

Project: Market Bag

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This easy-to-sew tote makes shopping even more fun. Change fabrics for a seasonal look, or choose prints in colors to showcase team spirit.

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Materials

- 24—5" squares assorted purple, pink, and gold prints (front and back)
- ¼ yard gold print (sides and bottom)
- ¼ yard brown print (handles)
- ⅔ yard beige print (lining)
- ⅔ yard muslin
- ¾ yard batting

Finished bag: 17½×13½×4"
(without handle)

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Cut Fabrics

Cut pieces in the following order. Corner Cutting Pattern is on page 5. To make a template of the pattern, see Make and Use Templates, page 6.

From gold print, cut:

- 1—4½×42" strip

From brown print, cut:

- 2—4¾×19½" strips

From beige print, cut:

- 2—16×22½" rectangles

From muslin, cut:

- 1—4½×42" strip
- 2—14×18½" rectangles

From batting, cut:

- 1—4½×42" strip
- 2—2×19½" strips
- 2—14×18½" rectangles

Assemble and Quilt Bag Body

1. Referring to photo, page 1, lay out twelve 5" squares in three rows. Sew together squares in each row. Press seams in one direction, alternating direction with each row. Join rows to

make bag front. Press seams in one direction. Bag front should be 18½×14" including seam allowances.

2. Layer bag front with batting and muslin 18½×14" rectangles. Baste layers a scant ¼" from all edges. Quilt as desired.

3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 using remaining 5" squares to make bag back.

4. Using Corner Cutting Pattern, mark cutting line on bag front and back pieces for rounding bottom corners (Diagram 1). Machine-baste a scant ¼" inside line. Trim along line.

5. Mark center of bag front along top edge. Fold over ¾" on both sides of center mark to make two pleats (Diagram 2). Baste in place. Repeat to make pleats in bag back.

6. Layer gold print 4½×42" strip with batting and muslin 4½×42" strips; baste. Quilt as desired to make bag side/bottom strip.

7. With right sides together and aligning raw edges, sew together bag front and bag side/bottom strip. Press seam open. Join bag back to remaining raw edge of side/bottom strip to make bag body.

Assemble and Quilt Handles

1. Fold under ½" along one long edge of a brown print ¾×19½" (Diagram 3); press.
2. Fold the same edge under 1" (Diagram 4); press. Open up the last fold and align a 2×19½"

batting strip with the fold line (Diagram 5).

3. Fold long raw edge of brown print strip over batting. Then refold other long edge on fold line; pin in place.
4. Referring to Diagram 6, stitch down center to secure folded edge. Stitch on both sides of centerline, ¼" to ⅜" apart.
5. Fold handle in half crosswise to find center; mark with a pin. Fold handle in half lengthwise and pin 2½" on both sides of center (Diagram 7). Stitch folded edges together for 5" to make a narrower portion of the handle, which is more comfortable to carry.
6. Repeat steps 1–5 to make a second handle.

Assemble Bag Lining

1. Repeat Assemble and Quilt Outer Bag, Step 5, using beige print 16×22½" rectangles to make pleats in lining rectangles.
2. Layer lining rectangles right sides together. Sew together side and bottom edges, leaving a 5" opening on one side for turning bag right side out. Press seams open.
3. To shape a flat bottom for lining, at one corner, match bottom seam line to side seam line, creating a flattened triangle (Diagram 8). Measure and mark on seam allowance 2½" from point of triangle. Draw a 4"-long line across triangle and sew on drawn line. Trim excess fabric. Repeat at remaining bottom corner to make bag lining. Leave lining wrong side out.

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Finish Bag

1. Referring to **Diagram 9**, pin handle ends to bag front and back $1\frac{1}{4}$ " in from side edges. Attach handles, stitching through all layers a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " from edges.
2. With right sides together, insert bag body inside bag lining; the handles should be between the bag and lining. Align raw edges and pleats. Stitch together top edges of bag body and lining, backstitching over each handle for reinforcement.
3. Turn bag and lining right side out through opening in lining; then pull the lining out of the bag. Machine-stitch opening in lining closed.
4. Insert lining back into bag and press top edge. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from top edge to complete bag.

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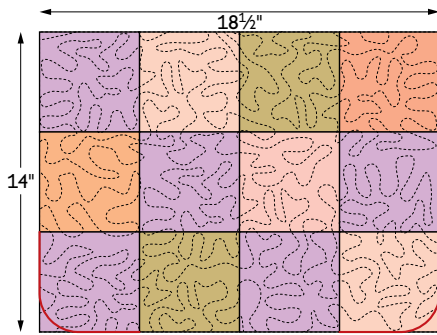


DIAGRAM 1

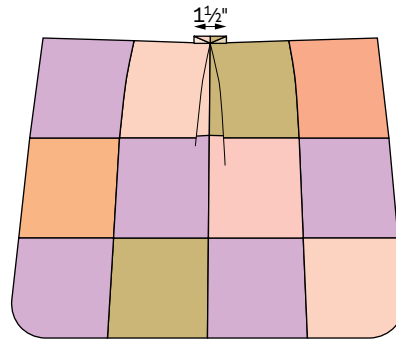


DIAGRAM 2

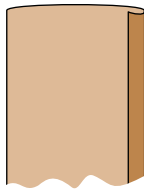


DIAGRAM 3

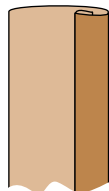


DIAGRAM 4

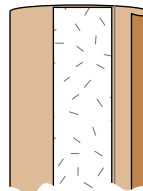


DIAGRAM 5

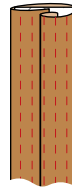


DIAGRAM 6

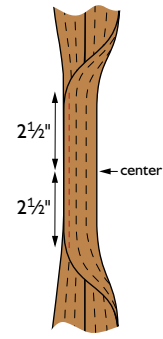


DIAGRAM 7

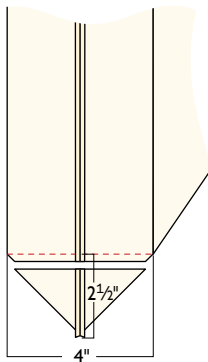


DIAGRAM 8

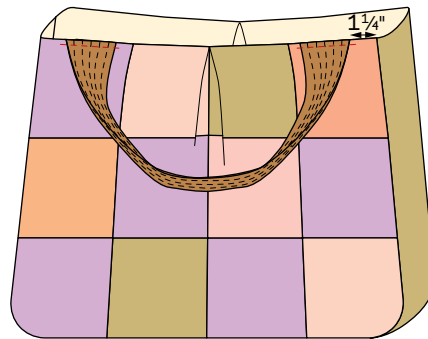
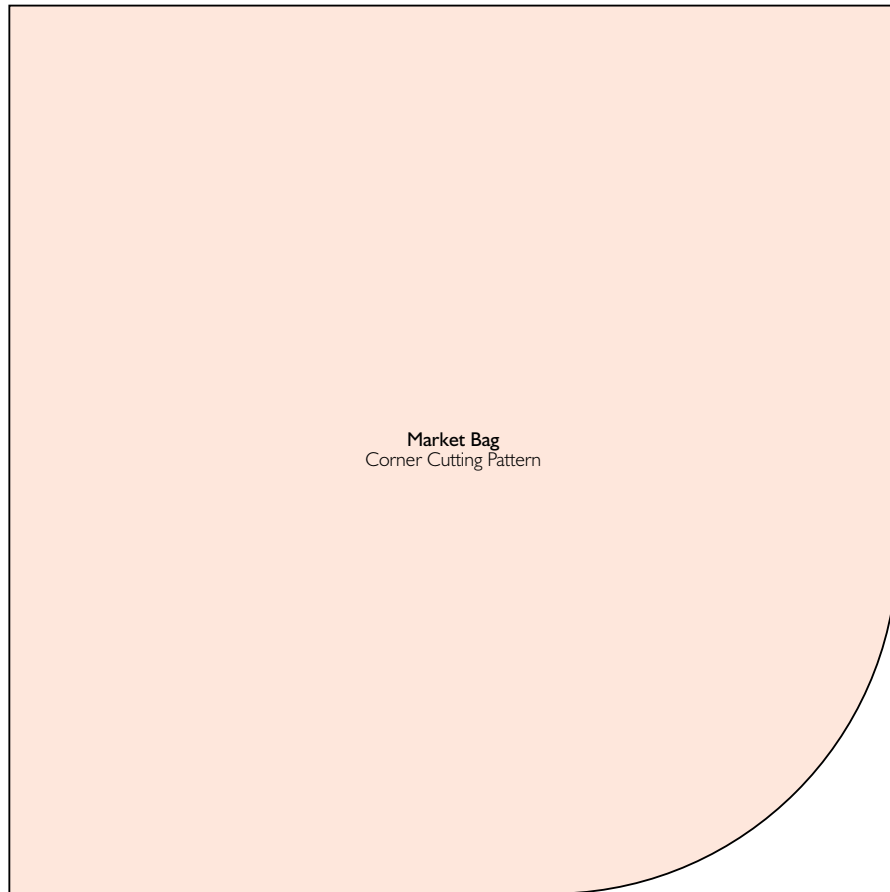
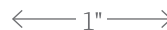


DIAGRAM 9

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This box should measure 1".



*** NOTE:**

When printing a downloadable pdf, set Page Scaling preference to NONE to print patterns at 100%. Do NOT "Shrink to Fit" or "Fit to Printable Area."

Make and Use Templates

Make Templates

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

Use Templates

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the previous tracing (**Diagram 1**), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a $\frac{3}{16}$ " seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (**Diagram 2**); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

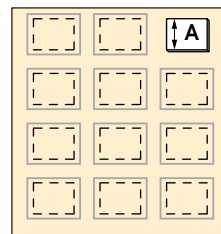


DIAGRAM 1

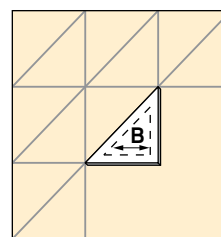


DIAGRAM 2