



TALL ONE YARD TOTE

Supplies:

1 quilted Skillbuilder Panel or 1 yard quilted fabric (Front, Batting, Back)

$\frac{1}{2}$ yard contrasting fabric (outside pocket lining)

5 yards polyester webbing 1" wide (handles)

Thread, strong pins, fabric glue (optional)

Cutting:

Pocket - Cut $8\frac{3}{4}$ " x width of fabric (WOF 40" to 45") from one end of the quilted fabric.

Contrasting Pocket Lining - Cut $8\frac{7}{8}$ " x WOF

Contrasting Top Facing - $4\frac{1}{2}$ " by WOF

Straps - (2) 76" and (2) 12" strips.

Inside seam binding if desired from contrasting lining.

Construction:

1. Pocket:

- Place quilted fabric $8\frac{3}{4}$ " x WOF fabric right sides together with pocket lining. The lining will be $1\frac{1}{8}$ " wider than the quilted fabric.
- Sew long sides together from selvage to selvage. On one side stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance on the other side stitch $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance leaving 2 short edges open creating a tube.
- Turn right sides out.
- The lining should roll around one side to create a $\frac{1}{2}$ " faux binding. Stitch the binding in the ditch on the right side.
- Pin pocket strip $3\frac{1}{2}$ " from bottom edge of tote across width of fabric.
- Top stitch across bottom of pocket $\frac{1}{8}$ " and $\frac{1}{2}$ " from

edge.

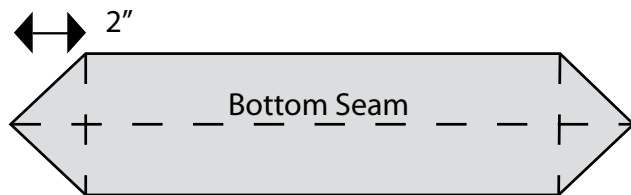
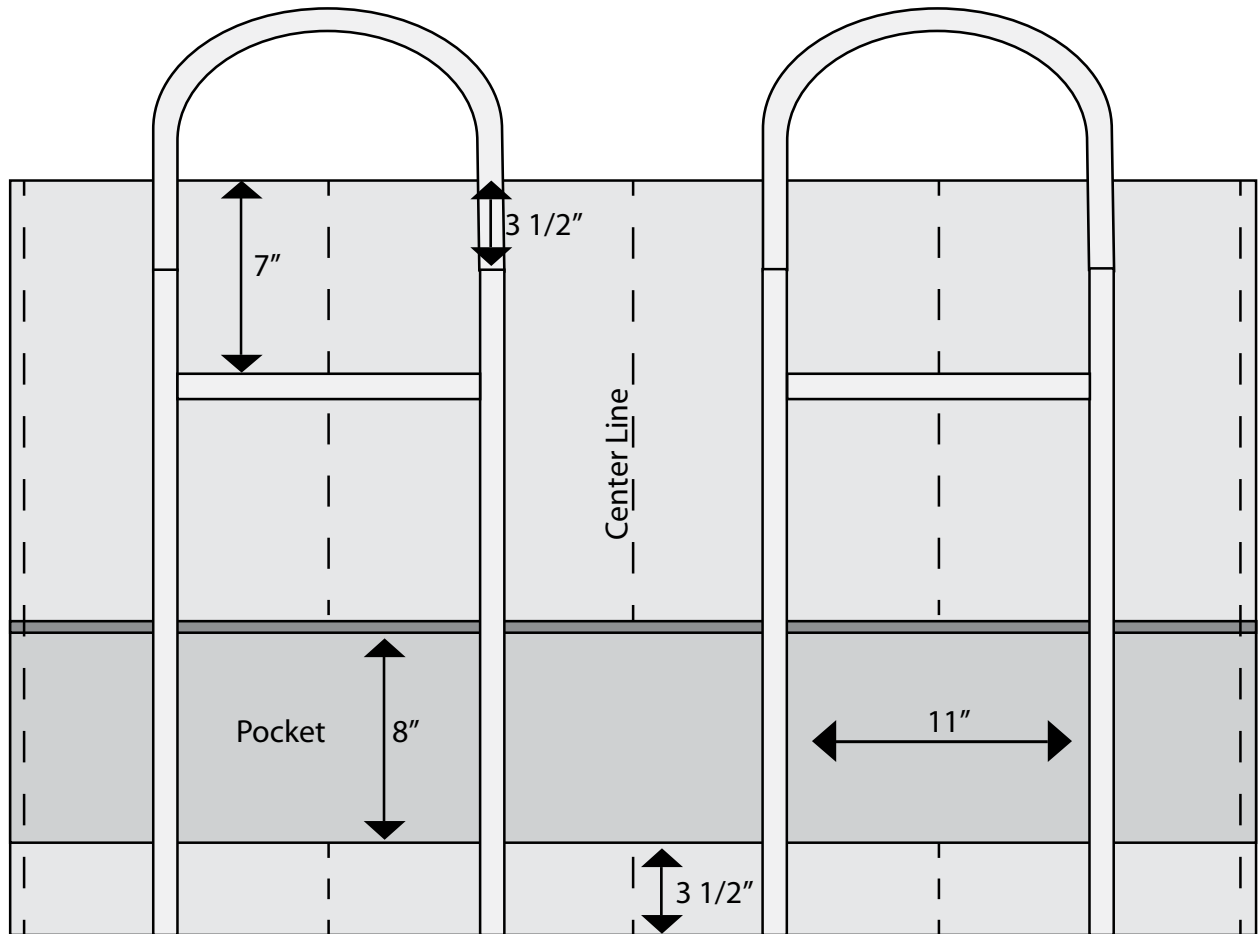
- Pin or baste side edges of pocket to tote.

2. Handles:

- Mark the center of the tote.
- Mark the center of each half of the tote, subtracting $\frac{1}{2}$ " for seam allowances on outside edges only. The measurement should be about $10\frac{1}{2}$ " from the center of tote.
- Place the horizontal handle 7" from the top edge. This will make the handle for the smaller bag.
- Beginning and ending at the lower edge of the tote, pin or glue long webbing in place about $5\frac{1}{2}$ " on each side of center mark on each half of tote. Be sure to keep webbing flat so it doesn't twist at the top of the bag. Tuck the horizontal smaller bag handles $\frac{1}{2}$ " under.
- Mark webbing $3\frac{1}{2}$ " above horizontal handle for the top handle stitching line. This will allow room for the facing bottom edge to be stitched.
- Stitch webbing $\frac{1}{8}$ " from edge of webbing, beginning and ending at lower edge. Be sure to reinforce top of handles and horizontal handles by back stitching 2 or 3 times or stitching with a close zig zag satin. (*Note: Before stitching the webbing, you may find it easier if you roll up each side of the tote to expose only the webbing on the side you are going to stitch.*)
- Optional: Stitch center pocket in half along center marking to split it into 2 sections.

3. Tote and Facing:

- Place right side of facing to right side of tote. Stitch with $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance.
- With right sides together, matching straps pockets, stitch $\frac{1}{2}$ " seams on side of tote stitching through the facing. Stitch bottom seam. Stitch again to reinforce.
- Bind, serge, or zig zag to finish side seam and bottom seam. (*Tip: Stop binding $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from top edge to reduce facing seam bulk.*)
- Turn facing to inside over the top edge creating a faux binding. Stitch in the ditch or edge stitch close to the fold.
- Turn bottom edge of facing under $\frac{1}{4}$ " and stitch the facing to the tote.
- To form boxed edges on bag, lay bottom edges flat and measure in 2" from point each point. Pin and stitch. (*Note: Flip seams in opposite directions to reduce bulk.*)
- Bind or finish short bottom edges.



- Tuck top and handles down inside tote for smaller tote.
- This makes a great bag travel for the airplane. Use it small when leaving and big when returning!
- Practice machine quilting with Skillbuilder lines and use a busy back for the outside of the tote. The blue tote is Skillbuilder 1 and the red is Skillbuilder 2.



*This pattern is an adaptation of
the **Expandable Tote Bag**
by Annie's Crafts*

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