

“FAITH” 1

“JUSTICE” 2

“CARING” 7

“CHARITY” 3

“JOY” 6

“BEAUTIFUL” 5

“POSITIVITY” 4

It's in the bag.

Maeva Design, a 3-year-old Mechanicsburg company founded by Eve Leisenring, allows customers to create their own handbag — fabric, lining, handle, and trim options. (Some ready-made styles are also available.) Basic handbag prices range from \$12 to \$80. The bags are sold via home parties (think Tupperware or Mary Kay) — anyone interested in hosting one can contact Leisenring's staff of about a dozen consultants, or “mademoiselles,” who will help at the party.

Customers who attend a home party can pick up their finished bag from the party hostess or have it delivered. Maeva handles about 120 orders a week and employs 20 seamstresses. With the hiring of their first out-of-state consultant, based in South Carolina, the company is in the process of going national.

Leisenring, 27, is originally from Montreal and previously worked for a children's knitwear company. She started the company on the advice of a friend and has grander plans for its future. “In the long run, I really want to create a whole Maeva lifestyle,” she said. “I'd like to have jewelry (too, for instance). But the core that's going to be holding everything together is the design-your-own concept.”

To order a bag, or to sign up to host a design social in-home party, call 648-9600 or visit www.maevadesign.com.

CHECK OUT THESE MAEVA STYLES, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:



1

\$55

Reversible, cotton tie-closure bag with plastic handles. A customer favorite.



2

\$60

Cotton with black leather handle. Can be made reversible.



3

\$60

Cotton messenger bag with webbing handles. One of the newest looks.



4

\$60

All cotton shoulder bag. Another of the most popular looks.



5

\$75

Cotton tote with leather trim and handles.



6

\$38

Cotton bracelet bag with metal ring. Another new style.



7

\$80

Cotton tote with leather trim and adjustable handle.

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