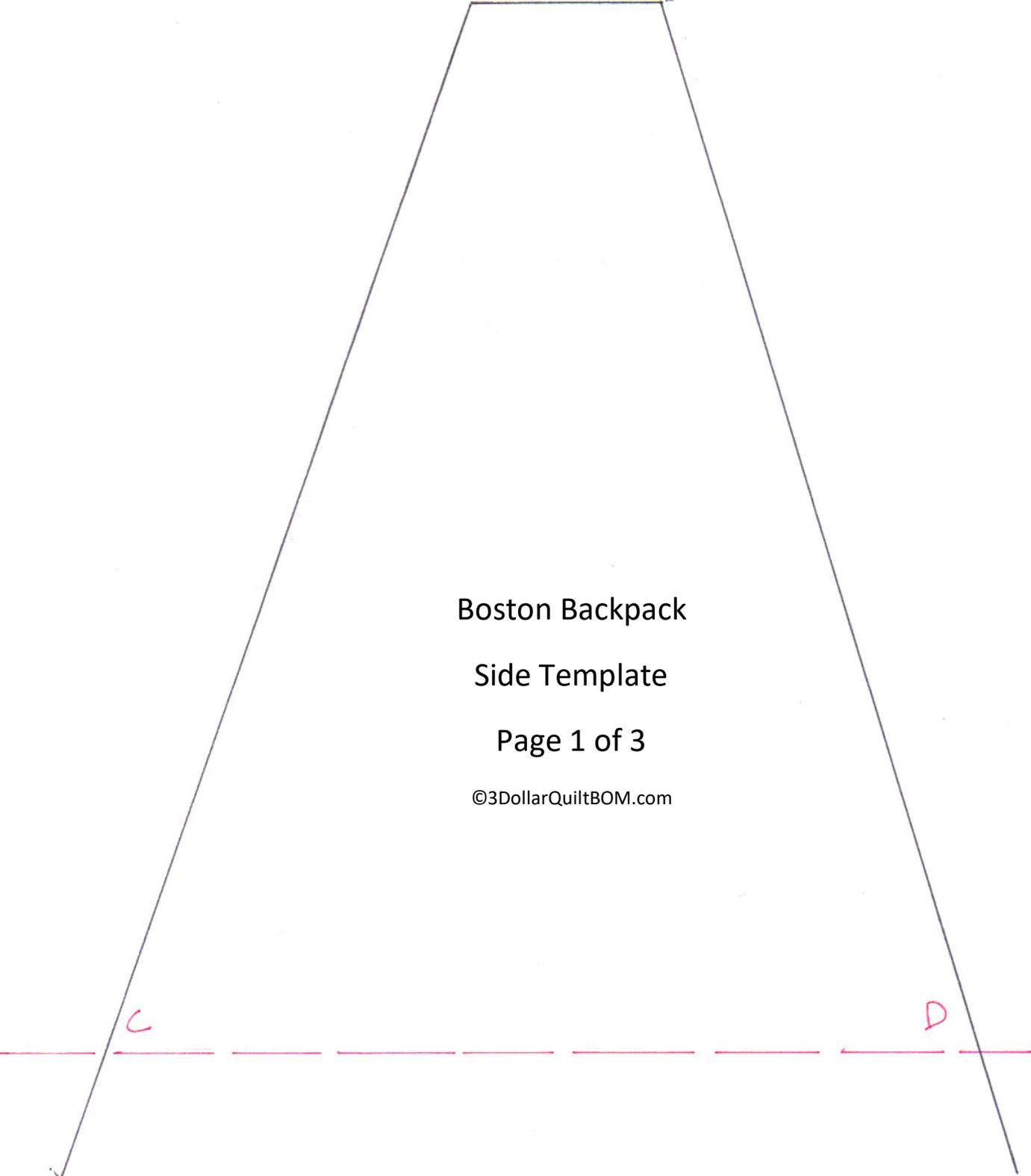
The last step is to thread and sew the two straps.

As shown in the photo above, coming from the top of the bag, thread one strap up and over the centre bar of the slider. Bring the end down and through the bottom “O” ring from the outside towards the bag. Loop the end up through the left hand side of the slider (on the inside of the first loop) and bring the end down on the right hand side. Overlap the end by about 1½ inches and sew the end to the strap as shown to secure that end.

The slider bar will then be able to move up and down as you wish to adjust the length of the backpack straps. Repeat for the second strap to finish.

## Boston Backpack Cutting Guide

	<p>Cut the required number of each piece according to the measurements on each diagram.</p> <p><b>* Please note – all measurements are in inches.</b></p>
	<p>Cut 2 outer fabric Cut 2 lining Cut 2 pellaon Cut 4 light-weight interfacing</p> <p>(Use Template Provided)</p>
	<p>Cut 2 outer fabric Cut 2 light-weight interfacing</p>
	<p>Cut 1 outer fabric Cut 1 light-weight interfacing</p>
	<p>Cut 2 outer fabric Cut 2 light-weight interfacing</p>
	<p>Cut 2 lining</p>
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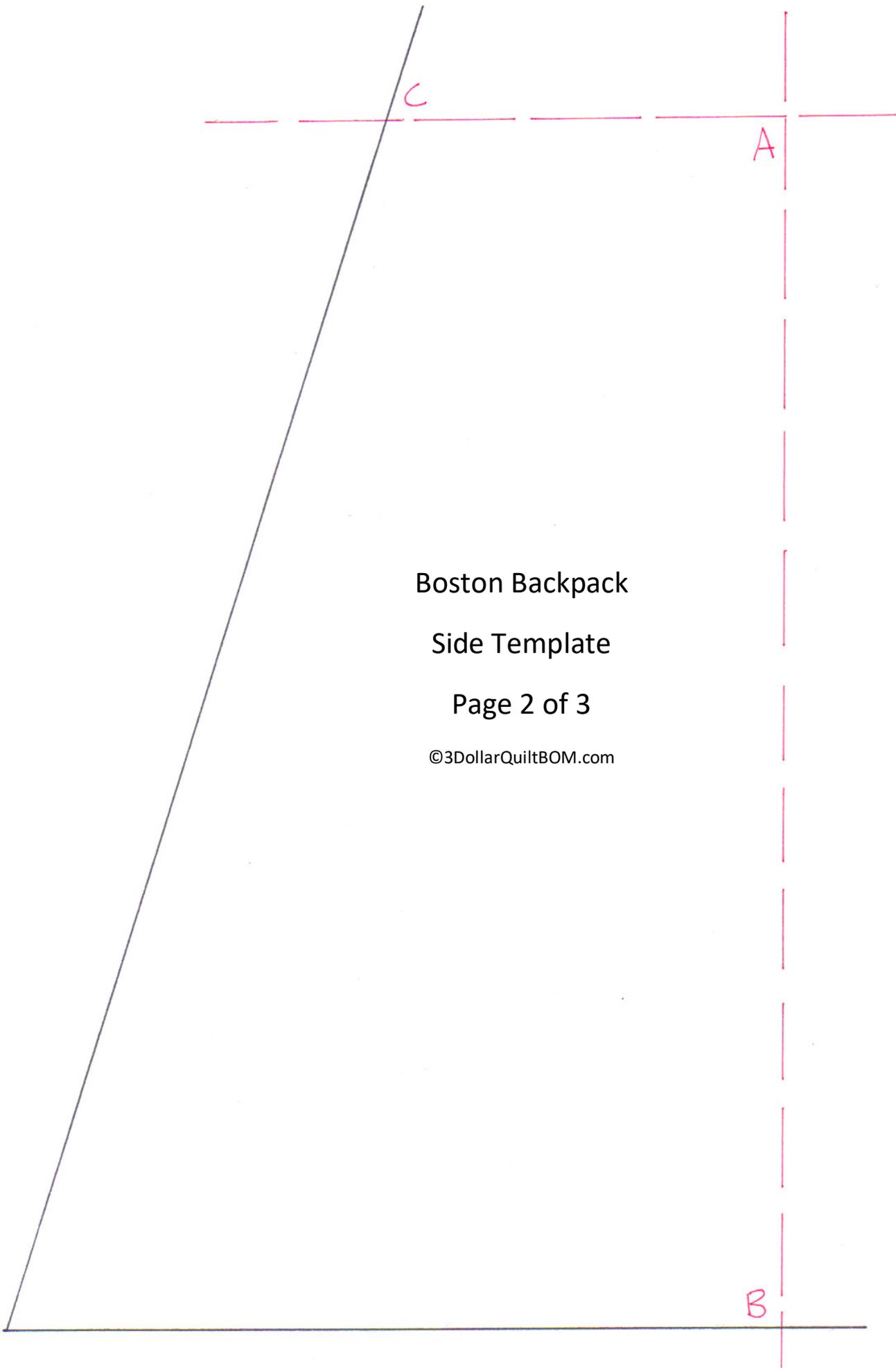


Boston Backpack

Side Template

Page 1 of 3

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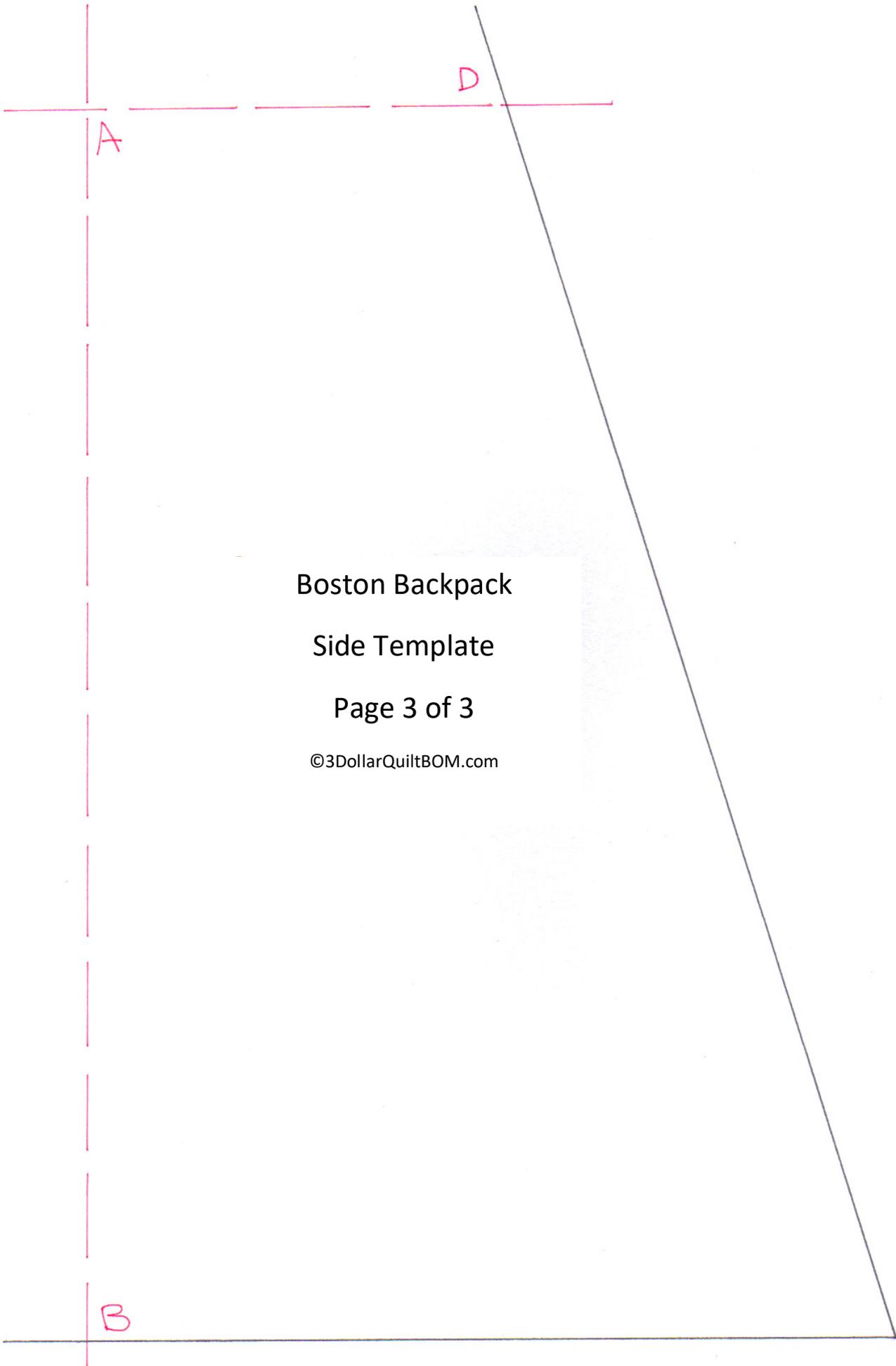


Boston Backpack

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Page 2 of 3

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**Boston Backpack**

**Side Template**

**Page 3 of 3**

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