

GO AND GROW BAG by Laura Ann Coia; visit [www.youtube.com/sewveryeasy](http://www.youtube.com/sewveryeasy)



# ONE BAG, THREE SIZES GO AND GROW BAG

Follow along by viewing a free video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uspxz9M50gE>

Visit <https://www.youtube.com/SewVeryEasy> for other videos

Featuring the “Row by Row Experience™” 2016

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Pattern is **FREE**, cannot be sold & must be printed in its entirety

Designed by  
Laura Ann Coia  
**SEWVERYEASY**

**FREE PATTERN**  
Not for sale

This bag will  
grow bigger as  
you need it to.  
No need for a  
second bag -  
“Go and Grow”  
will fit the need.  
Perfect for your  
ever-changing  
shopping day.

Finished Project  
12”-16” X  
17” X 3.5”

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*Just a little information before starting.*

*Please read through all of the directions before beginning. All of the seam allowances are 1/4". Remember to measure twice and cut once! Each piece is labeled. It is best to cut each piece out and label them, before you start sewing. This bag is completely sewn flat right up to the last step. You will fuse and sew your fabric pieces to the foam first, this will make the front of the bag.*

A **free YouTube video** is available for you to watch and follow along at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uspxz9M50gE>

Let's get started 😊

*Fabric used is from the 2016 Row by Row Experience™ Home Sweet Home Collection created by Debra Gabel of [www.zebrapatterns](http://www.zebrapatterns) and manufactured by Timeless Treasures of Soho.*

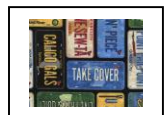
### Fabric Needed For the Bag



**Fabric A**, Road Trip Map R-C4495-Multi  
Cut: **Two 17" x 17"** for front bag piece "A"



**Fabric B**, Studio Basic-C3096-Black  
Cut: **One 4 1/2" x 17"** for bag bottom "B"



**Fabric C**, License Plates Row-C4496-Multi  
Cut: **Two 8 1/2" x 17"** for outside pockets fronts "C"



**Fabric D**, Fun C8224 Ruby Red  
Cut: **Two 9" x 17"** for outside pockets backs "D"



**Fabric E**, Studio C3096 Delft Blue  
Cut: **Two 20" x 17"** for bag lining "I"  
(You will also see this fabric from the outside)

### Additional Supplies Needed

**Support by Fairfield.** This is an alternative to batting and will hold its shape.

It is like a foam with a soft lining attached (I will call it "Foam" throughout the instructions).

Cut: **One 37" x 17"** for bag body "E"

**Lightweight Paper Back Fusible Webbing.** This is a paper back fabric adhesive product that you iron onto your fabric. It will glue your fabrics together.

**Two 17" x 17"** for the bag fronts "F"

**One 4 1/2" x 17"** for the bag bottom "G"

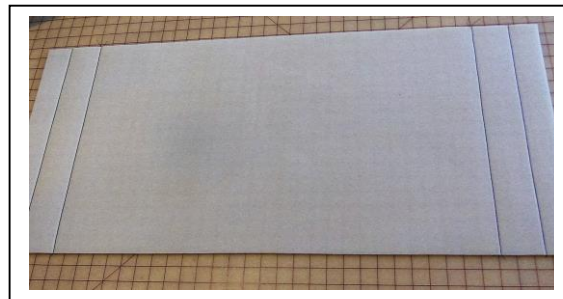
**Two 7" x 17"** for the back lining "H"

**Two Cotton Web handles 2" x 45"**

## Making the Outside of the Bag

### Preparing the Foam "E"

- Draw two lines from each end going across the bag.
- The first line is 2" from the short side down.
- The second line 4 1/2" down.
- Stitch on these lines.
- This will make a fold line.
- Do this to the other side.



### Attach the Fronts onto the Foam

Following manufacturing instruction:

- Fuse "F" onto the wrong side of the bag front piece "A".
- Peel off the paper and fuse piece "A" onto one end of the Foam matching 3 of the raw edges. You will be going over the previous stitching lines on the Foam
- Repeat and fuse the second "A" onto the other end of the Foam
- Both "A"s will be on the same side, but on opposite ends



This will be the outside front of the bag. You will have a space in the middle of the Foam - this is good because it is the bottom of the bag.

### Attaching the Bag Handles

- On the outside of the bag, measure and make a mark 5 1/2" along each long side edges. Mark from the top to the bottom. You will have two long marks going down the bag.
- Take one handle and place the raw edges on the bottom in line with the "A" piece, and pin it down.
- Pin the rest of the handle down following the side marks, being careful not to twist the handle. Stop 9" down from the bottom of the bag. This 9" at the top area should not stitch. You will have a big loop on the top.
- Starting at the bottom, sew both sides of the handle down, and reinforce the top of the handle with back stitching at the 9" mark.
- Repeat for the second side.



### The bottom of the bag

Following manufacturing instruction:

- Fuse “G” onto the back side of the bag bottom “B”.
- Peel off paper and fuse onto the Foam, centering the fabric covering the handles and the open space of the Foam.



### Making the Front Pockets

- To make the front pockets, take the “C” and “D” pieces and stitch wrong sides together along one long edge.
- Press the seam towards the “D” which is the back of the pocket.
- Then aligning the raw edges on the bottom, press the pocket flat right sides out.
- The back of the pocket is bigger, so you will see it peeking out at the top of the pocket front. This will create a faux piping. Stitch-in-the-ditch along this seam.
- Repeat for second pocket front.



### Sewing the pocket onto the front.

- Take one front pocket and place right side down along the bottom “B” of the bag. Line up the raw edges on the side and match up the raw edges on the front of the bag. This pocket will be lying over top the other side of the bag and the bottom of the bag.
- Stitch down. You will be stitching through the end of the handles, bag front and bag bottom.
- Press the pocket up towards the top, covering a portion of the handles.
- Stitch the pocket into place by stitching through the middle of the handles, back stitching to reinforce the top.
- Repeat for other side.
- Stitch all the way around the outside of the Foam, using a zig zag stitch, going through all the layers. This will keep the sides of the pockets in place and compress the edges of the Foam flat.



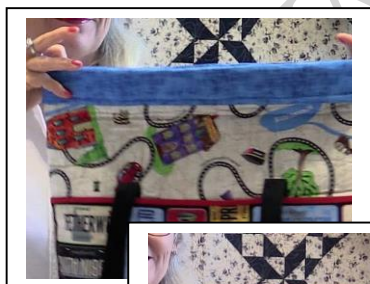
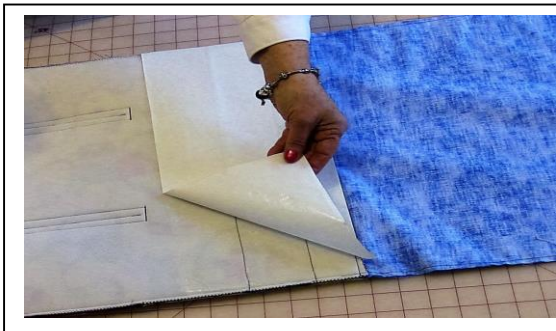
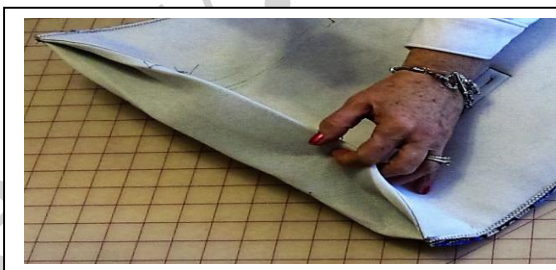
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### Attaching the Lining "I" to the Bag Front

- Match top of the lining to the top of the bag, right sides together.
- Stitch ¼" and press the lining up.
- You now have a long flat bag.

### Finishing the bag

- With right sides together, fold bag in half. Match up the two bottom seams and create a tuck in towards the inside of the bag. The bottom will look like a letter M.
- Matching the sides of the bag and the top of the bag, sew down each side starting at the lining end and go right off the end of the bag. You will be stitching through 4 layers of Foam. Go slow and secure the end.
- Fuse "H" onto the top of the bag, right onto the Foam. Peel off the paper. Do this to both sides.
- Pull the lining down, covering the webbing and Foam. You will have a faux piping along the top outside of the bag, just like the front pocket.
- Press the lining onto the Foam. The webbing will fuse the lining in place and prevent the lining from coming out of the bag.
- Stitch-in-the-ditch along the faux piping.
- Close the bottom of the bag lining with a rolled hem.
- Turn bag right side out, tucking the lining into the bag.
- Roll the top down using your first inside stitching as a guide line. Roll like you are rolling down a pair of socks and press well.
- Roll down one more roll, same as your 1<sup>st</sup> roll, again just like rolling down your socks and press.
- You now have a big cuff at the top of your bag, just above your handles.



*Congratulations you have just finished a tote bag that will grow as you shop. Once your bag is full, just unroll the cuff and keep shopping. When you are done, roll back the cuff and you'll be ready for your next shopping day.*

**Reminder:** As an added bonus, you can view a free video which will clearly show you how easy this "Go and Grow Bag" is to make.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uspxz9M50gE>

Thank you and have a great Sewing day ☺ Laura Ann Coia