

pellon®

*The Magic
in the Middle*

Memory Tote

Skill Level: Intermediate



Create this tote bag using photographs of a memorable occasion or person. This project would be a great hostess gift, a farewell gift, or just a fabulous present for that someone special who was visiting. This roomy tote is easy to make and very sturdy. It folds down flat for easy storage when not in use.

Fabrics Needed

Outer Bag Fabric	1/2 yard
Lining Fabric	1/2 yard
Handles and Pocket Fabric	1/2 yard

Materials Needed

Pellon® Peltex® 71F	5/8 yd (1/2 yd for bag, 1/8" for handle)
Pellon® TruGrid™ 810	1 yard
Pellon® Wonder Under® 805	1/4 yard
Thread	
Photo Printing Fabric	3 sheets

Tools Needed

Sewing Machine and related supplies
Rotary cutting tools and supplies
Computer
Ink Jet Printer

Graphic Artist Alexandra Henry

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Cutting Instructions

TruGrid Cutting Instructions:

Make pattern pieces following instructions on TruGrid Layout page or use rotary cutting tools and mat for each step. Cut out all pattern pieces. Pin pattern pieces to fabrics and cut out all pieces.

Rotary Cutting Instructions:

Using rotary mat and rotary cutter, cut out bag fabric 17 1/2" x 40 1/2". Cut the lining fabric, and the Peltex® 17 1/2" x 38".

Fold all pieces in half along the short side. Mark and cut the notches on the folded end according to dimension on the diagram.

For Handles, cut two pieces 4 3/4" x 21" for short handles or 4 3/4" x 29" for long handles of accent fabric.

For handle stabilizer, cut two 1 1/2" x 20" for short handles or 1 1/2" x 28" for long handles of Peltex®.

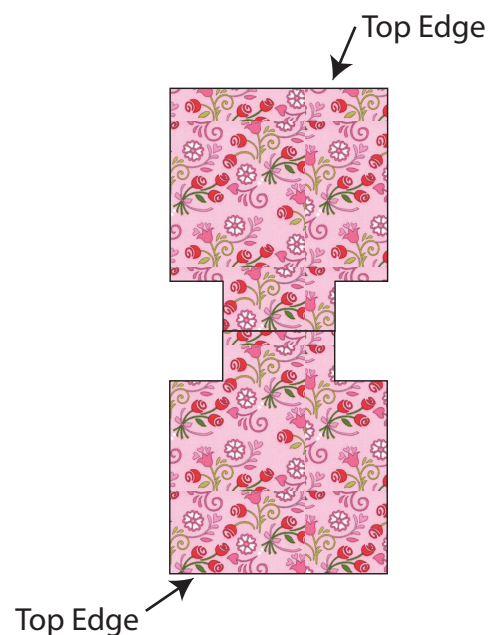
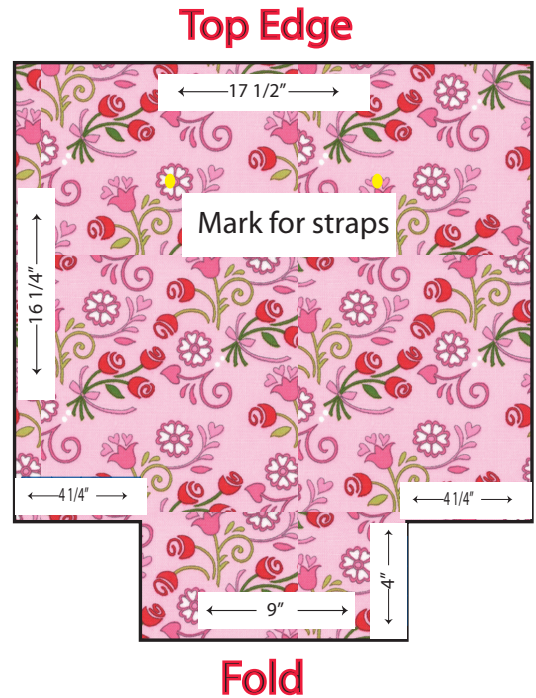
For pockets, cut four pieces 8 1/2" x 17 1/2" of accent fabric.

For bottom insert, cut two pieces 8 1/2" x 7 1/2" of lining fabric. Cut three pieces of Peltex® 8" x 7".

For photos cut three pieces 4" square of Wonder Under®. Cut one piece 7" square of Wonder Under®.

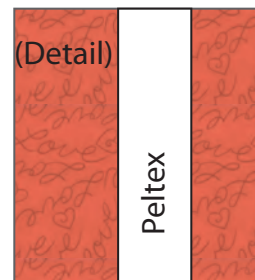
Assembly Instructions

Lay the Peltex® on the wrong side of the outer fabric. Fuse layers together by pressing from the fabric side. Lay a slightly damaged piece of fabric over the outer fabric while pressing. Outer bag fabric will extend 1" farther than the stabilizer at both top edges.



Handles

Lay the Peltex® on the wrong side of the handle piece 1 and 1/2" in from the right edge. Fuse into place from the fabric side. Fold the fabric over the Peltex and press.



Fold left edge under 1/4" and press, then fold it over covering the right side. Stitch on folded edge the entire length.

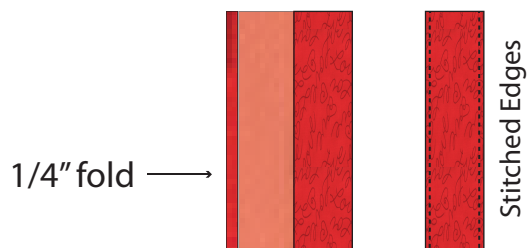


Photo Transfer

Transfer photos to photo fabric following manufacturer's instructions. Cut one photo 7" square. Cut three photos 4" square. Trim photos leaving a 1/4" seam allowance. Turn 1/4" seam allowance to wrong side of photos. Finger press crease. Make sure the white of the photo fabric is all turned in. Place Wonder Under® pieces on the wrong side of all photos, paper side up. Fuse into place.



Pocket

Make two. With wrong sides facing, sew the long edges of the fabric together. Turn fabric right side out and press edges. Top stitch one long edge of the pocket. This will be the top of the pocket. Set one pocket aside. Remove Wonder Under® paper from back of 7" x 7" photo. Center photo onto pocket as shown. Fuse into place. Edgestitch around the photo.



Pocket

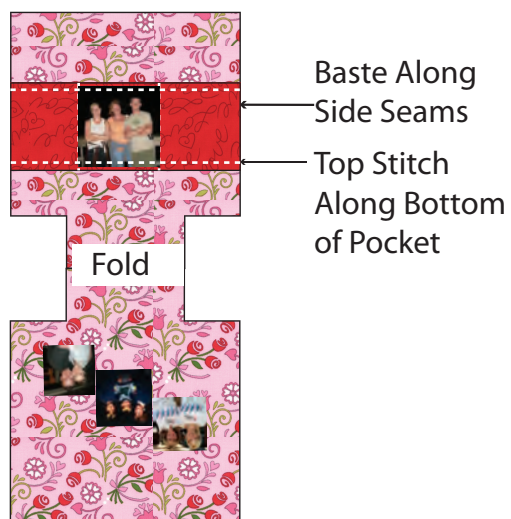
Pocket

Place the pocket on one side of the tote bag below the marks for the straps. Sew the bottom edge from side to side. Baste in place along the side seam (1/4" seam). Top Stitch on both sides of the photo to create sections.

Fuse the three remaining photos on the back of the tote bag below the mark for the handles. Arrange in a pleasing manner. This sample displays the photos in a diagonal line. Edgestitch all photos.

Fold bag on fold line, right sides together. Stitch side seams in a 1/4" seam. Press seam open.

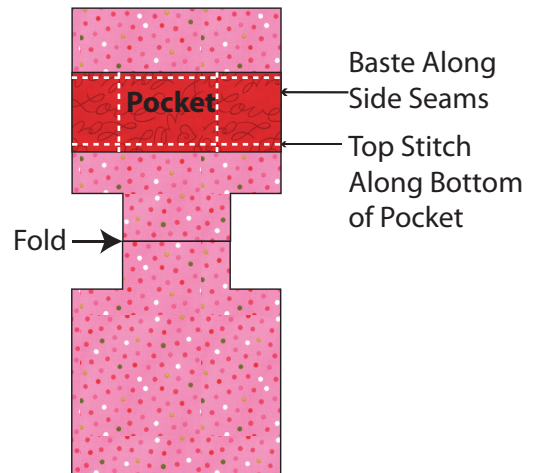
With bag inside out, line up the bottom edge with the side seam edge and sew the two bottom seams using a 1/4" seam allowance. Sew again a scant distance from the first stitching to reinforce the bottom.



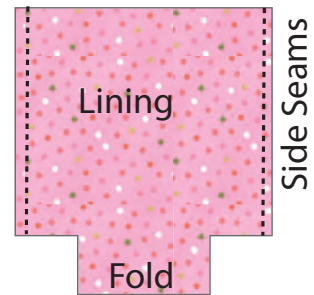
Lining

Lining Pocket

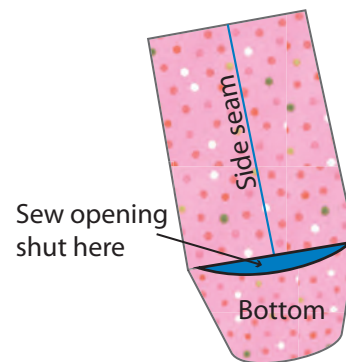
Place the pocket on the right side of one side of the lining, 7" from top edge. Sew along the bottom edge. Baste in place along the side seam (1/4" seam). Top Stitch to create sections.



Fold bag lining on fold line, right sides together. Stitch side seams in a 1/4" seam.



With bag lining inside out, line up the bottom edge with the side seam edge and sew the two bottom seams.



Turn bag right side out. Insert lining into bag, wrong sides together. Line up top edge, matching side seam. Baste into place 1/4" from top edge.



Place one handle on each side, centering the bottom edge mark. Sew twice at the bottom of the handle and twice 1/4" from top of bag through bag fabric, Peltex® and lining fabric.



Bottom edge folded in

Bottom Insert

Place the two pieces of the bottom insert fabric right sides together. Stitch around three sides using a 1/4" seam allowance. Turn right side out, press seams. Turn open edge in 1/4" and press. Insert the three pieces of Peltex® into the false bottom. Slip stitch the opening closed. Place insert into the bottom of the tote bag.



Memory Tote TruGrid™ Layout

