

Creative Thursdays! at the Walnut Creek Library
February 26, 2015
Sarah's Adapted Instructions for Reversible Tote
(omitting two-tone exterior & pocket)

Supplies:

1 yard of fabric

Four 16 x 17 ½ rectangles (2 for exterior; 2 for interior, can be same all the same fabric or 2 different fabrics)

Two 5 x 17 ½ strips for the handles

Ruler or tape measure

Scissors OR Rotary cutter and self-healing mat

Thread (matching or contrasting with fabric, will only show on edge stitching)

Fabric marker or pencil or chalk

Sewing machine

Iron & ironing board

Sewing instructions:

1. Sew Exterior: Pin two exterior pieces with right sides together. Sew sides and bottom, leaving a ½ inch seam allowance. Press seams open.
2. Box Bottom: Pin the bottom seam of the exterior to one side seam to create a boxed bottom. Measure in 1 ½ inches from the corner and mark. Sew across, creating a triangle at the corner. Repeat on the other side. Trim corners to ½" from the stitch line.
3. Make handles: Fold one handle in half lengthwise, wrong sides together and press. Open, then fold both long edges toward the center crease and press. Refold along center crease and press. Repeat with the other handle. Edge stitch long edges of each handle.
4. Attach handles to exterior: With exterior bag right side out, measure 4" in from each side seam and mark on both front and back. Center short edges of handles over marks, with raw edges aligned, and pin in place. Sew in place, using a ¼" seam allowance.
5. Sew Lining: Pin lining pieces right sides together. Sew along both sides and bottom. Box the bottom of the lining the same as the exterior (step 2).
6. Sew Lining to Exterior: Turn exterior inside out. Turn lining right side out. Place lining inside exterior so right sides are together and pin along the top, matching side seams. Mark a 3" opening between the handles on the back of the bag. Sew around the top edge, leaving the marked 3" gap unsewn. Turn the bag right side out through the opening. Tuck in the seam allowance of the opening. Press top edge of bag, then edge stitch all the way around.

TA-DAH!