

TZW MAKERS GROUP

REUSABLE BAG PROJECT GUIDELINES

PROJECT CONTACTS

Cailin Jalynski

Project Lead | Makers Community Director

Nancy Riemer

Project Lead (Cary)

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GETTING STARTED

MATERIALS

Bags:

- T-shirts
- Sheets
- Pillowcases
- Curtains
- Tablecloths
- Feed bags
- Secondhand fabric

Straps (if not same as bag):

- Webbing for handles; old handles, leashes
- T-shirt yarn handles
- Jeans and khaki pants for straps

*This list is just a guide to get started. We welcome your creativity and use of whatever resources you have access to.

** Keep in mind that durability of the fabric and the ability to be washed/cleaned is important to keep these bags functional for as long as possible.

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SECONDHAND FABRIC

Local Resources:

- Friends and Family (ask for unwanted sheets, curtains, etc)
- Goodwill
- Value Village
- Salvation Army
- The Scrap Exchange (Durham , NC)
- [CVAN Cool Used Stuff](#) (Greater Charlotte)

Online Resources:

- Buy Nothing Groups
- Estate Sale Auctions (also local options)
- [Fabscrap Packs](#)
- [Fabric Scraps on Etsy](#)
- [Canvas etc. free 5lb fabric scrap box](#)

BAG SPECS



PREFERRED FINISHED BAG SPECS:

MINIMUM SIZE : 13" X 13"

MAXIMUM SIZE : 17" X 17"

STRAP HEIGHT: 10 - 13" (FROM SHOULDER)

*This is the ideal size range for the finished tote bags. If you want to make anything smaller, it will be considered a produce bag. For small scraps, consider making a cutlery wrap!

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PATTERNS & TUTORIALS

VIDEO

Flat Bottom Tote (Needlepointers) | [Video Tutorial](#) **

DIY Tote Bag (Whitney Sews) | [Video Tutorial](#) **

Color Block Tote (All People Quilt) [Pattern](#) | [Video Tutorial](#)

Reusable Market Bag (All People Quilt) | [Video Tutorial](#)

WRITTEN

Simple Tote Bag (Seasoned Homemaker) | [Step-by-step Tutorial](#) **

The Forty Minute Tote (Purl Soho) | [Step-by-step Tutorial](#)

*This list is just a guide to get started. There are plenty of free patterns and tutorials online, so feel free to use whatever best suits your fabric, sewing ability level, and fits within the size specs!

**Very beginner friendly patterns with minimal waste, tested by Nancy!

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WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS CONTACT THE PROJECT LEADERS

Who do I give the bags to once they are complete?

- Coordinate a drop-off with Cailin or Nancy and they will handle the rest!

How will the bags be used?

- TZW Makers group will be partnering with local farmers markets, businesses, and organizations to distribute the bags to members of the community!

How will the recipient know I made the bag?

- Cailin and Nancy will be attaching labels with a custom hand-stamped logo, which includes a space to acknowledge who made the bag!



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