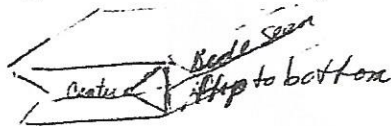


TOTE BAG INSTRUCTIONS - CARING UNLIMITED

1. These bags can be any size. Suggest you start with approximately 3/4 yard of two fabrics, one for the inside lining and one for the outside of tote.
2. The size I am going to use, is I think about the smallest I would go for Caring Unlimited, but don't not make one because you are an inch smaller, it won't matter.
3. Starting with a lining fabric, 33 x 20, and an outside fabric, same size, fold each in half so that you have a piece 16 1/2 by 20. Iron your fold or mark it in some way as this is a reference line for the bottom of the tote bag.
4. Cut a four inch width strip across one of your fabrics for the handles. Cut in half, handle is then 4 x 22 aprox.
Fold handle rectangle in half, lengthwise so have a piece 2 x 22. Iron crease so that you can then open and fold in the two raw edges into the middle line. Fold in half, now have a piece 1 x 22. Top stitch around all four edges of handles.
Make 2.
5. Make a pocket, again, can be any size. Approximately 5x10. Use both lining and outside fabric, right sides together, stitch around, leaving opening for turning, turn right side out, top stitch around closing opening. Pin to right side of lining fabric, equal distance from outside edge and aprox. 4-5 inches up from center fold (bottom of bag) lining fabric. Sew in place on three sides leaving open opposite bottom of bag.
6. On both the outside fabric and the lining fabric, sew side seams of bag (not the lining and outside fabric together, you are making two separate bags).
7. At the bottom of the bag (do this on both the lining and outside bag) measure in from the side seam aprox 2 inchs (This can vary slightly) open out the fabric away from the seam so that you have a triangle with the side seam in the center. Draw a line perpendicular to the side seam at aprox. 2 inches. make sure your fabric is flat and then sew along this line, do this on both sides at the bottom of the bags, now you have triangles flapping at the ends of your bag. Tack triangle point to the center fold line on bottom of bag. This makes your bag have a flat bottom.



8. Pin handles to right side of the lining fabric, aprox. 4 inches in from the side seam. MAKE SURE WHEN YOU PIN THE HANDLES ON THAT

THE RAW EDGE OF THE HANDLE AND THE RAW EDGE OF LINING ARE MATCHED, THIS MEANS THE HANDLE LOOP IS TOWARDS THE BOTTOM OF THE BAG, MAKE SURE HANDLE IS SMOOTH, NO TWISTS.

9. Put the right side of the outside fabric to the right side of the lining fabric, make sure handle loops are out of the way. Sew the outside and lining fabric together around the top, leave an opening to turn inside out. Turn the bag right side out and top stitch around the top. I do this twice, once very narrow, making sure that I fold in the opening used for turning and then I sew again a little wider, this gives the handles a bit more reinforcement.

10. Viola! You are done. Any changes you want to make to this is okay. There is no exact size requirement or pocket requirement etc.