

# TOTE BAGS

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

For list of supplies (for pocket and tab closures) refer to the text files provided with your order.  
A separate PDF file with illustrations & instructions for making the tote bag is provided with your order.



1. Cut your pocket fabric 10 1/2" x 14" or larger (if necessary) to fit your hoop. Cut thin quilt batting the same size, place under the fabric & center both in hoop.



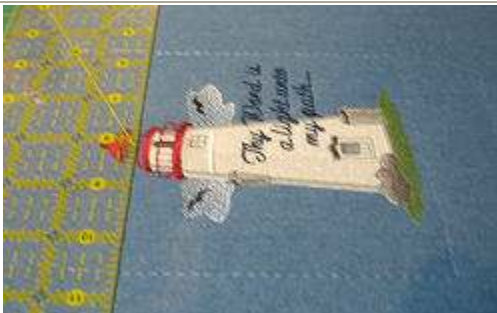
2. Flip hoop to the back side and place a piece of light weight tear away stabilizer 6" x 6" centered. Tape it in place and put hoop on machine.



3. Stitch the design on the front following the instructions in the text file for the design you are making. (Note: A basting stitch will stitch around the design as well)



4. When finished stitching the design, remove from hoop and steam iron with a press cloth over the design.



5. Trim the fabric to the correct size using the basting outline as a measuring guide. NOTE: The text files provided with the designs will tell you how much fabric to trim from the top/bottom and both sides. After the pocket is cut to size, remove the basting stitches.



6. Steam iron the front pocket again to remove the basting line indent. Place the embroidered fabric and fabric for lining right sides together and stitch along the top & bottom with a 1/2" seam.



7. Trim the batting from the seam allowance. Turn right side out & press, keeping the seam even at the bottom but let the front piece roll to the back side at the top.



8. NOTE: The pocket lining fabric is cut 1/2" shorter in height so that the top edge of front fabric will roll to the back side just a tad to keep it from showing.



9. Turn right side out and press keeping the seam even at the bottom so that the top edge turns to the back side just a tad. Top stitch along the top edge. Set aside.



10. Now let's make the tab closure! Hoop vilene or aqua magic wash away stabilizer and stitch the first color in the design directly on the stabilizer, no fabric yet.



11. Remove hoop and flip over to back side. Center a piece of light weight tear away stabilizer over the outline and tape in place.



12. Flip hoop to the right side. Place quilt batting with fabric on top centered over the outline. Tape in place and put hoop on machine.



13. Stitch the design according to the instructions in the text file for the design you are making.



14. After the center design has stitched, remove hoop and flip to back side. Center your lining fabric over the outline and tape in place. Put hoop on machine.



15. The next color in design stitches the outline again to tack down the lining fabric (this step stitches a narrow zigzag and then a single stitch outline on top)



16. Remove hoop and trim the excess fabric/batting and tear away stabilizer from around the outline on BOTH sides of the hoop. Put hoop back on machine.



17. The last color in the design stitches the nice satin stitch edging and the buttonhole.

18. When finished, flip hoop to back side and trim the tab closure from the wash away stabilizer cutting at least 1/6" inch away from the satin stitches along the edge

Cut a slit in the buttonhole. Run a warm wet rag along the edges to dissolve the remaining wash away stabilizer. Lay flat to dry. Now it's time to make the tote bag! Please refer to the PDF file that has step by step instructions with illustrations for making the tote bag. (PDF file is provided with your order)