

# Gift Bag Featuring Crowell's Logo

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When I was a kid, one of the most iconic places in our town was Crowell's, an old-fashioned upscale British-style haberdashery, which sold fine fabrics, notions, clothing, some food items, giftware, and other sundries.

The business dated from the 1800s, but the building I knew was constructed in 1901, with a beautiful Victorian style interior featuring dark oak panelling and an old-fashioned elevator complete with a human operator. Crowell's was also uniquely outfitted with a vacuum tube system to carry payments and change to and from a central office. There was nothing like it anywhere else in town. Although the building remains, Crowell's itself is now gone.



A few years ago, a friend gave me some yardage she had purchased back when she worked at Crowell's, and had never gotten around to sewing.

To my delight, the fabric was still in the original bag with the Crowell's insignia on the front!



I preserved the bag, thinking that I might use it to make a decorative feature for my sewing room. Then inspiration struck.

I decided to digitize the lettering and insignia from the front of the bag, without really thinking what all I might decide to do with the design.

Then, when I was having so much fun making gift bags, it occurred to me that this design would be a perfect choice to make some bags for my sisters and a couple of friends, especially Louise, who gave me the Crowell's bag.



Here is the result.

With the Covid-19 shut-down, I couldn't go out to a fabric store to try to find a suitable fabric, but I rooted in my stash and found this gold-on-gold striped fabric. It's not an exact match, but I like how its stripe is subtle enough to show off the design. It's perfect for this bit of down-home nostalgia.

I can't wait to give the bags at Christmas. Louise especially will be tickled.

I'm also thinking of adding the logo to some other items, such as maybe t-shirts and tote bags, or possibly even a door banner. I'll post them when I get them completed.