



UNLINED TOTE BAG

Pre-cut Kit Instructions

Getting Started

Your kit has the following for each bag:

- 2 rectangles (18" x 22") & 2 strips (4" x 20")
- or 1 rectangle (approx 18" x 36") & 2 strips (4" x 20")

*sizes may vary slightly

If fabric is wrinkled, iron it; it will make it easier to sew. Take note if the print is directional or one-way print, meaning there is a clear up or down to the pattern. The "up" should be at the top opening edge of the bag!

Step 1 : Make Straps

Fold one of the 4-inch wide strips of fabric in half lengthwise, right side out, and press with iron along the fold.

Open the fabric and fold each raw edge of the fabric to the center crease and iron.

Then, fold lengthwise once more so the folded edges align and iron.

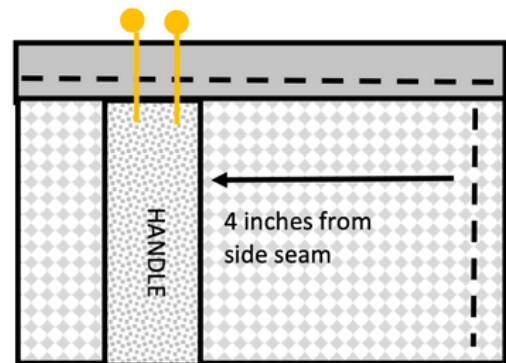
The strap should be 1 inch wide with 4 layers of fabric. Straight stitch along both sides of the strap close to the edge on one side and along the fold on the other side.

Step 2 : Attach Straps

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

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

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.



Attach the second handle to the other top edge by repeating the above process.

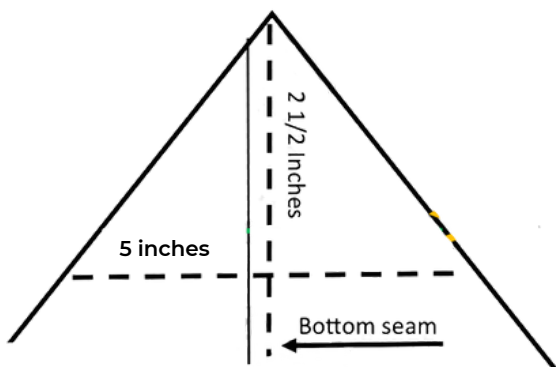
Step 3 : Sew Bag Together with French Seams

Beginning with the *WRONG* sides together and sides pinned, sew a straight stitch along both side edges and the bottom of the bag with a 1/4-inch seam; backstitch at the beginning and the end of the seam. Turn the tote bag inside out, push out the corners, and iron the seams flat.

Again sew the side seams with a straight stitch but this time use a 3/8-inch seam. The side seams' raw edges are now completely enclosed.

Step 4: Box the Corners

Fold the bottom corner flat matching up the center bottom seam with the side seam, forming a triangle. Pin in place.



Measure 2 1/2 inches from the tip of the triangle using a 45-degree angle on your ruler as a guide and draw a 5-inch line along the ruler's edge.

Sew on that line and then repeat for the other corner. Turn the bag right side out.

Step 5: Attach Label



Sew your Toward Zero Waste Makers label to the front, center of the bag an inch or so below the top hem and sign!

References:

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

To reference the video tutorial visit: <https://bit.ly/3DFrt2C>

Or scan the QR code below:

