



Technique:	Machine Sewing
Skill Level:	Beginner/Easy
Crafting time:	An Evening

Size

11" x 12" x 8"

Materials

1 Dual Duty XP All purpose thread.

1 Dual Duty XP Heavy thread or Dual Duty Plus Topstitching Thread.

1 yard fabric (Olive Rose by Valori Wells from FreeSpirit Fabric was used in example)

Additional Requirements

Sewing machine.

1 piece 7 mesh plastic canvas.

Instructions

1. Cutting:

Bag Body:

Cut 2 18" x 20"

Bag Band:

Cut 2 2 ½" x 20"

Strap:

Cut 2 3" x 20"

Bottom insert:

Cut 2 8 ½" x 11 ½"

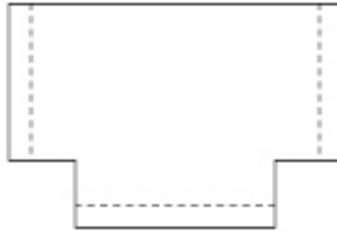
Webbing may be substituted for cloth straps.

2. Cut 4 inch squares from the bottom of the bag panels.



Cut 4 inch squares from bottom corners of each panel.

2. Right sides together stitch bag panels together starting with the bottom seam first. Use a ½ inch seam allowance. Press open. Top stitch bottom seam ¼ inch on either side of the seam with Dual Duty XP Heavy thread. Stitch a side seam. Press seam open. Top Stitch from the top down ¼" on either side of seam. Repeat with the other seam.



3. Open and match bottom seam to side seams. Stitch closed using ½ inch seam allowance. Repeat on other side. This forms a boxed bottom. Zig zag in the seam allowance to finish seam.

4. Make straps by folding straps pieces in half lengthwise. Stitch with a ¼ inch seam allowance. Turn right side out. Press with seam in the middle. Top stitch with Dual Duty XP Heavy thread. Measure 6 inches from each bag seam and mark with tailor's chalk. Put straps on marks with ½ inch of the strap extending beyond the edge of the top. Baste in place.

5. Stitch bag band pieces together along the short ends. Press open seams. Press under ½ inch along one side of the band. Stitch close to the fold to finish seam.

6. Attach the band to top of bag right sides together, matching seams. Stitch with a ½ inch seam allowance. Turn and press to the inside of the bag. Top stitch ½ inch from the edge of the bag.

7. To give definition to the Reusable Grocery Bag measure 4 inches from each seam to the "edge" of the bag. Fold along this mark to the bottom corner of the bag. Using Dual Duty XP Heavy thread stitch close to the fold to the bottom of the bag. Repeat for the other sides and along the bottom edges of the bag.

8. Bottom insert: fold under ¼ inch one narrow end of bottom insert piece. Fold over again, press and stitch along the fold. With right sides together sew three sides to create a sleeve. Cut plastic canvas 7" x 10". Insert plastic canvas into sleeve; put in the bottom of the Go Green Grocery Bag for extra strength and better shaping.