

Kid's Tote Bag by Sheila Reinke

This simple tote is not only ideal for kids to use, the pattern has been designed for kids to make their own. Sized to easily hold a water bottle and a few other odds and ends, this is a great tote carrying a snack to the game. *Please note, images used in this pattern are NOT to scale*

Materials -

- 11" x 16" - Outer Fabric
- 11" x 16" - Lining Fabric
- 5" x 14" - Strap Fabric (can match or contrast with outer fabric)
- 2" x 14" - Pellon Fusible Peltex

Suggested Tools

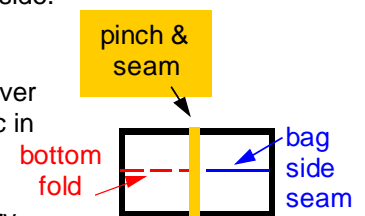
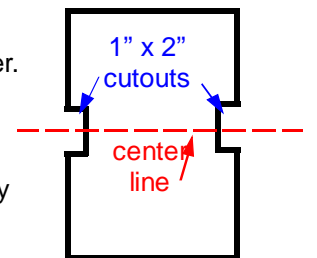
(beyond standard sewing supplies)

- OLFA Rotary Cutter
- 6" x 24" Ruler

Project Level: Beginner - Great for Kids!

Construction

- Fold the outer purse fabric in half along the 16" side, measure and cut a 1" square at the fold on each side. Repeat with the lining fabric.
- When you unfold your fabric, each side will have a small rectangle cut out in the center.
- Take your outside fabric, fold along the center line as before - with right sides together. Sew along the two sides - ignoring the cut out corners for now. Use ½" seam allowance for your entire project.
- Open your piece at the top to separate the sides, and flatten the bottom of your bag by pinching together the center line and side seam. Create the boxed corner by sewing along this pinched together line. Repeat on 2nd side of bag.
- Sew lining fabric just as you did the outside fabric - EXCEPT that you will leave a 3" opening along one side for turning the project. Don't forget to create boxed corners on the bottom.
- Turn the outside fabric right side out, set both the outer and lining fabric sections aside.
- Cut strap fabric in half, so you have 2 pieces 2½" x 14".
- Cut Pellon in half, giving you 2 pieces 1" x 14".
- Place one piece of Pellon in the center of one of the two strap pieces - fold sides over (make sure the overlap section of fabric is along the center of the strap. Iron fabric in place.
- Repeat with second strap.
- Sew a decorative stitch (this is a great time to make use of one of those embroidery stitches on your sewing machine) down the middle of the length of each strap. Make sure you have the right side of your strap (the side where the fabric doesn't overlap) facing up when you stitch - this will give you a nice finished look.
- Take your lining fabric (which should still be wrong side out), and place the outside fabric INSIDE the lining fabric (outside fabric is right side out). Pin straps in place on each side of the purse, making sure you tuck the strap inside (so your straps will be on the outside when you turn the project right side out).
- With straps pinned in place, sew around the mouth of the bag. *Remember* - you are sewing around the circle, not stitching the opening closed.
- Turn purse right side out using the 3" opening you left in the lining fabric previously. Whip stitch the opening closed.



Pattern designed by Sheila Reinke

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For more patterns by Sheila, see her blog at: <http://sheilareinke.wordpress.com/>