

Row by Row Tote Bag

by Carolina Sew n Vac

Materials:

$\frac{1}{2}$ yard House fabric (main fabric)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ yard Red fabric (accent fabric)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ yard Blue fabric (lining fabric)
1 Carolina Sew n Vac license plate
 $\frac{1}{2}$ yard Soft and Stable

Cut:

Main fabric:

Cut 2 pieces 15" high by 15" wide

Accent Fabric:

License plate assembly - Cut 2 - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 15"; cut 2 - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4"
Cut 1 6" x 15" for back of pocket
Cut 1 - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 15" for bottom of pocket
Straps - Cut 2 pieces 4" by width of fabric
Optional Back strip - measure your pocket assembly x 15"

Lining fabric

Lining - Cut 2 pieces 15" high by 15" wide

Soft and Stable

Cut 2 pieces 15" high by 15" wide
Cut 2 - 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " by 30" for handles

Directions: (All seams will be $\frac{1}{4}$ " unless otherwise indicated)

Layer Front fabric on Soft and Stable. Quilt as desired. Sample was quilted in straight lines approximately 1" apart. Repeat for back of bag.

Assemble License Plate pocket Trim license plate $\frac{1}{4}$ " from outline should measure 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 4". Stitch the 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4" pieces to either side of license plate. Press. Trim to 15". Stitch 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 15" pieces to top and top and bottom. Press.

With pocket back right sides together with the License Plate assembly stitch seam along the top. Turn and press. Straight stitch in ditch on either side of license plate to create pockets.

Place on front bag, 5" down from top. Pin in place, stitch along bottom of pocket assembly to secure to front of bag. Stitch 1/8" along sides to secure to sides of bag.

Take 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 15" piece of accent fabric turn under $\frac{1}{4}$ " on one long edge, press. Place raw edge over bottom seam of pocket assembly stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, press. Top stitch both long edges to secure in place.

Optional back strip: Measure your front pocket assembly add $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Turn under $\frac{1}{4}$ " on both long edges. Position as we did for pocket assembly 5" down from top. Top stitch in place. (This could be made into a pocket like the front pocket assembly)

Bag assembly: Cut 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " squares out of the bottom of each of the front and back pieces of both the main and lining pieces. This will be to make the boxed corners.

Stitch front to back of main fabric along side seams and bottom seam. Repeat for the lining fabric, but leave a 3-4" opening on the bottom of the lining. Make sure to Backstitch at every start and stop point. Leaving the cut out areas unstitched.

Box the corners: Match the bottom seam to the side seam and stitch across to make box corner. Repeat for other side. Repeat for the lining pieces.

Make straps: Fold and iron long edges of fabric in $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Fold in half and iron. Place the Soft and Stable strip inside the fold and under one of the ironed under edges. Stitch along each long edge and in the center. Repeat for the second strap.

Assemble Bag: Turn bag right side out. Turn lining inside out. Place bag inside the lining bag with right sides together. Match up side seams and pin. Measure over 4" from each of the outer seams and make a mark on the lining (4 in total). Fold Straps in half making sure not to twist them. Insert the folded strap in between the lining and the main bag. Center each strap end on the marks. Let hang over $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pin in place.

Line up raw edges of main bag and lining. Stitch around using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam. Turn inside out through the lining fabric. Stitch the opening closed. Push lining fabric down in the bag and press along the upper edge. Top stitch along edge.

Enjoy your Row by Row bag.