



# STRAP INSTRUCTIONS

## Make Straps

Cut a strip of fabric to the required length and 4 times the finished strap width. TZW bag straps are approximately 20-24 inches long and 1-2 inches wide.

Fold the strap in half (lengthwise) with the right side of fabric facing out, and press a crease along the fold.

Open out and, one side at a time, fold the outside edges into the center fold, and press. Then, fold lengthwise once more so the folded edges align and iron. The handle should be 1 inch wide with 4 layers of fabric.



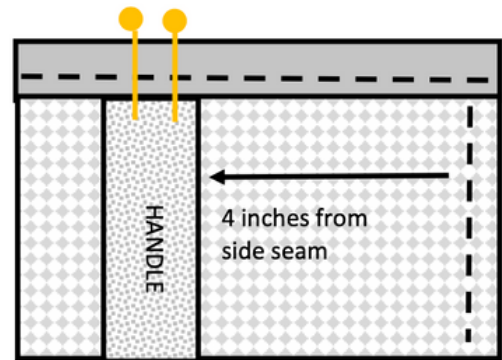
Iron the folded strap and pin along the long open edge. Using a straight stitch, stitch along both sides of the handle close to the fold.

## Attaching Straps to Unlined Tote

On the top edge of bag, turn the fabric under 1 inch and press flat. Turn it under again 1 inch and press.

Take one strap and insert the end under the folded fabric 4 inches from the side and pin it in place. Without twisting the handle, insert the other end of the strap under the folded fabric 4 inches from the other side of the bag.

Edgestitch along the inside (lower) fold.



Fold the handle upward. Secure it in place by sewing an X where the handle joins the top of the bag. Sew a row of topstitching at the top edge of the bag, securing the straps as you sew.

Repeat the process to attach the other strap.



## Attach Straps to Lined Tote

Mark 1 inch at each end of strap. With right side of bag facing up, place one strap end 4 inches from the side of the bag, leaving 1 inch extended beyond the top of the bag.



This extra 1 inch adds strength to the bag straps and top seam. Without twisting the strap, repeat for the other side.

Repeat to attach the second strap.

Follow bag instructions to attach the lining.



## Tip: Closed End Strap

If the fabric is thick, you may wish to reduce bulk and use a closed end strap and attach it without inserting it under the top edge folds.

To make a closed end strap, press under  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch of the short ends of the strap before folding and pressing the strap lengthwise. This will enclose raw edges of the strap.

1



2



3



## References:

The steps and methods described have been adapted from Needlepointers and Boomerang Bag.

Scan the QR code below to access video tutorial:

