

moda
summer
sewing

Effortless Tote Bag - 14" x 17"

Carry along essentials for that next road trip, picnic or play date in our oh-so-easy tote bag.

General Supplies:

- 50 wt Aurifil thread in matching or contrasting color
- Sewing machine needle--Schmetz Quilting needle-75/11
- Seam ripper (*just in case*)
- Wonder clips
- Straight pins
- Seam tape to mark alignment line on sewing machine bed

Fabric Supplies: *Do NOT prewash fabrics!*

Fat Eighth of fabric for the pocket
Cut (2) 8" x 8½" rectangles

½ **yard** of fabric for the tote outside
Cut (1) 15" x 36" rectangle

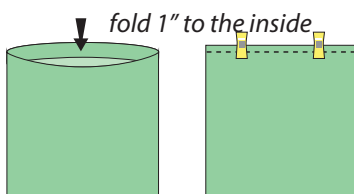
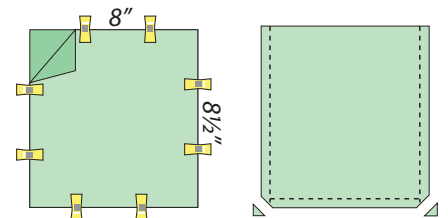
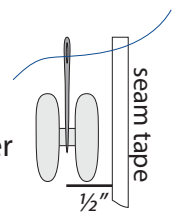
½ **yard** of contrasting fabric for the tote lining
Cut (1) 15" x 36" rectangle

50" long strip of 1" wide twill tape in the color of your choice
Cut (2) 25" strips



Assembling the Tote: Use a ½" seam allowance

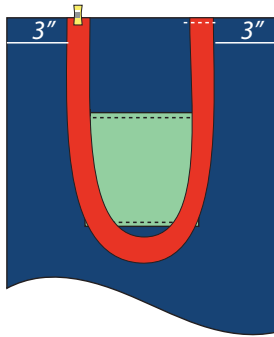
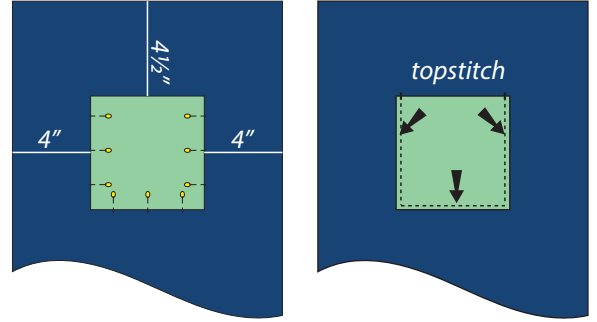
1. Place a strip seam tape on the sewing machine bed ½" to the right of the needle center to use as a guide line for sewing the ½" seam.
2. With right sides of fabric together, use the Wonder Clips to hold the raw edges together and sew (2) 8" x 8½" pocket fabric rectangles together on the two sides and the bottom only, as shown. Clip the two corners, being careful not to clip into the stitches. Turn right side out and press well.



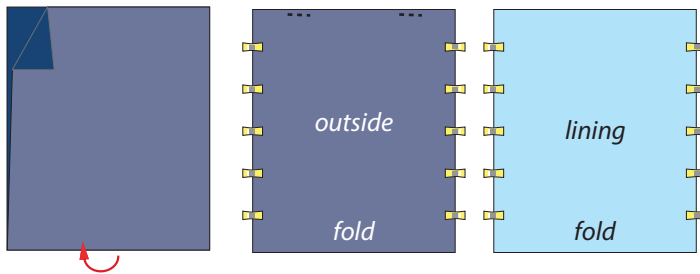
3. Turn the top edge of the pocket 1" to the inside and press. Use the Wonder Clips to hold the folded top edge together. Topstitch across the top ¼" down from the edge to make a 7" x 7" pocket.

Effortless Tote Bag

- Measure in 4" from each side and 4½" from the top of the 15" x 36" outside fabric to center the pocket. Use straight pins to secure.
- Topstitch the pocket to the outside tote ¼" away from the edge along the two sides and the bottom, backstitching at the top of each side of the pocket for reinforcement.

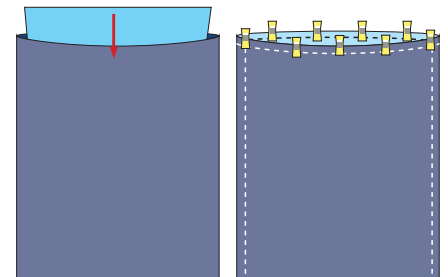
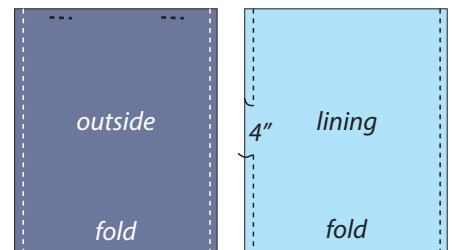


- Measure 3" in from each side of the outside tote and use Wonder Clips to secure the 1" wide twill tape straps as shown.
- Sew the straps to the outside tote ¼" from the top edge. Sew over the stitching again to reinforce. Repeat steps 6 and 7 to attach the second twill tape strap to the other end of the outside tote.



- With right sides together, fold the 15" x 36" outside tote in half lengthwise to make a 15" x 18" rectangle. Use the Wonder Clips to hold the raw edges together on each side. Repeat this step with the 15" x 36" lining rectangle.

- Sew the (2) side seams of the outside fabric, leaving the top open. Press the seams open.
- In the same way sew the side seams of the lining, but leave a 4" opening on one side.
- Turn the lining right side out and put inside of the outside tote so they are right sides together. Use Wonder Clips to secure the top of the tote.
- Using a ½" seam allowance, sew around the entire top edge of the tote. Turn the tote right side out and handstitch or machine stitch the opening in the lining closed.



- Insert the lining into the outside tote and press well. Topstitch ¼" around the top edge of the tote through all layers.

