Tropical Tote

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Finished project measures: 19" x 14" x 2"

Pattern Level: Confident Beginner
"I have basic block construction down and would like to learn a new trick!"
Notes Before You Begin

- Please read through all of the instructions before beginning.
- All of the seam allowances are 1/4" unless otherwise noted.
- Width of fabric (WOF) is equal to at least 42" wide.
- Press all seam allowances open after each seam is sewn, unless otherwise noted.
- Remember to measure twice and cut once!

- Print out the Tote pattern on pages 5-8, tape together as shown, and cut out along the black line. You will now have one large pattern piece.

Cutting Instructions

Fabric A
- Using the pattern, cut two Outer Bag pieces on the fold.
- Cut three strips 3-1/2" x WOF.

Fabric B
- Using the pattern, cut two Lining pieces on the fold.

Assembly Instructions

Step 1: Make Straps

- Sew Fabric A strips short sides together to create one long strip, the cut the strip into two strips that are 3-1/2" x 54-1/2".

- Fold one strip in half lengthwise with right sides together and stitch along the long edge. Flip right side out and press flat. Repeat with the other strip.
Step 2: Attach Straps

- With a Bag Outer and a strap, align the strap on the Strap Guide. The strap will be on the right side of the Bag Outer with the raw edge lined up with the bottom of the bag. Pin in place.

- Edgestitch the strap to the bag, beginning at the bottom and sewing to the top of the strap guide (this is 2" below the top of the Bag Outer). Pivot and sew across the top of the guide, then pivot again and sew down the other edge of the strap.

- Make sure the strap isn’t twisted and repeat to sew the other end of the strap to the other half of the Outer Bag.

- Repeat to sew the other strap to the remaining Outer Bag piece.

Step 3: Assemble Bag

- With right sides together, align the Outer Bag body pieces, and sew along the sides and bottom with a 1/4" seam. Serge or zigzag the raw edges for durability.

- Fold the bag so the corners open up, and the side and bottom seams line up. Sew to close the corners, with a 1/4" seam, and serge the edges. Press all the seams.
Step 4: Attach Lining

- Repeat Step 3 to sew the lining, but leave a 4” gap in the middle of the bottom seam, for turning later.

- Place the Outer bag into the Lining bag, right sides together (the Lining piece will be inside out, on the outside of the Outer piece). Making sure the straps are out of the way, sew all the way around the top edge of the bag.

- Turn the bag right side out through the gap left in the lining. Press the top edge, so the lining stays hidden.

- Topstitch all the way around the top edge. Pull the lining up and away from the outer bag, and use a ladder stitch (by hand) or an edgestitch (by machine) to close up the gap.

You are finished. Enjoy your new tote!