



# Clothing and Textiles Community Service Project

Gillespie County is in need of tote bags for women in Cambodia. There will be a mission trip in March and our 4-H program has had a request to assist with sending tote bags for the adults in Cambodia to help hold the educational materials that will be distributed. The preferred fabric is a cotton or cotton/polyester blend and they love fabrics with tiny flowered patterns. Attached are tote bag directions, but please feel free to create your own. The size of a finished tote will need to be 13" x 15" (13 width x 15 length)




Please have the bags to the Gillespie County Extension Office by March 1st.

If you have any questions, please contact the Gillespie County Extension Office at 830/997-3452.

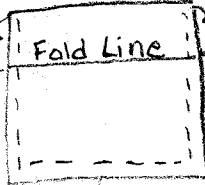
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# Tote Bag Directions

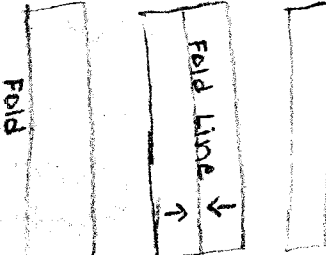
- Decide on size of tote bag
- Add 3" to length and 1/4" to width to allow for seams (5/8 inch seams)
- For straps cut 4" wide and length (20-30") or as long as you want

1.  Place right sides of fabric facing together.


Sew 5/8" seams on both sides and bottom - Leave top open - After sewing - finish seams by serging or zig-zag

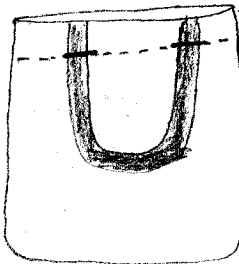
2.  Press down 2 1/2 inches at top open edge to wrong side of fabric and Iron. Then fold that 2 1/2" under again in half. Sew the 1/4" hem.

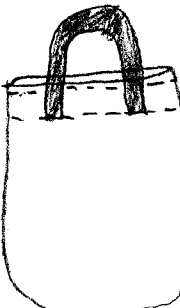
3.  At bottom corners mark 1/2 in., then sew triangle. Turn bag right side out.

4.  Handles  
Folded ready to sew  
Fold handles in half with wrong sides together.

Then fold outside edges to to center fold. Light press and then fold in half and press

5.  Sew handle side edges 1/8" to 1/4" inch from edge of handles.

6.  1/4" sewing line  
Mark center front and center back of top. Then place straps evenly between center and side seams. Pin in place on outside or inside. Sew down at 1/4" stitching line.

7.  Turn handles up. Pin in place. Top stitch 1/8" to 1/4" inch from top edge.