

Sewing Instructions: Fully Lined Tote Bag with Pocket and Boxed Corners

Materials Needed:

- Outer fabric - Cut and Sew design from my Spoonflower store
- Lining fabric - from my Spoonflower store
- Matching thread
- Sewing machine
- Scissors or rotary cutter
- Pins or clips
- Iron
- Fabric Paint or Fabric Markers

Recommended

Prewash fabric do to shrinkage and press



Decorate Your Tote Bag



Colored with fabric markers

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Prepare the Outer Panels

Cut 2 rectangles from your outer fabric. One of them features the decorative floral design.

These will be the front and back of the bag.

2. Prepare the Lining Panels

Cut 2 identical rectangles from lining fabric using the outside pieces as a guide.

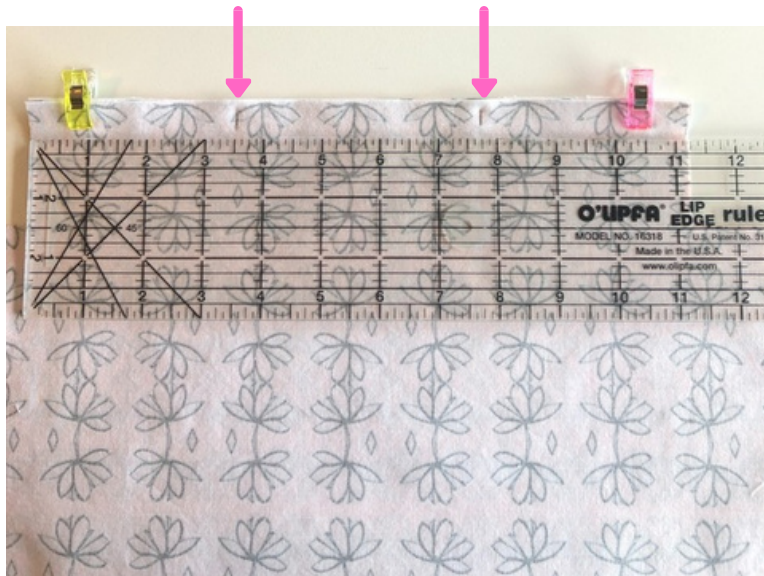
These will form the inside of the tote.



- Cut squares from both bottom corners of all four panels (outer and lining) to box the bottom corners later.

3. Sew the Side and Bottom Seams

With **right sides together**, sew the two outer panels together along both sides and across the bottom using a 1.5 cm seam allowance.



Repeat with the two lining pieces, but **leave a 4–5" opening in the bottom seam**. This will be used to turn the bag right side out later.

4. Box the Corners

Flatten each cut-out bottom corner by aligning the side and bottom seams. Sew straight across to box the corners.

Repeat for all four corners (2 outer, 2 lining).



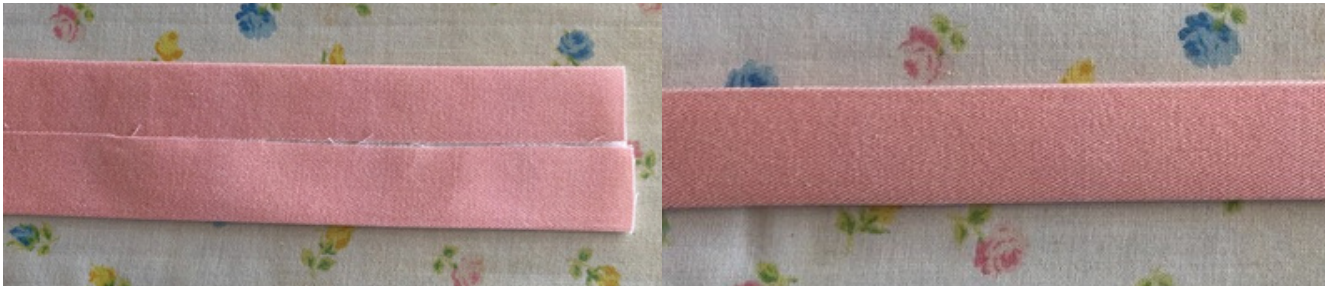
5. Make and Attach the Pocket (Optional)

- Cut a pocket rectangle, fold and press all edges inward.
- Stitch the pocket onto the **right side of one lining panel**, backstitching at the top corners for durability.



6. Make the Handles

Cut two long strips 4"x34" for shoulder bag, or to desired length



Fold raw edges to the center and press. Fold in half and press again.



Stitch along both sides to finish. Topstitching will give a professional look and more durability.

7. Attach Handles to the Outer Bag

- With the **outer bag right side out**, pin the ends of each handle to the top edge of the front and back panels.
- Align straps evenly (e.g., 4" from each side seam), raw edges matching.
- Baste them in place.



8. Assemble Bag Exterior and Lining

- Turn the lining inside out and place the outer bag inside the lining, so right sides are facing.
- Match side seams and top edges, then pin all the way around.



9. Sew the Top Edge

Sew around the entire top edge with a 1.5 cm seam allowance, encasing the handles between the layers.

10. Turn the Bag Right Side Out

- Pull the entire bag through the hole left in the lining.
- Push the lining into the outer shell and smooth everything into place.
- Press the top edge for a clean finish.



11. Finish the Bag

- Topstitch around the top edge of the bag to reinforce the handles and keep the lining in place.
- Stitch the opening in the lining closed (by hand or machine).



Done!

You now have a **beautiful, fully lined tote bag** with boxed corners, inner pocket, and sturdy handles.