



NORTHCOTT
Cottons that feel like silk



FREE PATTERN • **The Everyday Tote** • Approx. 15" x 13" x 5"
by Elaine Theriault

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Everyday Tote Bag – Farmer’s Market

Finished Size: 15” L by 13” H by 5” W

wof = width of fabric

Fabric requirements Light Version	Fabric requirements Dark Version	Yards	Cutting Instructions	
Trucks on cream (#22280-11) Outer bag	Words on black (#22282-99) Outer bag	½ yard	Outer bag:	cut TWO pieces 13 ½” (height) X 21” (width)
Red texture (#22288-24) Handles, bag trim	Black texture (#22288-99) Handles, bag trim	½ yard	Bag trim: Handles:	cut FOUR pieces 3 ½” by 21” cut ONE piece 5 ½” by WOF”
Words on black (#22282-99) Lining, pockets, bag bottom cover	Veggies on cream (#22283-11) Lining, pockets, bag bottom cover	1 yard	Lining: Two pockets: Bag bottom cover:	cut TWO pieces 13 ½” by 21” cut TWO pieces 9” by 21” cut TWO pieces 5 1/4” by 18”
Fusible fleece		1 yard	For outer bag:	cut TWO pieces 17” by 21”
Décor Bond or Craft Fuse (stiff fusible interfacing)		1 yard (the width of this product varies from 20” to 45” so you may want to purchase a bit more if the width is only 20”)	For lining: For pockets: For handles:	cut TWO pieces 17” by 21” (if your product is only 20” wide, then cut 17” by 20”) cut TWO pieces 9” by 10 ½” cut TWO pieces 5” by 20”

Use ¼” Seam Allowance unless otherwise stated

Prepping the Outer bag and lining pieces

- Stitch one piece of bag trim fabric to the top of each of the two outer bag pieces and the two lining pieces. All four pieces should be approximately 16 ½” by 21”.
- Fuse the fusible fleece to the wrong side of the outer bag pieces. Use a hot iron with steam. Depending on the fusible fleece, this step can take a bit of time. Make sure the edges are well fused. Give it a good press from both sides.
- Fuse the Décor Bond to the wrong side of the lining pieces. Again, steam and a hot iron will help.
- If you would like to add some quilting or decorative stitching to the outer bag, now is the time.
- Trim all four bag pieces to the same size.
- TIPS ON TRIMMING: The fusible fleece and fusible interfacing will extend over the edges of the fabric pieces for a variety of reasons. Trim outer bag and lining pieces so that all four pieces are identical in size. The final size isn’t critical so if you need to trim everything down to 16" x 20" or 15 ½" x 19", that’s OK. The important thing is that all four pieces are the same size. Make sure when you trim the four pieces that the seams (where the trim fabric meets the outer bag fabric) are in the same position on both the front and the back of the outer pieces so they will match up when sewn together.

Making the pockets

- Feel free to change the size of the pockets, make one pocket, or omit the pockets altogether.
- Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of one half of each pocket fabric.
- Fold the pocket in half right sides together and stitch around three sides. Leave an opening so you can turn the pocket right side out.
- Trim the corners of the seam allowance to reduce bulk when the pocket is turned right side out. Turn the pocket right side out. You can (carefully) use a point turner to get a nice sharp point at the corners. Press well, tucking in the seam allowance in the opening. The pocket should measure approximately 10" wide by 8 ½" deep.
- Now it's time to close the opening. This can be hand stitched, but that takes time. It is easiest to leave it unstitched since you're going to top stitch the pocket to the bag lining, which will close the opening.
- Place the pocket on the lining at least 3" from the bottom and 3" from the two sides. Top stitch around the sides and bottom edges of the pocket. Reinforce the top corners of the pocket so they don't easily rip from the lining.

Making the Handles

- Line up one long edge of the interfacing to a long edge of the handle fabric. The interfacing is ½" narrower than the handle fabric. Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the handle fabric. If using two shorter pieces of interfacing, butt the short edges up to each other in the middle of the handle fabric.
- Fold over the long edge of the handle fabric that's not covered by the interfacing and press.
- Fold the handle in thirds lengthwise, keeping the folded edge on top and the long raw edge of the handle inside.
- Secure with binding clips. Using a matching or decorative thread, top stitch the folded edge in place through all layers. Stitch a matching line of stitching on the opposite edge of the handle. Add additional lines of stitching if you wish.
- Once the top stitching is complete, trim off the selvages from both ends and cut the long handle strip into two equal pieces that measure about 21" each, or whatever length suits you. Be mindful of the HEIGHT of the bag. You don't want your bag to be dragging on the ground if the handles are too long.
- Space the handles evenly on the right side of each outer bag piece about 6" in from the outer edges of the bag, making sure the handles are not twisted. The ends of the handles should extend about ½" beyond the top of the bag to be sure those handles are securely fastened into the seams, and this little bit of extension will ensure that. Pin the handles with TWO pins to keep them straight, and baste the handles to the top of the outer bag.

Bag Assembly

- Mark a 2 ½ " square using a pen and a ruler on the bottom two corners of each piece of lining and outer bag. Using SCISSORS – cut out the corner notch on the bottom of all four bag pieces.
- With right sides together, match the top of one lining to the top of one outer bag piece, and stitch the lining to the outer bag (the handles should be between the lining and outer bag piece). Take care to keep the handles straight as you stitch over them. Repeat for other side of lining and outer bag piece.
- Open the two pieces just sewn and, with rights sides together, position these two pieces on top of each other with the two linings on top of each other and the two outer bag pieces on top of each other.
- Stitch along the two long sides (matching seams), and across the bottom of the outer bag and the lining. Leave an opening in the bottom of the lining so you can turn the bag right side out. NOTE: DO NOT stitch in the corner notches at this point.

- In one of the notched corners, bring the two seams together and stitch across the opening to make the corner seam. Repeat on the remaining three corners.
- Turn the bag right side out – this can be tricky with the stiff interfacing.
- Stitch the opening in the lining closed. Turn the lining inside the bag.
- Press the top edge well and top stitch the upper edge of the bag about ¼” from the top.

Making the bag bottom insert

- The bottom insert gives the bag firm support and looks more professional. You can use a piece of thick cardboard or other hard material cut to size. The bottom of your bag should measure approximately 5” by 15”, so your insert should measure about 4 ½” by 14 ½”.
- With right sides together, stitch the two pieces of the insert cover together leaving one narrow end open. If you want, you can hem this narrow end of each piece before stitching together. Turn right side out, insert your piece of cardboard, tuck in the open end (if not hemmed), and place the insert into the bag.

Enjoy!

NOTE: It is best to NOT prewash preprinted fabrics such as panels and border prints. The fabric goes through many processes to be delivered to the consumer and there may be some size variations. If you’re unable to cut the panels/border prints to the sizes mentioned above, cut the pieces to a size that works for your panels and adjust any other measurements accordingly.