PROJECT: All-Day Anywhere Tote

Whether it's for an exercise class or a day at the beach,
a simply sewn bag keeps everything organized.

INSPIRED BY: *Water Colors* from designer Ledine Watson *(sugarstitchesquiltco.com)*

FABRICS are from the Linear collection by Rashida Coleman Hale of Ruby Star Society for Moda Fabrics *(modafabrics.com)*.

FINISHED BAG:
16½×16½×4"
FINISHED BLOCK:
15" square

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

- ☐ **⅓ yard plum print** (block, handles)

- ☐ **½ yard cream tone-on-tone** (block)

- ☐ **⅞ yard pink print** (block, bag lining)

- ☐ **1 yard black geometric print** (block; bag front, back, sides, and bottom)

- ☐ **7½" square cream novelty print** (block)

- ☐ **1 yard 45"-wide heavyweight fusible stabilizer,** such a Pellon Decor Bond

CUT FABRICS
Cut pieces in the following order.

From plum print, cut:
- ☐ 1–6" square
- ☐ 2–4×30½" strips

From cream tone-on-tone, cut:
- ☐ 8–2×4½" rectangles
- ☐ 8–2⅞" squares
- ☐ 8–2½" squares

From pink print, cut:
- ☐ 2–19×21" rectangles
- ☐ 1–6" square

From black geometric print, cut:
- ☐ 1–17×19" rectangle
- ☐ 1–2½×21" bottom strip
- ☐ 2–2½×19" border strips
- ☐ 2–2½×17" side strips
- ☐ 2–1¼×17" border strips
- ☐ 2–1¼×15½" border strips
- ☐ 2–5¼" squares

From fusible stabilizer, cut:
- ☐ 2–3½×30½" strips
- ☐ 2–19×21" rectangles

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

Press seams in directions indicated by arrows on diagrams. If no direction is specified, press seam toward darker fabric.

1. Use a pencil to mark two diagonal lines in an X on wrong side of plum print 6" square. Mark one diagonal line on wrong side of each cream tone-on-tone 2⅞" square.
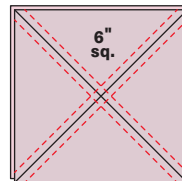
2. Layer marked plum print square atop pink print 6" square. Referring to **Diagram 1,** sew ¼" on each side of each diagonal line.

Diagram 1

3. Referring to **Diagram 2,** cut layered 6" squares into four 3" squares. Referring to **Diagram 3,** cut each 3" square on its diagonal line to make eight triangles. Press each triangle open to make eight triangle-squares. Trim each triangle-square to 2½" square including seam allowances.
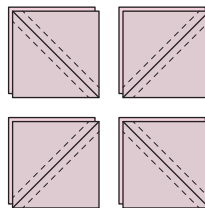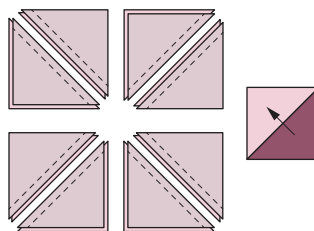

Diagram 2

Diagram 3

4. Referring to **Diagram 4,** align two marked cream tone-on-tone 2⅞" squares with opposite corners of one black geometric print 5¼" square. Sew a scant ¼" from drawn lines on both sides of lines. Cut apart on drawn lines to make two triangle units **(Diagram 5).** Press open triangle units.
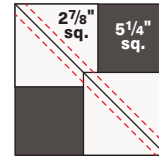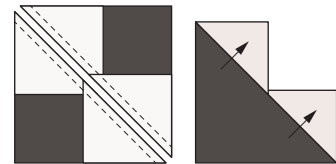

Diagram 4

Diagram 5

5. Referring to **Diagram 6,** align a marked cream tone-on-tone 2⅞" square with black geometric print corner of a triangle unit. Sew a scant ¼" from each side of drawn line; cut apart on drawn line **(Diagram 7).** Press cream tone-on-tone triangles open to make two Flying Geese units. Each unit should be 2½×4½" including seam allowances. Repeat with remaining triangle unit to make two additional Flying Geese units.
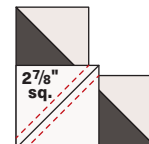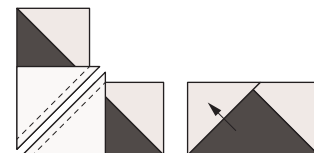

Diagram 6

Diagram 7

6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 to make eight Flying Geese units total.

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7. Sew together two triangle-squares and two cream tone-on-tone 2½" squares in pairs **(Diagram 8).** Join pairs to make a corner unit. The unit should be 4½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make four corner units total.

Diagram 8
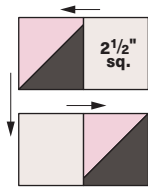
8. Referring to **Diagram 9,** sew together two Flying Geese units. Add cream tone-on-tone 2×4½" rectangles to make a side unit. The unit should be 4½×7½" including seam allowances. Repeat to make four side units total.
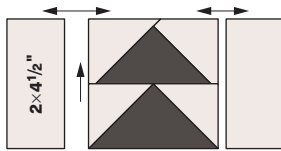

Diagram 9

9. Referring to **Diagram 10,** lay out corner units, side units, and cream novelty print 7½" square in three rows. Sew together pieces in rows. Join rows to make a block. The block should be 15½" square including seam allowances.

Diagram 10
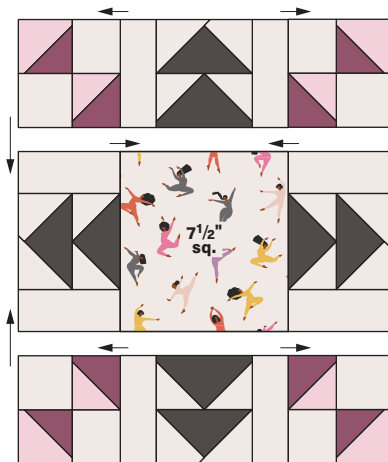
MAKE BAG FRONT

1. Sew black geometric print 1¼×15½" border strips to opposite edges of block **(Diagram 11).** Join black geometric print 1¼×17" border strips to remaining edges. Press seams toward border strips. The bordered block should be 17" square including seam allowances.
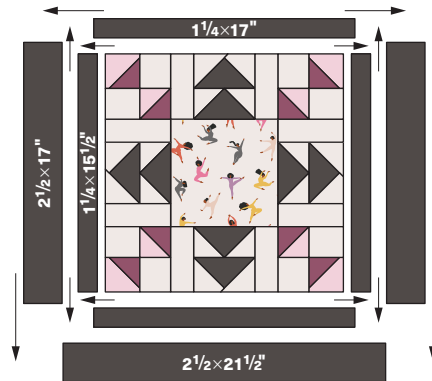

Diagram 11

2. Joint black geometric print 2½×17" side strips to opposite edges of bordered block. Add black geometric print 2½×21" bottom strip to bottom edge to make bag front. The bag front should be 19×21" including seam allowances.

3. Layer bag front right side up on a stabilizer 19×21" rectangle. Fuse following manufacturer's instructions. Referring to **Diagram 12,** cut a 2¼" square from each bottom corner of fused bag front.

Diagram 12

4. Quilt as desired with the goal of securing the stabilizer. Designer Doris Brunnette machine-outline-stitched around the novelty print center, black geometric print Flying Geese triangles, and black geometric print strips. She stitched in the ditch around the triangle-squares.

MAKE BAG BACK

1. Sew black geometric print 2½×19" border strips to long edges of black geometric print 17×19" rectangle to make bag back **(Diagram 13).** The bag back should be 19×21" including seam allowances.
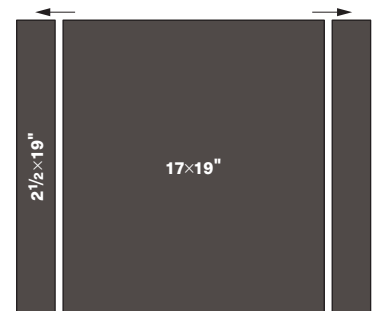

Diagram 13

2. Layer bag back right side up on remaining stabilizer 19×21"rectangle; fuse. Referring to **Diagram 14,** cut a 2¼"square from each bottom corner of fused bag back.
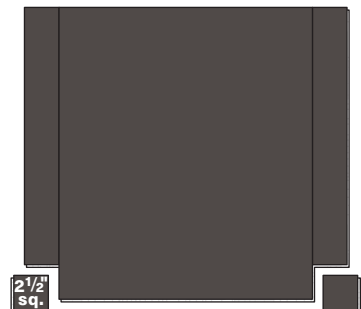

Diagram 14

3. Quilt as desired with the goal of securing the stabilizer. Doris Brunnette stitched vertical lines about 2" apart.

FINISH BAG

1. From bottom corners of pink print 19×21" rectangles, cut 2¼" squares as before to make two bag lining pieces.

2. Referring to **Diagram 15,** layer a stabilizer 3½×30½" strip on wrong side of a plum print 4×30½" strip. Align a set of long edges; fuse. Fold unfused plum print long edge over stabilizer strip; press.
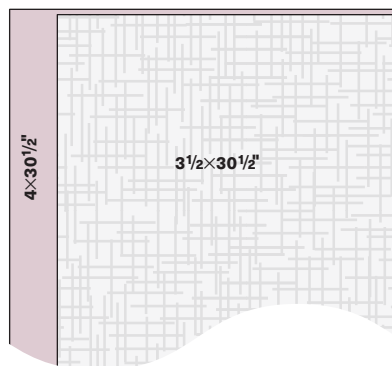

4×30½"   3½×30½"

Diagram 15

3. Referring to **Diagram 16,** with wrong side and long raw edge inside, fold fused strip in thirds lengthwise. Topstitch long edges through all layers to make a 1×30½" handle.
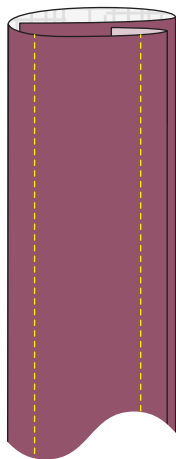

Diagram 16

4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 to make a second handle.

5. Referring to **Diagram 17,** align raw edges of one handle with top edge of bag front, each 5½" from side edges; baste. Repeat with remaining handle and bag back.
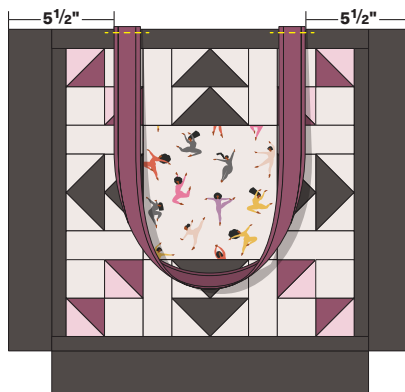

5½"   5½"

Diagram 17

6. Referring to **Diagram 18,** layer bag front and one bag lining piece with right sides together, handle sandwiched between layers, and top edges aligned. Sew together top edges to make a bag body front unit; press open.

7. Repeat Step 6 with bag back and remaining bag lining piece to make a bag body back unit.

8. Layer bag body units, matching prints. Referring to **Diagram 19,** sew side, bottom, and top edges, leaving a 10" opening for turning.
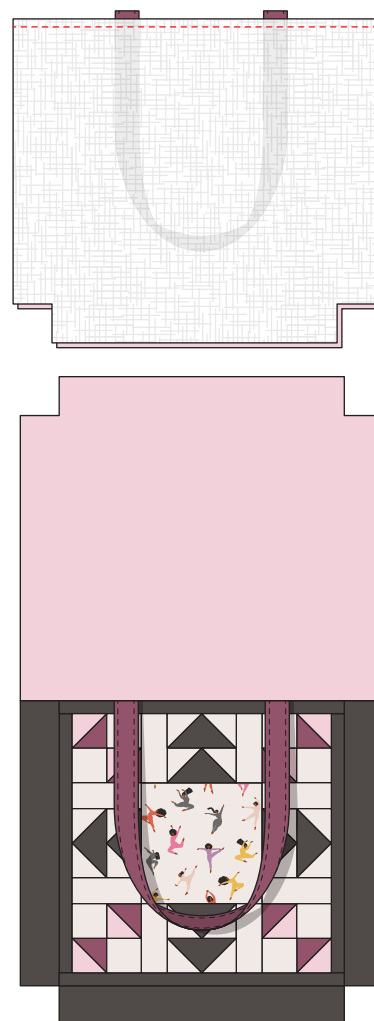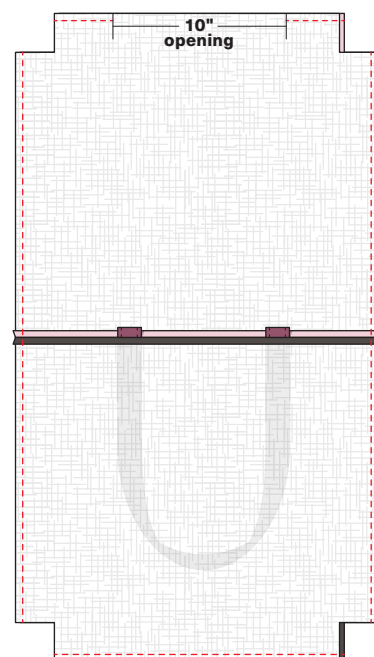

Diagram 18

10" opening

Diagram 19

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9. To shape a flat bottom, at one corner match bottom seam line to side seam line; stitch across corner **(Diagram 20).** Repeat with remaining corners. Turn right side out through opening; hand-stitch opening closed.
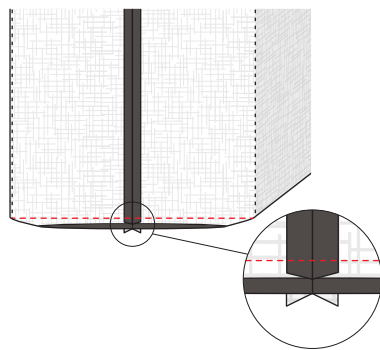

Diagram 20

10. Tuck bag lining into bag body. Press top edge flat. Topstitch ⅛" from top edge to complete bag.