



Fold up tote

Materials required:

Half a metre of 100% cotton for the outer
Half a metre of 100% cotton for the lining
¼ metre of 100% cotton for the pocket (non-directional print)
Handles and tab can be cut from either outer or lining.
Optional 1" lobster clasp

Cutting guide:

Pocket – (Cut x 2) 6" wide x 11" long
Optional tab (Cut x 1) 4" x 2.5"
Outer – (Cut x 2) 14" wide x 16" long
Lining - (Cut x 2) 14" wide x 16" long
Handles – (Cut x 2) 4" wide x 24" long

¼" seam allowance unless otherwise stated

Make the pocket

- 1) Place pocket panels RST and fold in half lengthways. Cut a gentle curve on one short edge to round the corners of your flap
- 2) Sew around the pocket piece leaving an opening of a few inches on 1 side to turn
- 3) Clip the curve or use pinking shears and remove the bulk from the bottom corners. Turn in the right way and press well
- 4) Draw up from the bottom edge 7.5" and draw a line with a removable pen
- 5) Top stitch along this line and around the curve with a 1/8" allowance and a stitch length of 3
- 6) (You will top stitch the sides and close the opening later)
- 7) Press the pocket as if it was folded up
- 8) Add a male popper to the flap centrally ¾" up from the curved edge
- 9) Add a female popper centrally 2.5" up from the bottom fold (1" down from the opening edge) to allow room for the folded up bag once it's completed.

Make the optional tab

- 1) Press the tab in half lengthways and then press the raw edges into the crease line WST to enclose them
- 2) Press the folded edges together
- 3) Top stitch down both lengths with a 1/8" allowance and a stitch length of 3.5
- 4) Fold around the lobster clasp/D ring and top stitch close to the hardware

Adding the pocket to the bag

- 1) Find the centre of 1 outer panel
- 2) Position the pocket centrally with the inside of the pocket facing down onto the RS of the fabric
- 3) Tuck the tab underneath the pocket centrally on either side.
- 4) Pin the pocket in place and top stitch it in place with a 1/8" allowance and a 3.5 length stitch along both of the sides and the bottom that you have previously left unstitched. (Leaving the top edge open allows for a pocket on the front of your bag when it is in use that will fit your mobile phone)!

Making the handles

- 1) Press the handles in half lengthways and then press the raw edges into the crease line WST to enclose them
- 2) Press the folded edges together
- 3) Top stitch down both lengths with a 1/8" allowance and a stitch length of 3.5
- 4) Baste the raw edges of the handles with a ¼" allowance onto the front of your outer along the top edge. Position them just inside the edges of the pocket. (The handles will hang downwards towards the base of your bag at this point)
- 5) Match the positioning with your other side and handle and baste in place.

Making up the bag

- 1) Place your outer RST and sew down both sides and along the bottom.
- 2) Remove the bulk from the corners and turn in the right way and press
- 3) Place your lining RST and sew down both sides and along the bottom leaving an opening of a few inches in the bottom edge to turn
- 4) Place your two bags RST with the handles hanging down between the two layers. Sew around the top edge of the bag with a 5/8" allowance.
- 5) Turn in through the opening in the bottom, press the opening in the lining closed and top stitch close to the folded edge
- 6) Press the bag well and top stitch around the top edge of the bag to complete with a 3.5 length stitch.

TA DA!!! You've completed your project

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