

Directions for Kid's Tote Bag

Bag designed by Heather Thompson

Directions by Judy Carver – June 12, 2010

You will be making 2 tote bags—one will be the lining for the other.

Cut the fabric for each bag exactly the same. Place the short edge with the cut-outs on the fold of your fabric.

Cut 4 handles—2 handles from Color A and 2 handles from Color B

1. Sew Tote #1—Color A:
 - a. Sew both **long sides** of the tote, right sides together, using a **1/4" seam**.
 - b. Match the end of one side seam to the “fold line” on the bottom of the bag, and line up the raw edges, right sides together, and pin. Pin the rest of the seam, matching the raw edges.
 - c. Sew this portion (which helps create the “platform bottom” of the bag) using a **1/2" seam**.
 - d. Repeat steps b. and c. for the other side of the bag.
2. Sew Tote #2 – Color B (the “lining” tote) exactly as you did for Tote #1 above.
3. Sew the Handles
 - a. Take 1 Color A handle and 1 Color B handle, and place them right sides together.
 - b. Sew **ONLY** the long edges together, using **1/4" seam**. Leave both ends of the handles open.
 - c. Turn the handles right side out and iron them carefully.
 - d. Top-stitch along both **long edges** of each handle, **1/4"** away from the edge.
4. Iron both bags, pressing the side seams to the side and the short bottom seams toward the platform bottom.

Putting It All Together

5. Using pins, mark the placement for the outer edge of each strap, 7" away from the side seams of each bag.
6. Turn Tote #1 inside out and lay it aside.
7. Starting at the bottom of Tote #2, loosely roll it up a few inches from its top edge and lay it on a table.
8. Pin one raw end of a handle (matching Color B of the handle to Color B of the tote) at the proper placement, making sure the raw edges of each are aligned.
9. Bring the other end of the handle underneath and back up to the other side of the Tote #2, adjacent to the part of the handle you just pinned in place—making sure you haven't twisted the handle and that the colors are matching up.
10. Repeat steps 7 and 8 for the other handle.
11. Carefully insert Tote #2 inside Tote #1, so that the right sides of each bag are together.
12. Line up the seams on one side of the bags, and pin. Continue pinning around the edge, matching up the placement pins for the handles on both bags.
You should have only raw edges exposed...no handles sticking out!
13. Sew through all layers along the top edge of the bags (2 bags and all the handles), using a **1/2" seam**—but keep 5" un-sewn.
14. Now use the 5" opening to pull the inside bag to the outside, and turn the inside-out bag, right-side out.
15. Iron along the top edge, making sure the seam line is nicely centered on the top (not toward the inside or outside of the bag). Press the 1/2" fabric edges at the 5" opening to the inside.
16. Top-stitch around the entire bag 1/4" away from the top edge, and then again 1/2" away from the top edge.
17. Your Tote is now complete! ☺

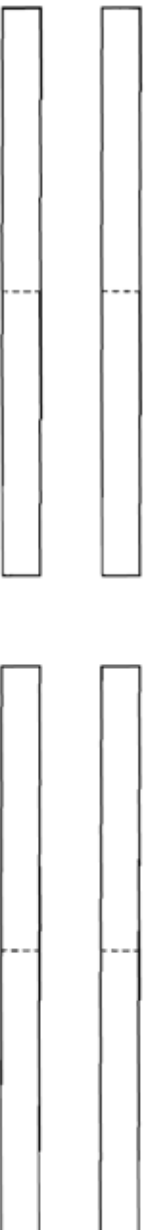


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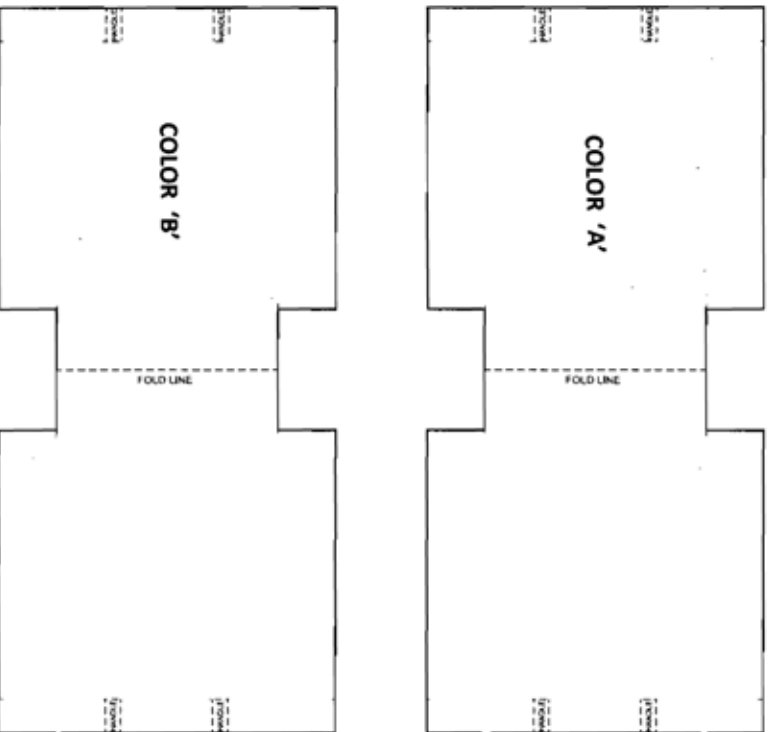
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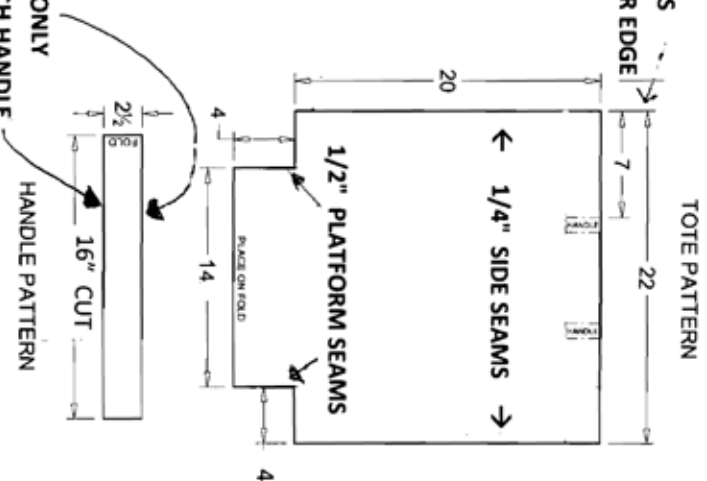
HANDLE PIECES
(4) REQUIRED PER TOTE



HANDLE PLACEMENT IS
7 INCHES FROM OUTER EDGE

1/4" SEAMS ALONG ONLY
LONG EDGES OF EACH HANDLE

TOTE PIECES
(2) REQUIRED PER TOTE
(1) INSIDE, (1) OUTSIDE



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