

pellon[®]

*The Magic
in the Middle*

The Gift Bag Tote Skill Level: Beginner

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Sewn By
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<http://punkinpatterns.blogspot.com>



This little gift bag is reusable, eco-friendly and elegant. It would be a great gift for a friend and is sure to be a new favorite. At the top of each bag is a contrasting fabric strip. The project contains directions for two sizes.

Fabrics Needed - Makes one large or two small bags

Main color	3/4 yard
Contrast color	1/4 yard

Materials Needed

Pellon [®] 987F Fusible Fleece	1/2 yard
Pellon [®] 71F Peltex [®] I Ultra-Firm	1/3 yard
1-1/4" Wide cotton webbing (belting)	1 yard
Thread	

Tools Needed

Sewing machine and related supplies
Rotary cutter and related supplies

<http://www.pellonprojects.com>

Graphic Artist Alexandra Henry

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Instructions

Cutting Instructions

NOTE: Small version size is in parenthesis.

Main fabric	Cut four 14-1/2" x 17-1/2" rectangles (10-1/2" squares)
Contrast fabric	Cut two 5" x 17-1/2" rectangles (4" x 10-1/2" rectangles) Cut two 3" x 17-1/2" rectangles (3" x 15" rectangles)
Fusible Fleece	Cut two 16" x 17-1/2" rectangles (10-1/2" x 11-1/2" rectangles)
Peltex®	Cut one 5" x 10-1/2" rectangle (4" x 7" rectangle)
Cotton belting	Cut two 14" pieces (one 12" piece)

Use 1/2" seam allowances unless otherwise stated.

For the front of the bag, place one 14-1/2" x 17-1/2" (10-1/2" sq) main fabric and one 5" x 17-1/2" (4" x 10-1/2") contrast fabric right sides together. Stitch on the long edge. Press seam toward the darker fabric. Repeat for the back of the bag.



Fuse the Fusible Fleece, using the manufacturer's instructions, to the wrong side of the bag pieces, aligning the bottom of the Fleece to the bottom of the bag pieces.

NOTE: The Fleece will not go all the way to the top of the bag pieces.



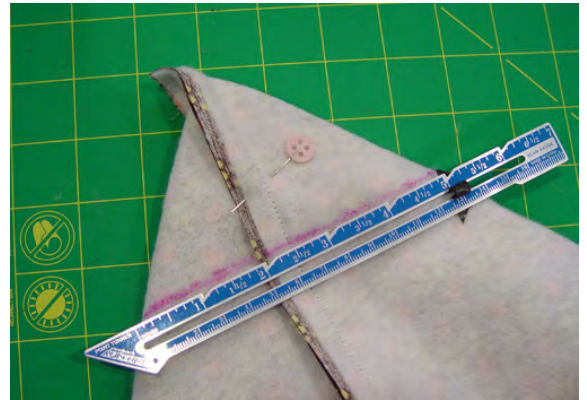
Place the front and back of the bag right sides together. Pin, leaving the top edge open. Stitch seam using a 1/2" seam allowance.

Repeat this step with the remaining two main 14-1/2" x 17-1/2" (10-1/2" sq) bag pieces to make the lining.



Pull the corners out flat and mark a line where the corner measures 5" (4") across.

Repeat this step for the lining.



Sew along this line, reinforcing it. Cut away the excess fabric. Turn bag right side out.

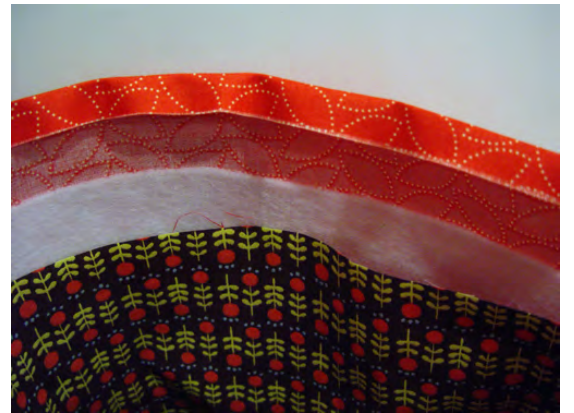
Repeat this step for the lining but do not turn the lining right side out.



Place the 5" x 10-1/2" (4" x 7") Peltex® rectangle, fusible side down, into the bottom of the bag.



Place the lining inside the bag with wrong sides together. Turn the bag contrast fabric in 1/2" as shown. Press.



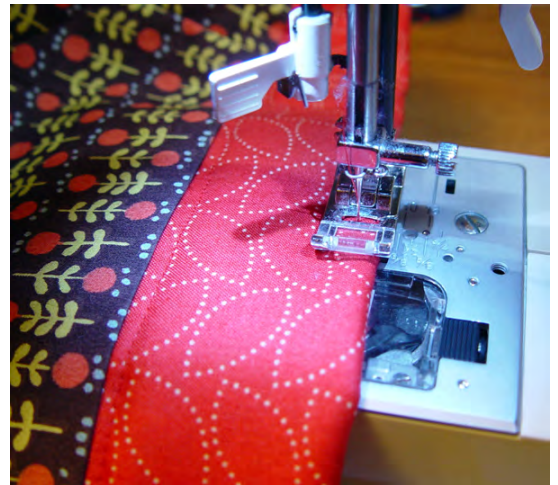
Fold the bag contrast fabric down so it covers the lining. Pin in place from the outside of the bag.



Stitch around the contrast fabric 1/8" from the edge catching the fabric on the inside to secure it.

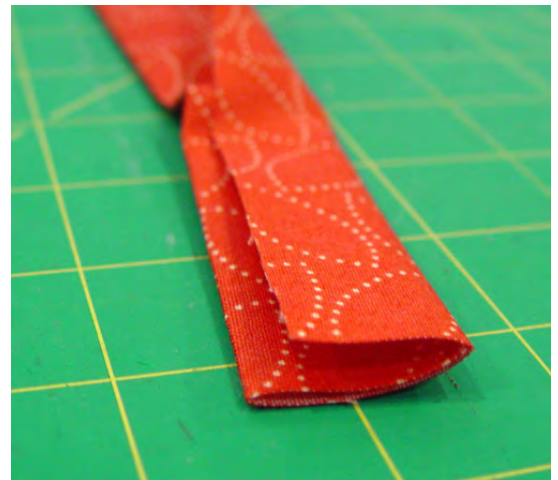


Topstitch 1/8" from edge of bag. Set bag aside.



Handles

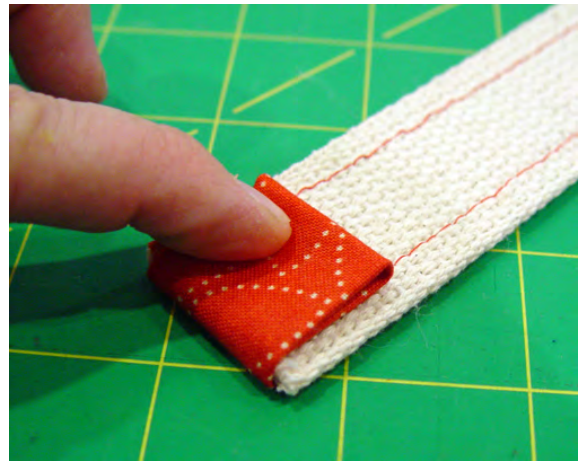
Fold the two 3" x 17-1/2" (one 3" x 15") piece(s) of contrast fabric into thirds. Press.



Place this folded fabric onto the center of the belting. Stitch close to both edges to secure. Leave the tail on each end.



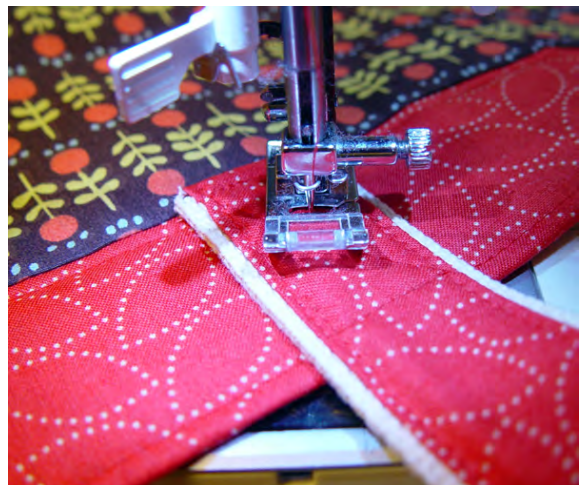
Fold the tail piece so it meets the belting. Fold again and secure. Repeat for a second handle if doing the larger bag.



For the larger size bag, place the handle 5" in from each side and stitch in place. Repeat for the other side.



For the smaller size bag, place one end of the handle centered on the front of the bag and the other end centered on the back of the bag. Stitch in place.



To fold flat, simply flatten the bottom (like a paper bag). While the bag is flattened fuse the Peltex® rectangle to the bottom of the bag, following manufacturer's instructions.

