



Technique:	Sewing
Designed By:	Linda Turner Griepentrog
Skill Level:	Intermediate
Crafting Time:	Weekend
Finished size:	12½" (31.75cm) square base, 23" (58.42cm) tall (excluding handles)

Featuring Dual Duty XP® and Kaffe Fassett Collective for FreeSpirit

This soft roomy tote is ideal for a day's worth of shopping or a trip to the farmer's market, but don't forget it's also great for travel—it folds flat in your suitcase so you can fill it with treasures from your trip, or use it as a carry-on. It's squashy enough to fit into even a tight overhead compartment.

Supplies

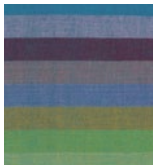
- Coats Dual Duty XP® All-purpose thread
- ⅓ yd (30.48cm) each of (8) different **Kaffe Fassett Woven Stripes:**



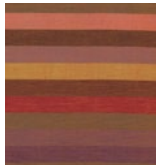
WBROAD.BLUEX



WBROAD.DARKX



WBROADX.SUBTE



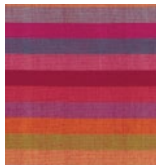
WBROAD.REDXX



WBROAD.SUNSE



WBROADX.BLISS



WBROADX.WATER



WBROAD.YELLO

- 1 yd (.91m) **Kaffe Fassett Shot Cotton** SC90 Eucalyptus, lining



- ¼ yds (1.14m), batting
- ½ yd (45.72cm) medium-weight fusible interfacing
- 25" (63.50cm) faux leather handles
- Plastic canvas, 12½" (31.75cm) square

Cutting

From each of the 8 striped fabrics, cut:
(2) squares, 9" (22.86cm)

From the lining fabric, cut:
(4) length-of-fabric strips, 9" x 34½" (22.86cm x 87.63cm)

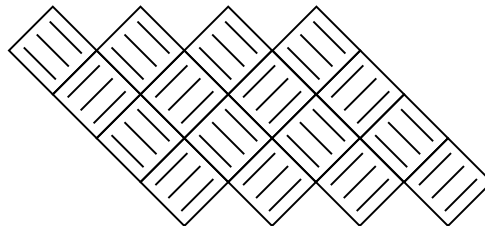
From the fusible interfacing, cut:
(4) squares, 8" (20.32cm)

Seam allowances are ¼" (.64cm).

Assembling the Outer Tote

1. Arrange the sixteen fabric squares in four columns, alternating stripe direction. The top square in each column should have vertical stripes.
2. With right sides together, sew the squares together in each column and press seams in one direction.
3. Offset column two down one square and join to row one. Repeat for rows three and four, offsetting each one row from the previous column (**Figure 1**). Press seams in one direction.

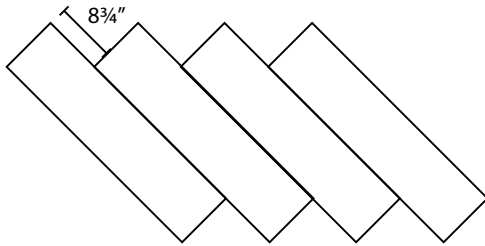
Fig. 1



4. Place the pieced tote onto the batting and smooth it in place. Pin securely and stitch ¼" (.64cm) on each side of all sewn seams. Baste all free edges to the batting. Trim the batting to match the tote edges.
5. Offset the final seam one square and sew the columns together to form a tube. Note that the tote won't lie flat at this point. Press the seam in one direction. Topstitch ¼" (.64cm) on each side of the seam.
6. Fold the tote to match two adjacent lower points. Sew the seam. Repeat for the other set of points. Press the seams open.
7. Matching the lower edges and lower center seam, sew the bottom tote seam.
8. To shape the bottom, cover the 12½" (31.75cm) plastic canvas square with batting scraps and stitch around the edges. Trim the batting close to the canvas.
9. Place the covered canvas in the tote bottom and stitch each lower corner of the tote to a corner of the covered canvas bottom for about ¼" (.64cm).
10. Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse an interfacing square to each upper point wrong side to help reinforce the handle area.
11. Turn the tote right side out.

Assembling the Lining

1. Offsetting the strips $8\frac{3}{4}$ " (22.23cm) each time to mimic the tote shape, sew the four lining strips together, creating a zigzag top and bottom (Figure 2). Press seams open.
2. Offset the final seam and sew. Press the seam open.
3. Repeat Steps 6-7 above to complete the lining bottom, but leave a 10" (25.40cm) opening in the bottom seam.



Finishing the Tote

1. With right sides together, match the lining upper edge points to the tote points. Sew around the upper edge. Trim the outer points and clip into the inner points. Press the seam allowances open.
2. Turn the tote right side out through the lining opening, press the upper point edges and topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " (.64cm) from the upper edges.
3. Machine stitch the lining opening closed. Push the lining into the tote.
4. Hand-stitch the handles to the upper points.