

Oh So Pretty Tote by Linda Lum DeBono

*Note: Seam allowances are 1/2" unless indicated otherwise.
Finished size not including handles: 15" x 15 1/2"

Materials

1/2 yard pink striped fabric
1/3 yard flower fabric
1 fat quarter of pink bird fabric
1/3 yard of lightweight fusible fleece

Cutting

From the pink striped fabric, cut:
2 strips, 3" x 32" for the ruffles
2 strips, 6" x 32" for the handles

From the flower fabric, cut:
2 rectangles, 8 3/4" x 16 1/2" for the bag exterior
2 rectangles, 16" x 16 1/2" for the lining

From the bird fabric, cut:
2 rectangles, 8 1/4" x 16 1/2" for the bag exterior

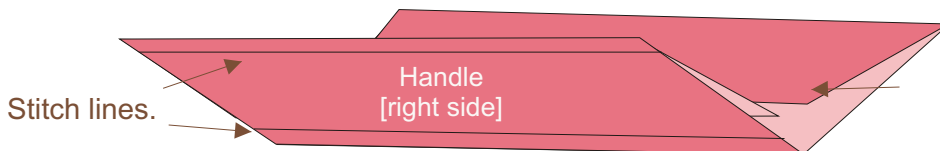
From the fusible fleece, cut:
2 strips, scant 1 1/2" x 32"
2 rectangles, 16" x 16 1/2"



Directions

Handles

1. Fold the handle strips as shown in the diagram. Tuck one fusible fleece strip under one of the folds. Stitch a 1/4" strip along each edge along the length of the handle.



Fold in half lengthwise first. Then, fold in each edge to the center. Place the fusible fleece strip under one of the folds and press. Pin entire handle together and stitch along each length with a scant 1/4" seam allowance in along the length of the handle.

2. Trim the handles to your desired length.

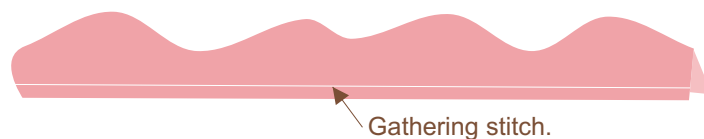


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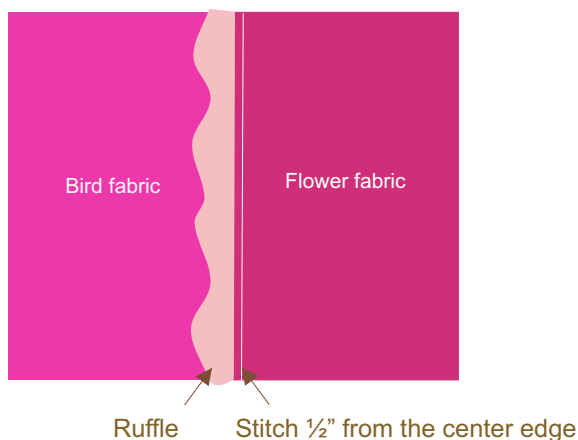
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Ruffle

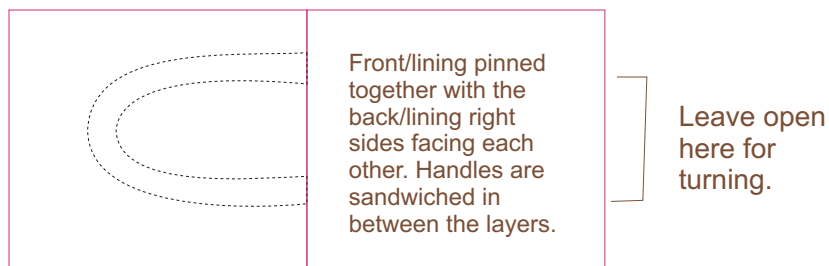


1. Press the ruffle strips lengthwise with wrong sides together. Sew a loose gathering stitch along the raw edge with a scant 1/4" seam allowance. Pull the thread to gather the strip. Repeat for the second strip.
2. Pin the ruffle to the right side of the bird fabric. *Note: Start right at the raw edge of the fabric. Stitch together with a scant seam allowance to hold together in place.
3. Pin the piece sewn in step 2 with the right side the floral exterior rectangle piece along its long edge. Sew together. Repeat for the second side of the bag. Press and sew a 1/2" seam from the center.



Sewing

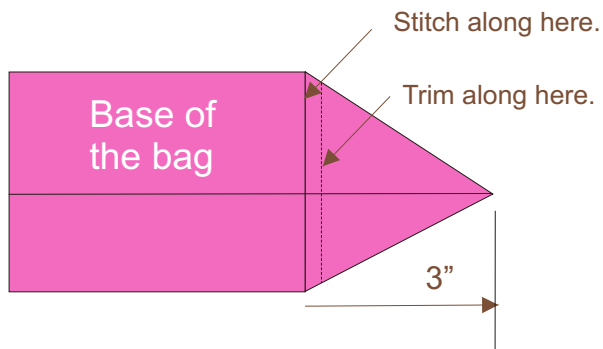
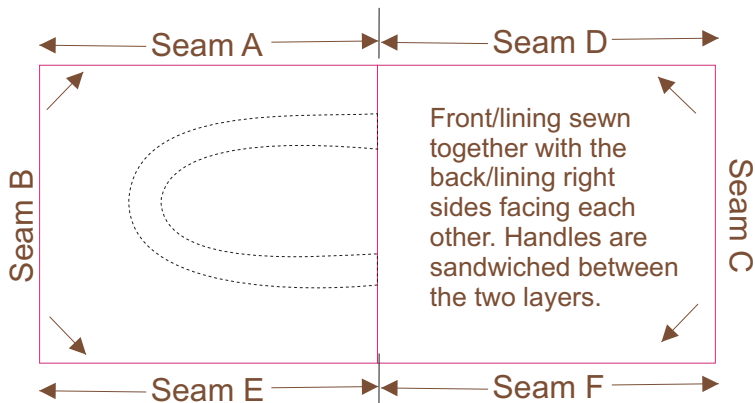
1. Pin handles along the top, 3" in from each side of the bag. Stitch in place with 1/4" seam allowance. Repeat for the second side of the bag.
2. Sew the front of the bag to the lining along the top edge of the bag with right sides together. The handles will be between the front and the lining.
3. Place the front/lining piece with the back/lining piece together with right sides facing.
4. Sew all around the edge of the piece. Leave a 4" opening along the bottom of the lining for turning.



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5. Line up Seam A with Seam B. You will have formed a triangular end with a point. Sew a line that is 3" perpendicular to the tip of the point. Trim with a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance. Repeat for the other three corners.



7. Turn the bag right side out and stitch the opening closed.
8. Tuck the lining into the bag. Stitch around the top edge of the bag with a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance.

Enjoy!



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