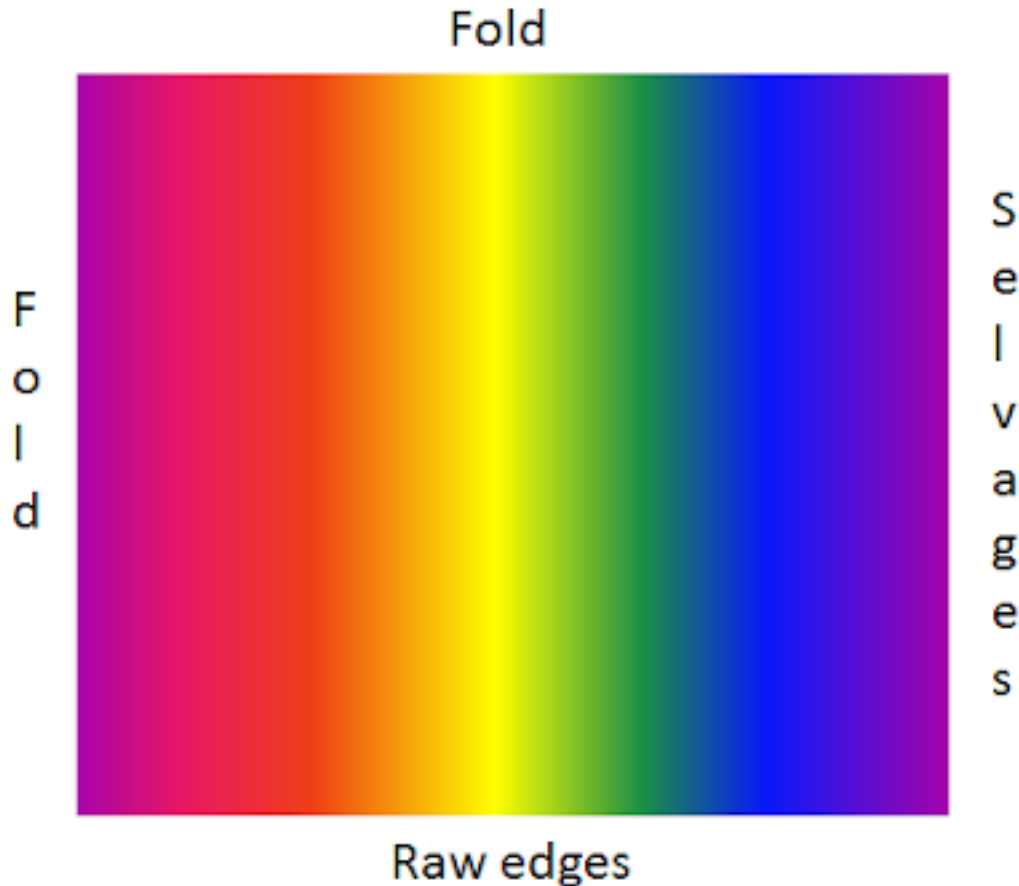


HRQG Charity Bag Tote (9/25)

Fabric Requirements:

1 yard of fabric. If you're using directional fabrics be mindful of the pattern. Always backstitch at the beginning and end of every seam, and all seams are **3/8"** throughout.

Set up fabric per picture:



Trim your selvage. You should now have two edges that are folds, and two that are raw edges.

Cut a 5" strip from the selvage edge. Since the fold is at the top you'll now have two 5-inch lengths of fabric to use as your straps.

Straps are approximately 5" x 36" you may trim if you want.

Take your remaining fabric, and very slightly trim the folded edges, enough to get rid of the fold, but not enough to matter much for measurement purposes.

If you are using directional fabric now is the time to make sure your fabric is all going the correct way. Trim your bag fabric to 15" Wide x 17" Tall.

You should now have your handles, and 4 pieces of fabric that are each 15 by 17 inches.

Prep Handles:

Fold your handles in half long edge to long edge WST (wrong sides together) and press.

Open it up, fold each long edge towards the center fold you just made, and press. Fold it in half once more along your original fold, and press it one more time. Stitch along the edges 1/4" You could add a couple extra rows of stitching, if you want.

Put those handles aside.

Main Panel:

Place 2 pieces of fabric RST (right sides together). Stitch 3/8" seam allowance on both 17" sides and on the bottom of the main panel. Trace 2" square on the bottom corners, cut out with a pair of scissors. Main panel should look like this picture.



Keep Main Panel inside out.

Now comes the flat bottom part. Take the side seam and the bottom seam and match them up. Pin in place matching the seams

Sewing 3/8" seam allowance backstitching at the start and stop of the seam. Do the same for the other side of the bag.

Turn Bag front - RSO (right side out)

Now grab those handles you made. Measure in 4 inches from each side seam, and pin your handles in place on the top raw edge, right side of the fabric, aligning the raw edge end of the handle with the top of the bag, making sure they're not all twisty!

Stitch your handles down 1/4" from the top edge. Go over them a few times as the handle join is a stress point in bags.

Lining Panel:

Take your other two pieces of fabric (the lining) and sew those together with a 3/8" seam allowance as you did with the Main Panel, the only difference (and a critical one) is that you leave a gap of about 4-5 inches in the bottom center. Trace 2" square on the bottom corners, cut out with a pair of scissors. Sew box corners as you did on the main panel.

Final Construction:

You should now have your Main Panel (RSO) with the handles, and the Lining Panel (WSO) with no handles, and a nice little gap in the bottom--

Put the Main Panel inside the Lining Panel, so that the right sides are facing each other. Match up your side seams, and pin all around.

Sew 3/8" all around the top. Then reach through the gap you left and gently pull the bag through.

Once everything is pulled out the proper way pin the gap in the lining shut (tucking the raw edges inside) and stitch it closed, either by hand or by machine. Shove the lining down inside the bag. Pin or press the top edge (I like to pin) so that all is neat, and then top-stitch around the edge, about 1/4" away from the edge.

Give it a bit of a press, and there you have it--a tote made out of one yard of fabric.