

# Drawstring Tote Bag

Material Requirements:

Bag Child Size: (2) rectangles of fabric measuring approximately 13" x 16" to 15" x 18"

Bag Teen Size: (2) rectangles of fabric measuring approximately 16" x 19" or larger

Straps: (3) for child or (4) for teen 1-1/2" strips x WOF of coordinating print

Also:

Pins

Fray check

*Cut all selvages off fabrics before beginning*



## Straps & Strap Holders

Join 1-1/2" x WOF strips with a diagonal seam into one long fabric. Trim excess off corner. Press seams open.

*If you have a bias binder maker or a bias binder foot feel free to use those since these tools are designed to make our life easier. If you do not have one, please follow the instructions below to make the strap.*

Fold fabric in half lengthwise and press. Open up and fold in both raw edges to meet the center fold. Press. Fold in half and press again. Then topstitch along both long sides. Strap should be approximately 3/8" wide when done.

Cut off (2) pieces that are approximately 3" long for the strap holders. Cut remaining piece in half. Set aside.

## Casing

See back side for instructions from Baby Lock for casing

## Bag

Place bag pieces WRONG side together, matching top casing and side & bottom edges. Pin together. Fold each strap holder in half and, using a scant quarter inch seam, baste to the bag about 1" up from the bottom corner.

Sew bag together along the sides and bottom using a scant 1/4" seam.

Turn bag RIGHT sides together. Press seams on sides and bottom flat (Rolling seam between fingers will help roll seams to the edge). Strap holders will be on inside. Make sure they are lying flat. Sew along sides and bottom of bag again using a 3/8" seam. Backstitch at both ends and over the strap holder several times.

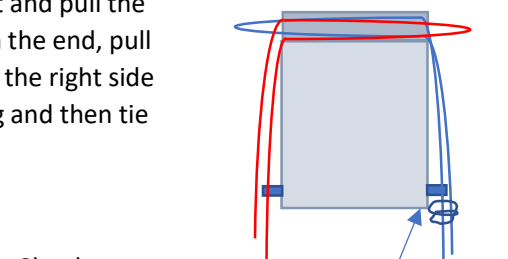
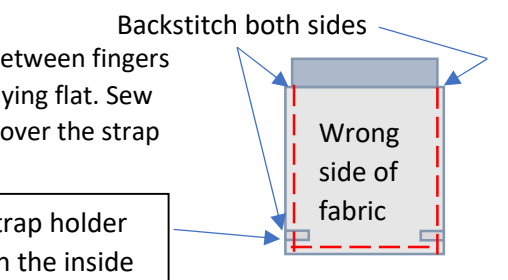
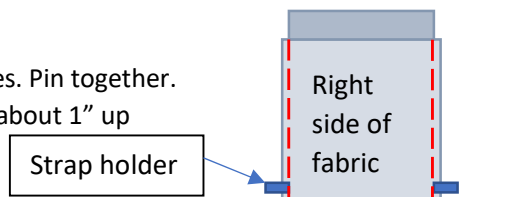
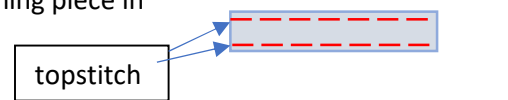
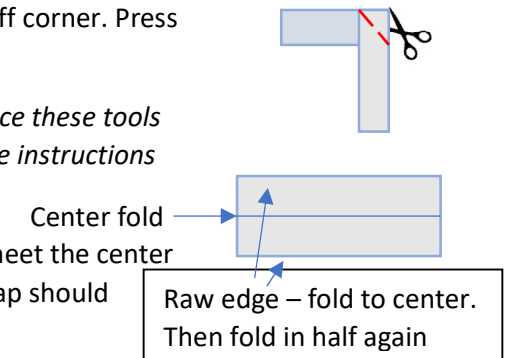
Turn bag right side out. Press seams flat. Trim stray threads.

## Finishing the Bag

Thread straps through the casing made previously. Using one strap, start on the right and pull the strapping through the back casing using a bodkin or large safety pin. Once you reach the end, pull the strap through the front casing from the opposite direction so that you end up on the right side again. Thread one end of the strap through the strap holder at the bottom of the bag and then tie both ends together into an overhand knot. (blue strap shown)

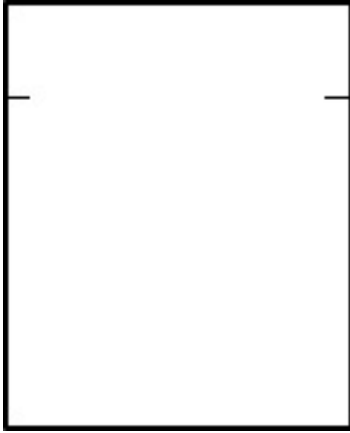
Repeat with the other strap except start and end on the left side. (red strap shown)

Cut off any excess of strap below the knot made. Treat raw ends of straps with Fray Check.

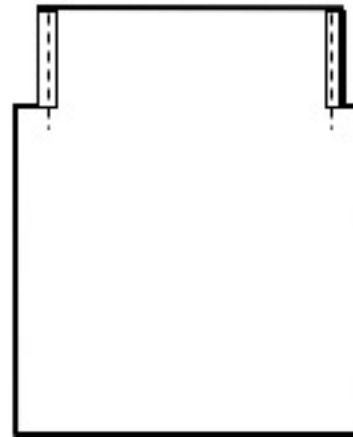


# Casing On The Bag Top

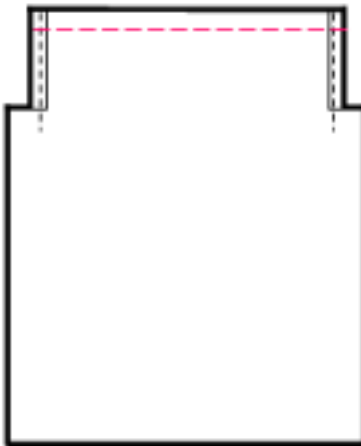
## FRONT AND BACK



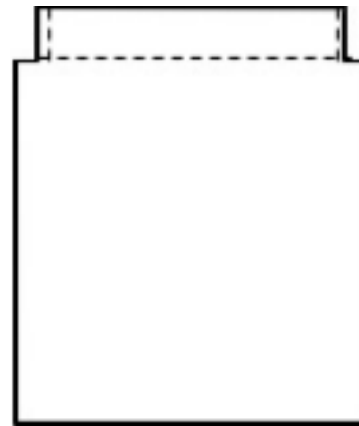
Line the bag front and back up together and clip 2.5" down from the top left and right of the bag, to clip both simultaneously. The clip should be a 1/2" in from each side.



On the bag front and back, roll and press the 2.5" long flaps in twice (to the wrong side) to create approximately 1/4" rolled hem. Topstitch the rolled hem in place with a sewing machine, extending the stitch about a 1/2" below the flap to give this area extra reinforcement.



With an iron, on both the front and back bag pieces, press down (to the wrong side) about a 1/4" along the top of each casing.



Then, on both casings again, press the folded edge down (to the wrong side) even with the clips. Topstitch the casing near the edge with a sewing machine.