

Draw-String Tote Bag Instruction Class

March 8th with Carol Bowman

Tote Bag size: approximately 12 1/2" x 11"

This tote has a draw string closing and can be made with either purchased handles or fabric straps; but I will be providing instruction for the fabric straps. The tote has two appliques on the bottom corners of both front and back. These should be of contrasting fabric. The facing/draw string area on the top can either be another contrasting fabric or the same as the primary fabric. Just remember to purchase enough fabric accordingly.

Suggested fabric: cotton or cotton blends, or my preference of home decorating fabrics as they have a little more strength and weight to them.

Items you will need:

- threads to match primary fabric as well as contrasting fabric
- 1/2 yard of your primary purse fabric
- 1/2 yard of contrasting fabric for appliques and straps or 20" x 14" piece of contrasting fabric for loops and appliques (if you are purchasing handles)
- 1/2 yard of contrasting fabric for facing (This is the top, draw string area.)
- 3/4 yard of lining fabric
- 1 1/4 yard of interfacing (I prefer to use the Pellon fusible #971) as it is thicker and gives more support to the tote
- 1 yard of 3/8" wide ribbon (This will be used as the draw string.)
- One 12 7/8" x 4 3/8" piece of cardboard (I use the cardboard centers from the fabric bolts)
- Note: If you are adding purchased handles rather than making the fabric ones, you need to purchase one pair of handles that have an approximate opening of 5 1/2".

Prior to class you will need to:

- Cut tote pieces including lining, facing and interfacing pieces. Mark/label each piece.