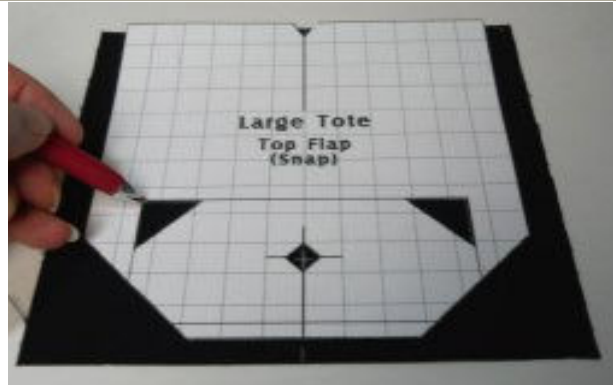


2012 - Large Tote Bags

by Sherry Titzer - <http://www.atimetostitch.com>

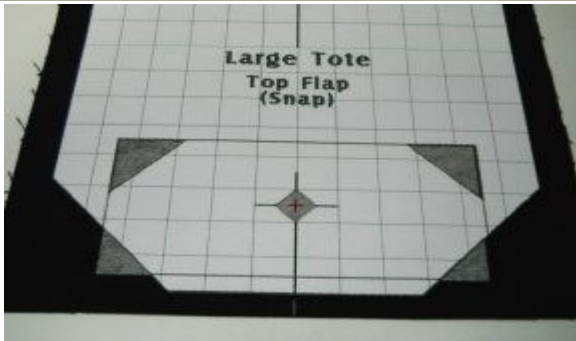
Instructions for 2 sizes! Large: 12 ½" H x 14 ½" W, X-Large: 14 ½" H x 16 ½" W (Both have 4 ¾" W flat bottom)
FIRST! Open the "1 Large Tote Bag Supplies" text file (or X-Large) for list of supplies & pattern instructions.
Both magnetic snap & velcro instructions included. For 7" wide hoops, the front/back & side pockets are combined - 1 hooping. For 7" wide hoops the top flap lining is added in the hoop as well. (not shown below)

Cut fabric & soft & stable to sizes indicated in the supplies list. Print and cut out the top flap and sides patterns on card stock. You will also need an Elmer's or Scotch glue stick..



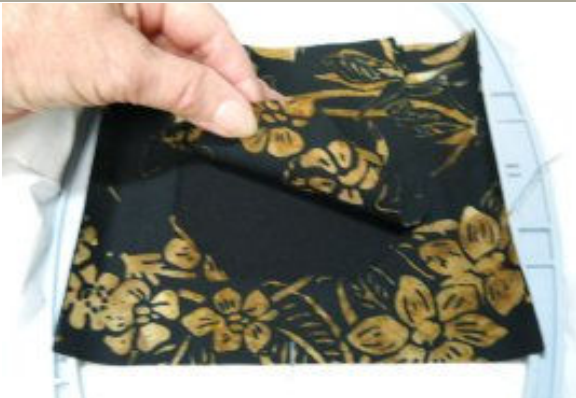
1. Top Flap – On right side of solid fabric, rub glue stick along edge of 6 ¼" sides & 7" bottom (no glue at top). Center print fabric (A) on top, iron to set. Mark center at top & bottom (7" sides).

2. On WRONG side of flap lining, mark center at top & bottom (7" sides). Place pattern on top keeping tops even & center marks even. Trace pattern outline and triangles. Center fusible interfacing inside triangles, iron to fuse.



3. Center pattern over fabric again, mark a small "cross centered inside small diamond cutout for snap placement. Place magnetic snap "washer" over the center cross and mark the short slits. Cut slits open.

4. TOP FLAP - Stitch placement lines on stabilizer. Spray stabilizer with temp adhesive spray. Center prepared fabric (edge not glued at top) inside the top & bottom of placement lines keeping center marks even.



5. Stitch first outline. Trim fabric from the center to reveal the fabric underneath.

6. Continue stitching design following instructions provided. Trim stabilizer even with top of flap & at border of design.



7. Center soft & stable under design piece. Center lining (wrong side up) on top keeping tops & center marks even. Pin together at sides & bottom.



8. Sew to flap ensemble together by stitching directly over traced pattern outline. DO NOT stitch top closed.



9. Trim sides & bottom with pinking shears leaving a 1/4" seam allowance. Install snap through the top opening.



10. Turn the flap right side out and press. Top stitch around the edge of the flap with 3/8" seam.



11. FRONT POCKET – Stitch placement lines on stabilizer. Spray stabilizer with temp adhesive spray. Center 6" edge of print fabric inside placement line.



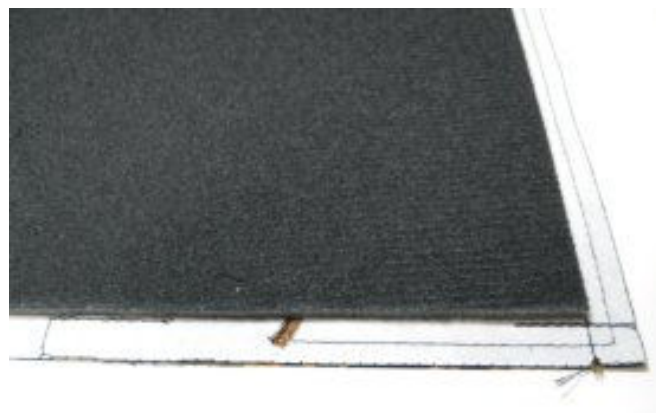
12. Place solid fabric even with edge of print fabric. Tape corners, put hoop on machine.



13. Continue stitching the front pocket design following the instructions in the text files provided.



14. Flip opposite end of fabric up & over fabric in hoop keeping ends even. Tape corners. Last step stitches end of pocket closed. Remove from hoop.



15. On pocket fold end, mark lines on stabilizer a tad shorter than fabric. Flip fabric up, trim at marks to avoid cutting into fabric. Trim rest of stabilizer even with the sides & bottom of the fabric.

16. Rub glue stick on edge of soft & stable. Center it on the stabilizer side of pocket inside the inner placement lines keeping bottom even with the stitched seam.



Left – Front pocket- design at bottom
Right – Back pocket – design at top

17. On soft & stable, mark a cross 1" from top of pocket centered. Center snap "washer" over marked cross, trace slits. Cut slits thru front fabric & soft & stable & install the magnetic snap. Flip to right side, top stitch the top.

18. Make 2nd pocket for back of bag. On back of bag the design goes at the top (do not install snap or velcro). Top stitch the edge next to the design on the back pocket.

SIDE POCKETS - Make the side pockets using steps 11-17 again, but use thin fusible fleece (C) instead of soft & stable to reduce bulk. Also, no velcro or magnetic snaps on the side pockets. Or, you can make side pockets (with no designs) if you prefer (instructions for plain pockets included with your order)



19. **BAG FRONT – LARGE** - On 14" side of soft & stable, mark vertical lines 4" in from the each side. (XLARGE - On 16" side mark lines 5" in from sides). Next, mark short lines next to vertical lines 3" from the top. Rub glue stick on inside edge of marked vertical lines.

20. Center fabric on top. Iron to set glue. Next, center front pocket over fabric even with 3" marks. Pin & stitch pocket to bag front along the sides and bottom with 1/4" seam.



21. Place fabric (wrong side up) even with one side of the center fabric piece & pin.



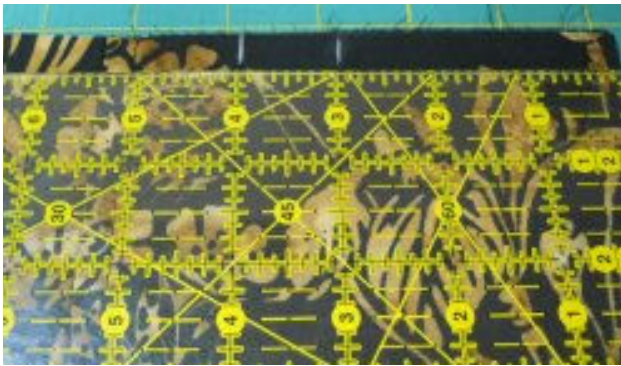
22. Stitch fabric in place with $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam. Add fabric to the other side in the same manner.



23. Lift fabric away, rub glue stick on edge of soft & stable, lay fabric on top again, iron to set. Top stitch both seams.



24. BAG BACK – Repeat steps 19-23 for bag back, but place pocket 4" from the top this time. (design on pocket at top).



25. LARGE - Mark short lines at the top 2" & 3" from the sides. (XLARGE – mark lines 3" & 4" from sides)
Pin shoulder strap ends inside marks with an inch of strap ends extending above top of bag.



26. Center top flap (wrong side up) on back & pin. Stitch across top with $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam catching flap & straps at same time. Add shoulder straps to bag front in same manner.



27. BAG SIDES – On the soft & stable side pieces, mark a line $1\frac{3}{4}$ " down from top. Rub glue stick under marked line and place draw string base fabric on top. Iron to set.



28. Fold draw string sleeves in half lengthwise, iron to crease (use glue stick inside to set). Center folded sleeves at each end of base fabric & pin (folds in the middle).



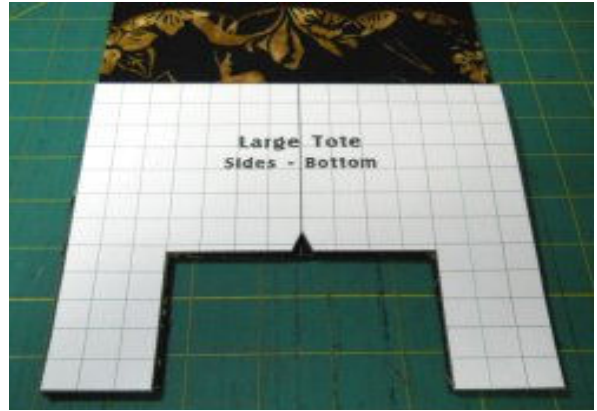
29. Center short "sides" fabric (wrong side up) even with top edge of sleeve fabric & pin. Stitch with 3/8" seam. Flip fabric up to the top.



30. Center long "sides" fabric at bottom edge of sleeve fabric, pin. Stitch in place with 3/8" seam. Top stitch the sleeve seams.



31. Flip fabric away, use glue stick on edge of soft & stable, lay fabric on top again and iron to set.



32. Place "sides" pattern at bottom on each side piece and trace the cutout. Cut away fabric inside marked lines.



33. Insert ribbon through the sleeves. Pull the ribbon up in the center until the ribbon ends are just about even with sides and pin in place.



34. Pin pockets 4 1/2" down from top (XLarge - 5" from top). Stitch down sides & across pocket bottom with 1/4" seam to secure everything at once. Tuck ribbon into pocket & pin to keep out of the way.



35. Pin one bag side to bag front & secure with 3/8" seam. Repeat on other side.

36. Pin bag back to bag sides, also secure with 3/8" seam.



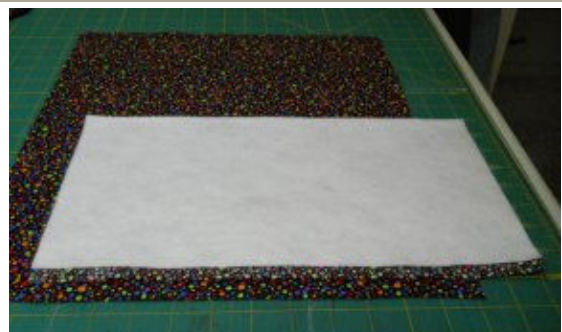
37. Pin bottoms together with seams open and flat. Stitch bottom together with 3/8" seam.



38. Fold & pin corners to form a straight edge. Stitch ends closed with 3/8" seams. Leave bag wrong side out.



39. BAG LINING - On lining sides, use "sides" pattern again to trace cutouts and trim away.



40. Lining pockets. Fold fabric in half, add fusible fleece to one side. Stitch long edge with 3/8" seam. Turn right side out, press & top stitch. Mark a center line on each pocket.



41. Pin pocket to lining 4 1/2" down from top. (X-Large - 5") Stitch the sides & bottom of pocket to lining. Stitch another seam in the center to create 2 inner pockets on each side.



42. Stitch sides to front & back (same as bag). Pin bottoms together. Mark lines 3" in from the sides. Stitch bottom closed but use long basting stitch inside the 3" marks.



43. Press bottom seam open flat. Stitch corner cutouts closed in same manner as bag. Remove basting stitches to create an opening. Turn right side out.



44. Slip lining (right side out) inside of tote bag (wrong side out) and pin the tops evenly keeping seams opened flat and centered over each other.



45. Stitch around top of bag with 1/2" seam. Turn the bag right side out the opening in the lining.



46. After bag is turned, pin top evenly keeping the seam centered at the top. Top stitch with 3/8" seam, then top stitch again ~1/2" below first seam to secure shoulder straps twice.

47. Stack 2 pieces of plastic canvas on top of each other and tape edges together with duct tape. Slip plastic canvas through opening in lining & center at bottom of bag. Stitch opening closed.



48. Cut ribbon in half. Fold bag sides in at the center until draw string sleeves meet in the center outside. Tie ribbons to keep center fold intact. Cut ribbon ends at an angle & use lighter to singe ends of ribbon to prevent fraying.



49. The draw string ribbon cinches the bag sides in to close the top opening more which also makes the side pockets more accessible! Very roomy bag that you will just love using or giving as a gift! You're finished!