

LINED CANVAS TOTE BAG – FREE PATTERN

MATERIALS

- **Indoor/Outdoor Fabric for Outer Shell, ½ yard**
- **Duck-Cloth (Heavy Canvas) for Bottom Panel and Handles, ½ yard**
- **Coordinating Fabric for Lining**
The indoor/outdoor fabric plus the duck-cloth can get thick, so a lighter-weight option like quilting cotton is a good choice here.
- **Coordinating thread and heavy-duty needle**

CUTTING

The dimensions listed here will create a final Tote Bag 8 ½" wide x 11 ½" tall x 4" deep. You can easily change these dimensions to fit your need; keep in mind that the seam allowance varies.

Indoor/Outdoor Fabric

Outer Shell: 14" x 15 ½"; cut 2

Pocket: 5 ¾" x 6 ½"; cut 1

Duck-Cloth

Bottom Panels: 14" x 6 ¾"; cut 2 [*Edited 5/21/14 to the correct measurements.*]

Handles: 3" x 46"; cut 2

Coordinating Fabric

Lining: 14" x 15 ½"; cut 2

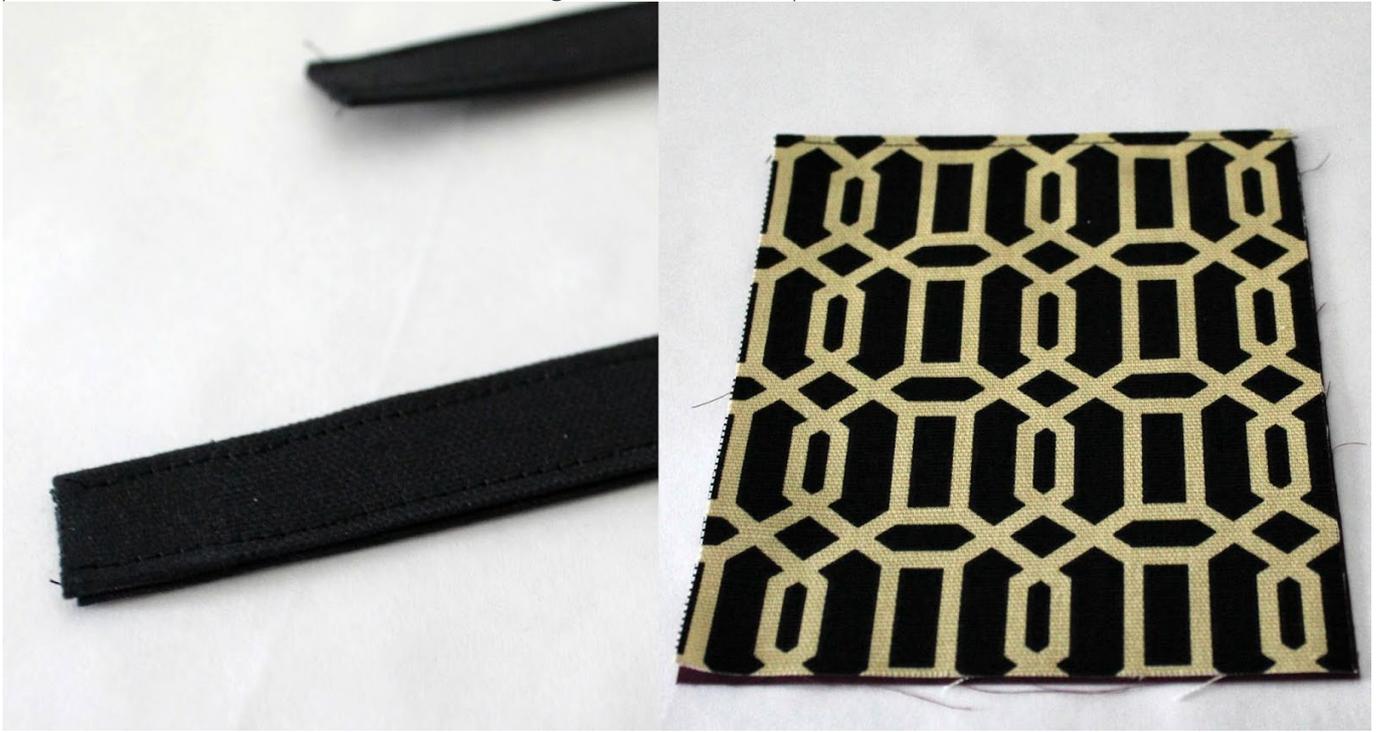
Pocket: 5 ¾" x 6 ½"; cut 1

CONSTRUCTION

PREPARE HANDLES AND POCKET

1. Prepare each Handle by folding it in half, wrong sides together, and press. Open it up and press each outside edge to the center line. Fold the fabric in half again and press. The final width of the Handle will be ¾", with the raw edges enclosed in the fold. Edge-stitch down each side. Set aside.

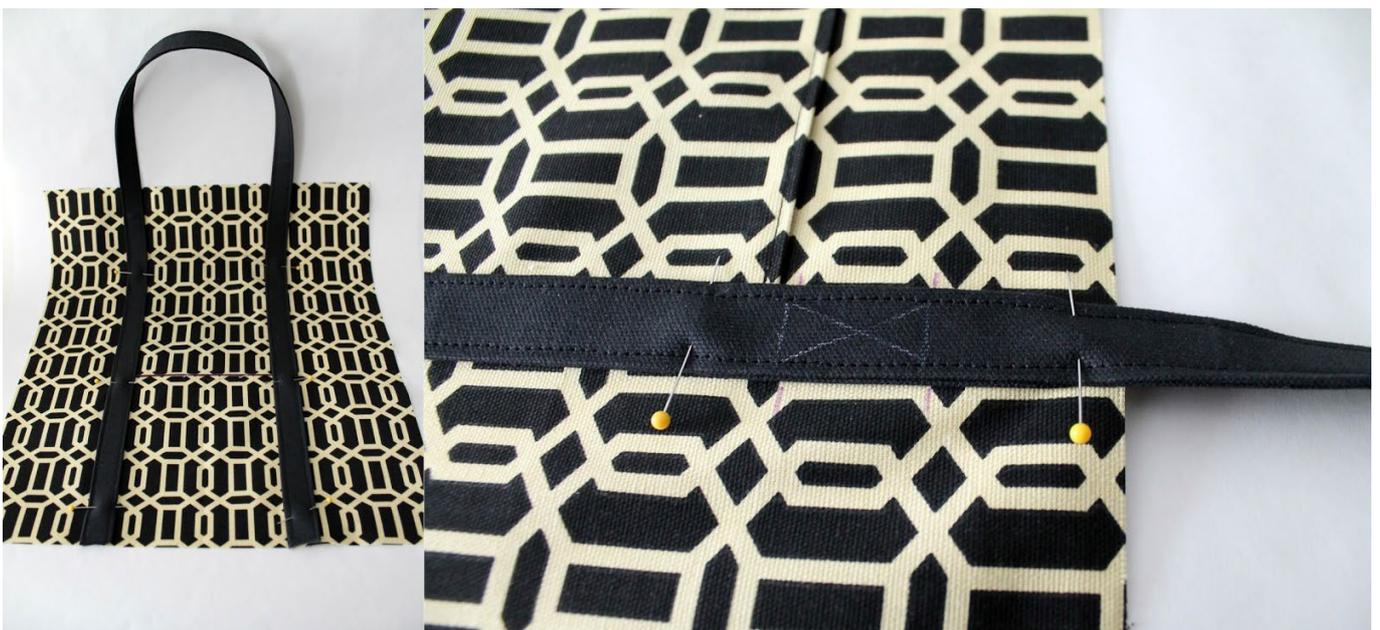
2. Prepare the Outer Pocket by placing Shell fabric and Lining fabric right sides together. Sew just the top seam with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Turn right sides out and press.



Steps 1 & 2: Prepare the Handles and the Front Pocket

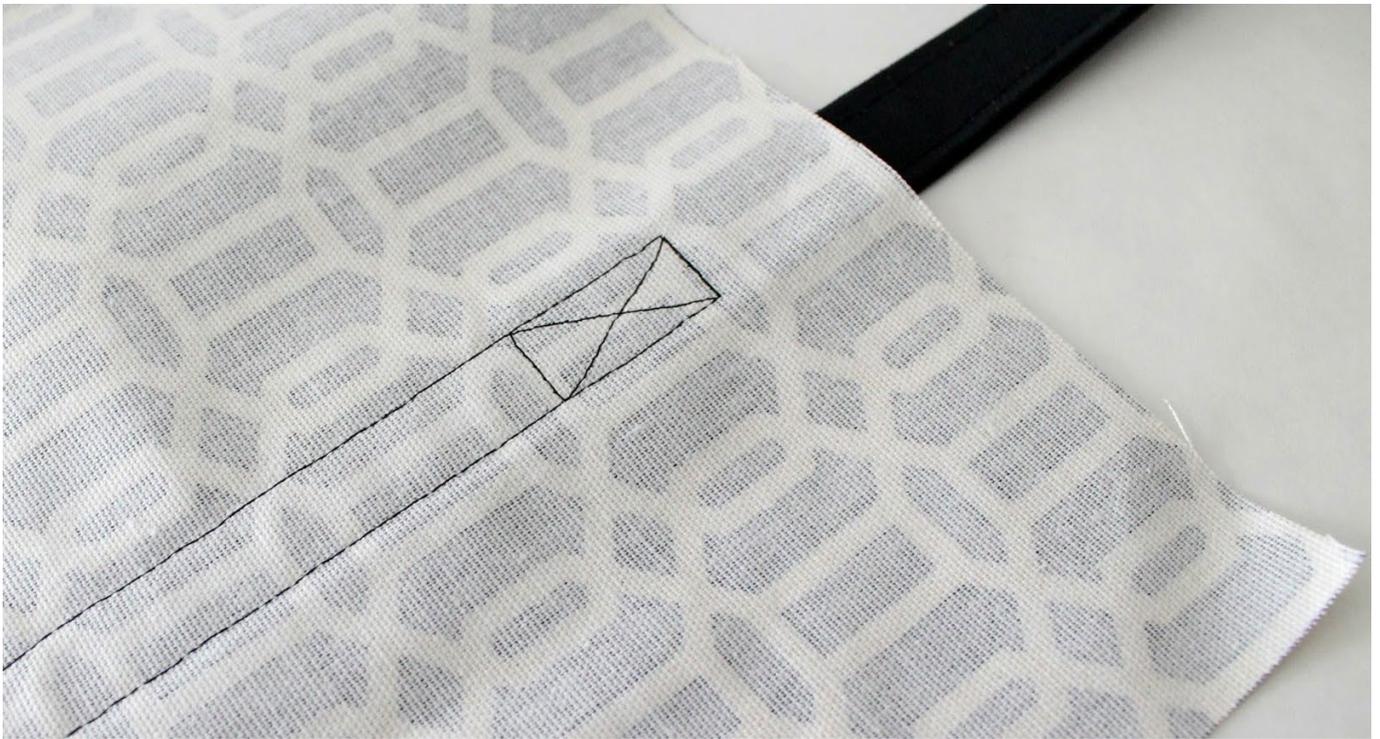
ATTACH POCKET AND HANDLES

3. Align the prepared Outer Pocket on the center of the Front Outer Shell with the top, sewn edge of Pocket down $3\frac{1}{4}$ " from the top raw edge of the Outer Shell. Sew the sides of Pocket in place with a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.
4. Place one prepared Handle on the Front Outer Shell, centered 5" apart, aligning the raw ends with the Bottom edge of the Shell. Be careful not to twist the Handle where it extends over the top of the Shell. The Handle will overlap the side edges of the Outer Pocket. Pin in place. Mark lines on the Handle $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from the raw top edge of the Shell, and again $1\frac{1}{4}$ " down from the first lines. Sew the Handle to the Front Outer Shell one side at a time; stop stitching on your marked line, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from the top. Begin at Bottom edge, sew over the previous top-stitching on the Handle, and create X patterns as pictured using your marked lines as guides.



Steps 4 & 5: Attach the Handle and mark the stitch locations.

5. Repeat Step 4 to attach the second Handle to the Back Outer Shell.



Steps 4 & 5: You should sew this from the front of the bag, but here's a view of the stitch pattern from the wrong side of the Back Outer Shell—easier to see than on the dark front.

ATTACH BOTTOM PANELS

6. With the right sides together and with one Bottom Panel oriented seemingly upside down (bottom edge lying towards the top raw edge of one Outer Shell), align the top raw edge of the Bottom Panel 6 1/4" from the bottom raw edge of the Outer Shell. Sew along the top edge of the Bottom Panel with a 1/4" seam allowance. On the Front Shell, this will pocket the Bottom Panel into the Pocket, Bottoming the bottom edge of the Bottom Panel into place. Press. Top-stitch along the edge.



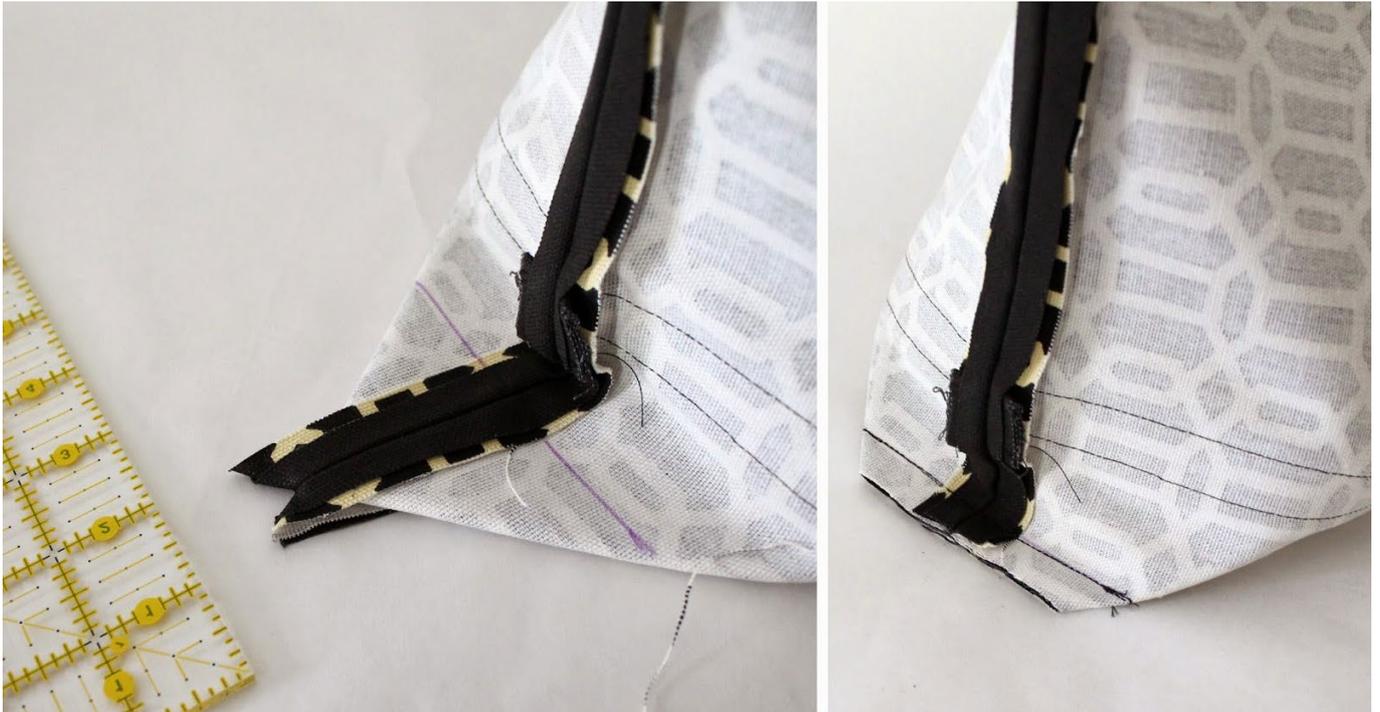
Steps 6 & 7: Sew, flip & press, then top-stitch the Bottom Panels in place.

7. Repeat Step 6 with the second Bottom Panel and Outer Shell.

CONSTRUCT OUTER SHELL & LINING

8. With the right sides together, place the Front Outer Shell and the Back Outer Shell together, being sure to align the Handles and the tops of the Bottom Panels. Sew along the bottom seams and the bottom seam using a 1/2" seam allowance. Reinforce the bottom seam by sewing it a second time. Press seams.

openBottom Pinch one bottom corner together so that the bottom seam and the side seam touch. Mark up 2" from the corner point and draw a 4"-wide line perpendicular to the seams. Stitch on the line. Stitch again to reinforce the seam. Trim the seam allowance to 1/2". Repeat on the second bottom corner. Set aside.



Step 9: Pinch, mark, sew, and trim to create the bottom corner.

10. Repeat Steps 8 & 9 with the Lining Fabric.

JOIN OUT SHELL & LINING

11. Pin the Handles down onto the Outer Shell so they are out of the way. With the Outer Shell right side out, and the Lining right side in, place the Outer Shell into the Lining so that the right sides are together and the top, raw edges align. Pin in place matching the side seams and avoiding the Handles. Sew together with a 1" seam allowance, but leave a 4–5" opening for turning.



Step 11: Join the Lining and the Outer Shell. | **Helpful Tip:** When leaving an opening, I use two pins to indicate where I plan to start and stop stitching so that I don't accidentally keep going around.

12. Reach into the opening and turn the bag right side out. Position the Lining in place and press.
13. Edge-stitch the top seam, closing the opening for turning as you do so. Then top-stitch a generous $\frac{1}{4}$ " down from the edge-stitching.



Step 13: Top-stitch the top edge, avoiding the Handles so they fall open easily.