



STRIPED TOTE WITH A BOW

Opal™

Striped Tote with a Bow

This chic tote bag is always useful whether going to the office, the beach, or shopping. Make it in high contrast striped fabric for a trendy style and turn the stripes in different directions. Personalize it even more by adding a uniquely designed label. The size of the bag is approximately 15" x 14" (38 x 36 cm)

Sewing Supplies:

- Striped fabric for bag and bow 20" x 57" (50 cm x 145 cm)
- Fabric for lining
- Scraps of fabric for label
- Sturdy canvas straps for shoulder-straps
- Sewing thread

Cut the Fabric

A ½" (1 cm) seam allowance is included in all measurements.

Black and White Striped Fabric

Bag:

A. 1 piece 16" x 35½" (40 x 90 cm)

Bow:

B. 1 piece 12" x 11" (30 x 27 cm)

C. 1 piece 3½" x 6" (9 x 15 cm)

D. 1 piece 16" x 7" (40 x 18 cm)

Lining:

E. 2 pieces 16" x 2½" (40 x 6 cm) (for top of lining)

Lining Fabric

1 piece 16" x 28½" (40 x 72 cm) of lining fabric

Label

Fabric scraps in matching color(s).

Sewing

Label:

Design your own label to personalize your bag.

Program letters and/or decorative stitches and embellish one half of a small scrap of fabric.

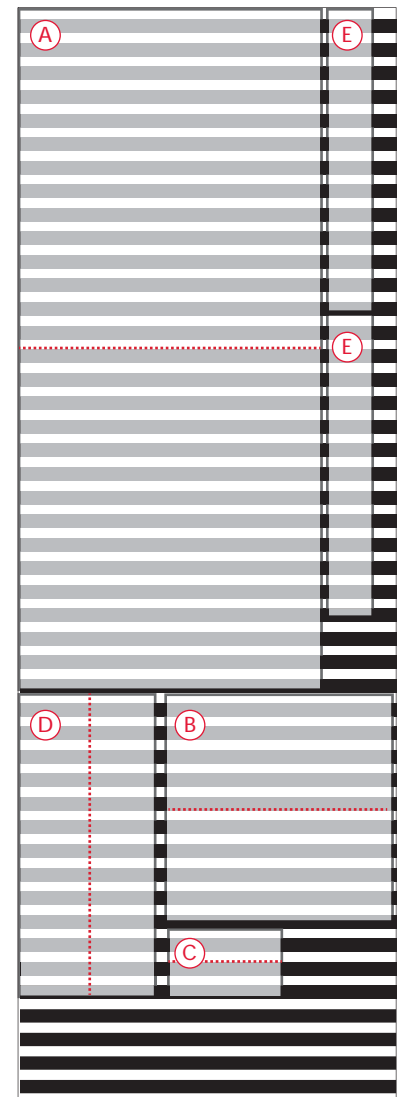
Fold the label right sides together and stitch along the short sides. Turn right side out and press to create your label. For a more elaborate look, make a second solid colored label to place underneath your decorated label.

Bag:

Start by preparing the bow pieces B, C and D. The red lines on the illustration to the right show where to fold the fabric pieces.

Fold piece B lengthwise (according to the illustration), right sides together. Stitch around the raw edges, leaving an opening in the bottom for turning. Press the seam allowances open. Turn right side out, press and stitch the opening closed.

Fold piece C right sides together, and stitch along the long side. Press the seam allowance open and turn right side out. Center the seam on the backside and press the fabric to form a firmly pressed strap. Stitch the short ends of piece C together forming a circle.



*Cut and fold scheme, striped fabric
20" x 57" (145 x 50 cm)*



Create the bow

Pull piece B into the circular piece C forming a bow. See illustration on previous page.

Fold piece D right sides together and proceed as described for piece C above (but without stitching the short ends together).

Stitch the label to one of the long sides of piece D placing it approximately 1" from the outer edge.

Place piece D on top of piece A 4" (10 cm) from the top. Pin in place. Snap on presser foot D. With straight stitch 1 (left needle position), stitch piece D to piece A as illustrated.

Place the bow in the middle of piece D, and hand-stitch in place.

Fold piece A right sides together so that the short ends meet. Stitch together along the long sides. Press the seam allowances open.

To make a 2½" (6 cm) wide bottom to the bag, match the side seam with the bottom seam and sew across the corner ¼" (3 cm) from the tip as illustrated. Repeat for the opposite side and press the seams.

Pin and baste the handles to the outside of the bag 3" (7 cm) from the side seams. Align the raw edges.

Lining:

Place one of the E strips right sides together with one of the short ends of the lining. Stitch together and press the seam allowance open. Repeat for the other side of the lining. Fold the lining right sides together and sew the side seams leaving a 4" (10 cm) opening on one side. Press the seam allowances open.

Make a 2½" (6 cm) wide bottom for the lining as done for the outer bag above.

Assemble the Bag

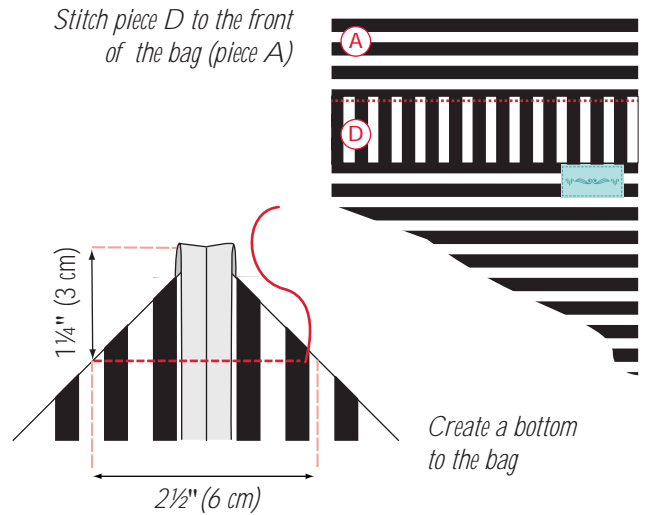
Place the outer bag inside the lining right sides together and line up the upper edges. Pin and sew around the upper raw edge using a ½" (1 cm) seam allowance.

Pull the outer bag through the opening in the lining. Snap on presser foot D. With left needle position straight stitch, topstitch the opening in the lining closed.

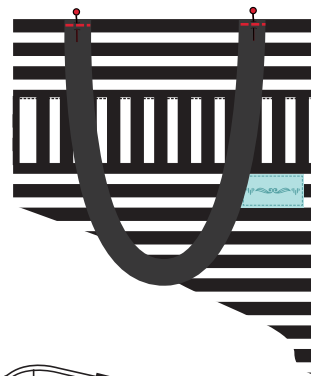
Push the lining into the outer bag and press the upper edge.

Enjoy your new Tote Bag!

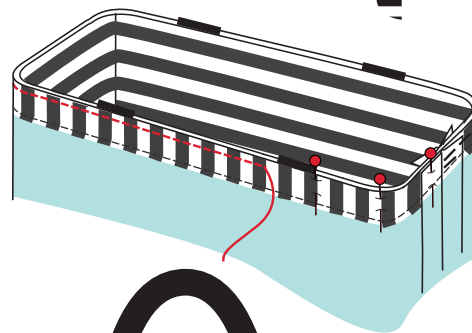
Stitch piece D to the front of the bag (piece A)



Create a bottom to the bag



Pin and baste the handles to the outside of the bag



Place the outer bag inside the lining right sides together and sew around the upper raw edge



Enjoy your new tote bag!