

## **Cotton Cupboard Challenge #2**

### ***Sewing Tote***

#### ***Fabric Requirements***

7/8 yd.	fabric for outer body, inner pockets (A)
7/8 yd.	fabric for outer pockets, handles (B)
7/8 yd.	fabric for lining, handles (C)
26" x 44"	batting
1 1/4 yd.	optional trim (rickrack, beaded trim)

#### ***Cutting Directions***

From fabric A, cut:

- (1) 20 1/2" x 40 1/2" rectangle for outer body
- (1) 6 1/2" x 12 1/2" rectangle for inner pocket
- (1) 6 1/2" x 8 1/2" rectangle for inner pocket

From fabric B, cut:

- (1) 20 1/2" x 40 1/2" rectangle for outer pocket
- (2) 2 1/2" x 42" strips for handles

From fabric C, cut:

- (1) 20 1/2" x 40 1/2" rectangle for lining
- (2) 2 1/2" x 42" strips for handles

From batting, cut:

- (1) 20 1/2" x 40 1/2" rectangle for body
- (2) 2 1/2" x 42 1/2" strips for handles

From trim (optional), cut:

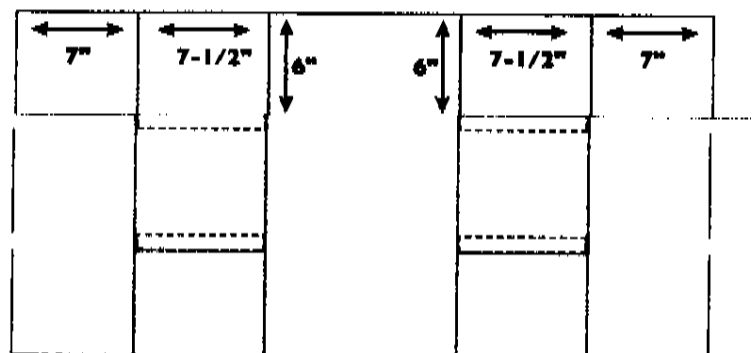
- (2) 20 1/2" pieces

#### ***Sewing Instructions***

##### **Handles**

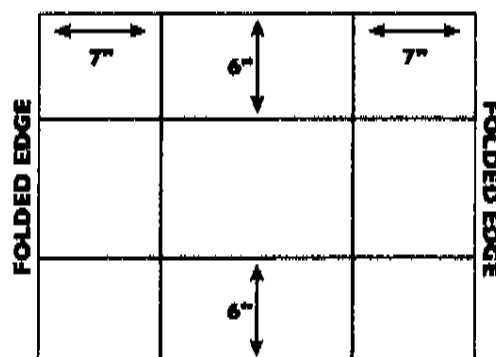
1. Layer 1 fabric B strip and 1 fabric C strip together, right sides together. Place this unit on top of a 2 1/2" x 42 1/2" batting strip. Stitch all the way around the outside edge leaving an 8" opening in the center of 1 long side for turning. Clip the corners and turn the unit right side out. Press the strip, tucking in the seam allowance in the open area. Edge stitch all the way around the outer edges, closing the opening. Repeat the procedure to make a second handle.
2. Pin handles to the outside of the large fabric A piece, 6" in from each long side and 6 1/4" in from the center. Sew the handles to the outer bag, starting 7" down from the narrow end, sewing down to the end of the handle and back up

the other side to where the sewing began. Refer to the diagram below for measurements.



### Outer Pockets

3. Fold fabric B outer pocket toward the wrong side and press in  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " of each end. The unit is now  $20\frac{1}{2}$ " high and  $25\frac{1}{2}$ " wide. If using optional trim, sew it to the right side of the fabric, along each folded edge of the outer pocket unit.

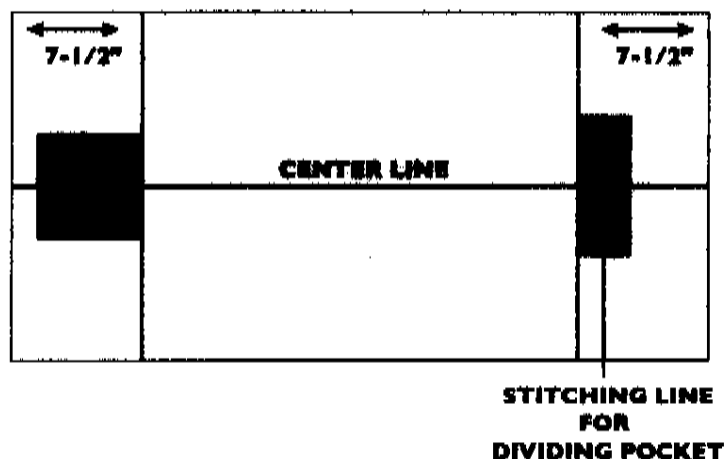


### Outer Bag Assembly

- Place  $20\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $40\frac{1}{2}$ " piece of batting on flat surface. Lay the outer bag unit (with attached handles) on top of batting, right side up. Place the outer pocket unit on top of outer bag, right side up, matching side edges. Outer pocket unit will be 7" shorter on each end than outer bag unit. Pin edges.
- To make pocket divisions in outer pockets, measure in 6" from each side and sew a line from one folded pocket edge to the folded pocket edge on the other side. Measure 7" down from each folded edge and sew 2 lines, each parallel to each folded pocket edge.
- Fold tote in half, right sides together, matching the 2 folded edges of the outer pocket unit as closely as possible. Pin and sew sides of the bag using  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance. Flatten out the bottom of the bag and mark a line 3" in from the point on each end. Stitch on this line and trim away corner  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from sewing line. Turn bag right side out.

## Lining

6. Fold fabric A pocket lining (6 ½" x 12 ½") in half, right sides together, to form a 6" pocket. Press, stitch around, leaving an opening for turning. Clip corners and turn pocket right side out. Press opening closed and topstitch all the way around the pocket, closing the opening.
7. Fold fabric A pocket lining (6 ½" x 8 ½") in half, right sides together, to form a 3" x 8" pocket. Press, stitch around, leaving an opening for turning. Clip corners and turn pocket right side out. Press opening closed and topstitch all the way around the pocket, closing the opening.
8. Sew pockets to the right side of the lining fabric, 20 ½" x 40 ½". The bottom of the pockets should be 7 ½" from the top (20 ½") edge. Center the pockets and sew them down, topstitching the sides and bottom of the pockets. Double stitch for added strength. Stitch a line down the center of the 3" x 8" pocket to form 2 smaller pockets.



9. Fold lining in half, right sides together, and stitch down each side using a ½" seam allowance. Repeat the procedure from step 5 on the bottom corners of the lining.

## Bag Assembly

10. Place lining inside the outer body, wrong sides together. Fold in each top edge ½" and pin folded edges together. Topstitch close to edge to attach lining to bag. Tack down lining to outer body in each corner to keep lining from shifting.