



winslow
market *tote*

BY KATHY MACK

this is the perfect little take-along bag for strolling through open-air markets. The tote features five fat quarters on the outside, sturdy straps, easy construction, and two side pockets for stashing a water bottle and sunglasses.

DIRECTIONS

note: All seam allowances are 1/2".

cut the fabric and interfacing

- 1. BAG EXTERIOR** Cut the pieces as listed below.*

Fat quarter #	For	# to cut	Size
1	Right side panel	2	6" × 13"
2	Left side panel	2	6" × 13"
3	Center panel	2	9" × 13"
4	Pocket	2	9" × 18"
5	Base	1	19" × 14"

*If you are using directional prints as I did, take care to cut the patches so the prints will be upright when the bag is constructed.

- 2. LINING** Cut 1 strip 19" × width of fabric (selvage to selvage), and trim off the selvages so the lining measures 19" × 37". (When the tote is complete, the lining will be 1" shorter than the finished height of the bag exterior; this is intentional.)
- 3. STRAPS** Cut 3 strips 3½" × width of fabric. Trim off the selvages.
- 4. INTERFACING** Cut as listed below.

For	# to cut	Size
Tote bag base	1	19" × 14"
Lining	1	19" × 37"
Straps	5	1¼" × 20"

construct the bag

1. Fold one pocket in half, wrong sides together, to make a 9" × 9" square. Topstitch ¼" from the folded edge. Repeat for the second pocket.
2. Place one center panel right-side up on your work surface. Pin one pocket to the center panel, aligning the bottom raw edges (the topstitched pocket fold should be at the top of the pocket fabric). Baste the pocket to the center panel ¼" from the sides and bottom edge. Repeat for the second pocket and center panel.
3. With the fabric right sides together, sew a side panel to either side of one center panel. Press the seam allowances toward the side panels. Repeat for the second side of the bag.
4. Take one strap strip and cut it in half to create two equal-length strips. With right sides together, sew a short strip to each full-length strip. Trim each strip to 3½" × 46".
5. Fold one strap in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press. Open the strap and position the fusible

Finished size:

12½" wide × 16" tall × 5½" deep

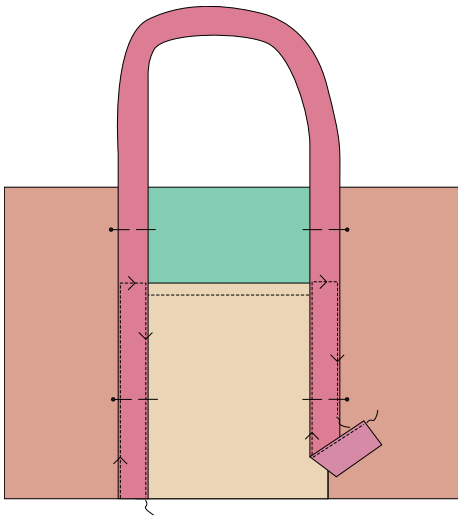
materials

- 5 fat quarters (18" × 22" pieces of fabric) for bag exterior
- Fabric for lining, 5/8 yd.
- Fabric for straps, 3/8 yd.
- Lightweight fusible interfacing, 1¾ yds.
- Rotary cutter, mat, and acrylic ruler
- Sewing machine
- Matching thread for topstitching
- Iron

interfacing on the wrong side, aligning the edge of the interfacing with the crease on the strap. Use as many pieces of interfacing as needed to cover the entire length, abutting the ends without overlapping them. Fuse the interfacing following the manufacturer's directions. Fold the strap in half lengthwise, right sides together, and stitch the side seam, leaving both ends open. Press the seam allowance open. Turn the strap right-side out. Position the seam along the strap edge and press. Repeat for the second strap.

6. Partially attach the straps to the bag as follows. Center one end of one strap over the seam connecting the left side panel to the center panel. Align the raw edge of the strap with the bottom edge of the panel and pin it in place. Repeat for the right side using the opposite end of the same strap. Edgestitch the strap to the bag, beginning at the leftmost strap

bottom; turn at the top of the pocket, stitch across the width of the strap, and then turn and stitch down the other side of the strap. Repeat for the opposite end of the same strap. Apply the second strap to the remaining bag panel using the same technique. Remove all pins.

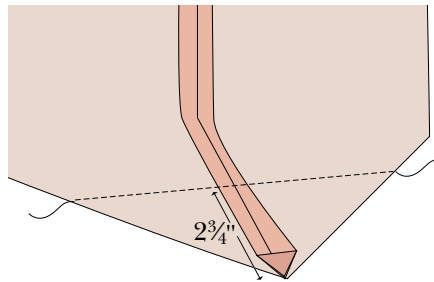


7. Position the bag base interfacing on the wrong side of the bag base fabric. Fuse the interfacing, following the manufacturer's directions. Sew one 19" bag base edge to one upper panel. Press the seam allowance toward the base. Repeat to attach the remaining upper panel. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seamline on the base fabric.
8. Fold the entire bag panel in half, right sides together, matching the seams. Sew the side seams. Press the seam allowances open.
9. Position the lining interfacing on the wrong side of the lining fabric. Fuse the interfacing following the manufacturer's directions. Fold the lining in half, right sides together.

Sew the side seams, leaving a 5" opening on one side for turning. Press the seam allowances open.

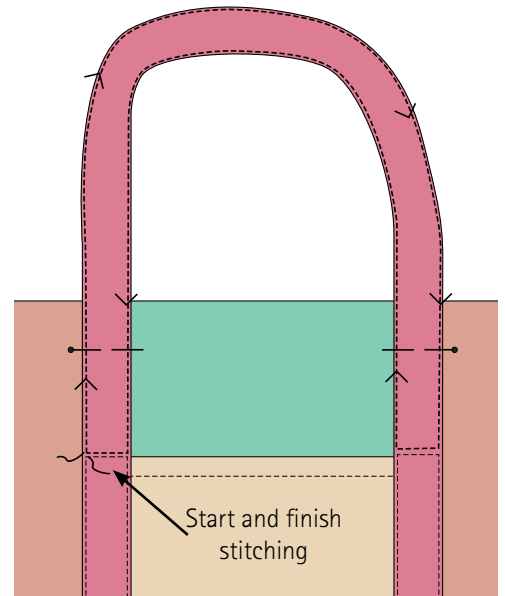
note: Place the opening at least 5" from the bottom so it doesn't interfere with squaring off the bottom in the next step.

10. Square off the bottoms of the exterior and lining as follows. With the side seam facing out, fold one bottom corner of the bag. Line up the side seam and bottom fold line. Position the piece on a cutting mat so the side seam is aligned with the markings on the mat and the triangle point is facing toward you. Use a ruler to measure $2\frac{3}{4}$ " in from the point of the triangle, with the ruler perpendicular to the side seam. Mark the stitching line with a pencil. Pin and sew. Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Repeat for the remaining corner of the bag and for both lining corners.



11. Turn the bag right-side out and place it inside the lining, right sides together, tucking the straps down and out of the way. Pin the top edge, matching the side seams. Stitch all the way around the top edge.
12. Turn the bag right-side out through the opening in the lining. Press and topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the upper edge.

13. Edgestitch the opening in the lining closed.
14. Finish the straps as follows. Pin the remaining loose portion of each strap to the bag through both the exterior and lining layers. (Stitching through all layers provides strength to the upper strap area.) Begin



edgestitching the strap at the top of the pocket. Continue stitching off the bag, around the upper strap, and back onto the bag on the other side. Stitch to the top of the pocket, turn, stitch across the width of the strap, and turn and stitch back up the opposite edge of the strap until the stitching meets up with where you began. Repeat for the remaining strap.

Carry your tote on your next shopping outing, and fill it up! 📦

KATHY MACK is a sewing pattern designer who lives on Bainbridge Island, Washington, with her husband and two daughters. She's always on the lookout for ways to bring art and color into everyday living. You can see more of her work at PinkChalkStudio.com.