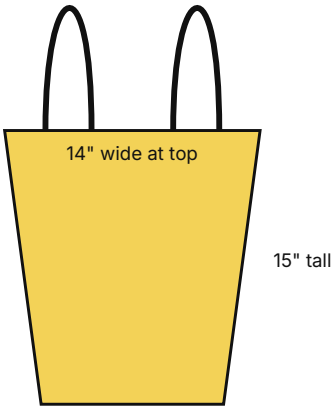
FREE PATTERN · ALL RECTANGLES · BEGINNER

The lined *tote bag*

A roomy, fully lined tote with a boxed base, sturdy straps and an inside pocket. Every piece is a rectangle, so there is nothing to trace: measure, cut and sew.



10" base × 4" deep
36 × 38 cm, 10 cm boxed base

FABRIC

	44–45" (112–115 cm) WIDE	58–60" (147–150 cm) WIDE	GOOD CHOICES
Outer + straps	¾ yd (70 cm)	¾ yd (70 cm)	Canvas, duck, denim, twill
Lining + pocket	⅝ yd (60 cm)	⅝ yd (60 cm)	Quilting cotton, poplin
Interfacing	1 yd (1 m), 20" wide	—	Optional, for light outers

YOU ALSO NEED

All-purpose polyester thread, a size 90/14 needle (100/16 for heavy canvas), pins or clips, a ruler or quilting ruler, chalk, and an iron.

Seam allowance: ½" (1.3 cm), included in every measurement.

Prewash cotton outers and linings together before cutting, so they shrink before they're sewn.

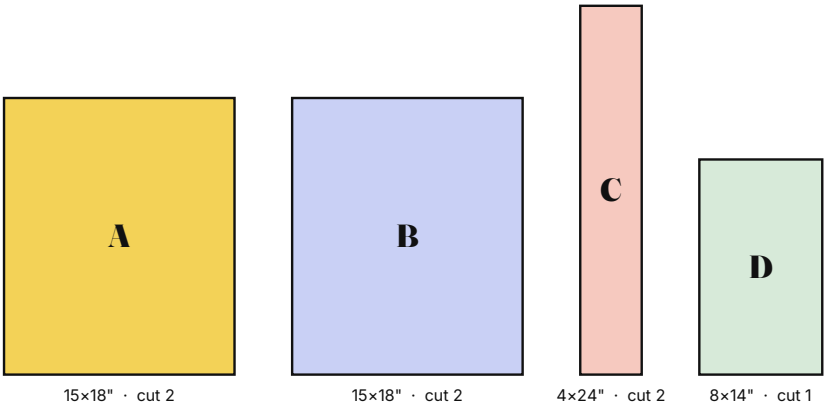
HOW TO USE THIS PATTERN

Page 2 is the cutting chart and two layouts. Page 3 has a full-size boxed-corner template and the sewing steps.

Print page 3 at 100% / "Actual size" on A4 and check the test square, so the corner template is true to size.

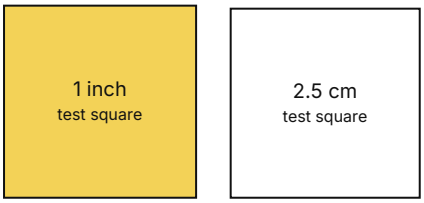
Full photo tutorial:
sewbytheyard.com/lined-tote-bag-pattern/

THE PIECES (TO SCALE WITH EACH OTHER)



15×18" · cut 2 | 15×18" · cut 2 | 4×24" · cut 2 | 8×14" · cut 1

A outer · B lining · C strap · D pocket



Measure before you cut. Print at 100% / "Actual size", never "Fit to page". Off by more than 1 mm? Reprint.

Made by Sew by the Yard, an independent garment-sewing site.

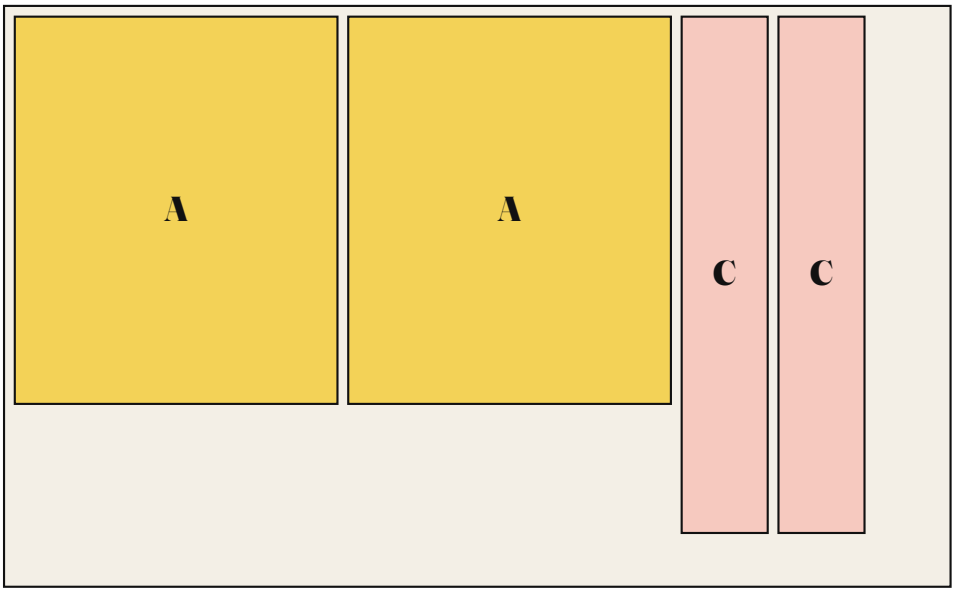
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Cutting chart

Width runs across the fabric, from selvage to selvage; height runs along the grain, parallel to the selvage. Metric sizes are rounded for easy cutting, so stick to one system.

PIECE	CUT FROM	CUT	INCHES (W × H)	CM (W × H)
A Outer bag	Outer fabric	×2	15" × 18"	38 × 46
B Lining	Lining fabric	×2	15" × 18"	38 × 46
C Strap	Outer fabric	×2	4" × 24"	10 × 61
D Inside pocket	Lining fabric	×1	8" × 14"	20 × 36
E Interfacing (optional)	Fusible, medium	×2	15" × 18"	38 × 46

OUTER FABRIC, 44" WIDE · ¾ yd

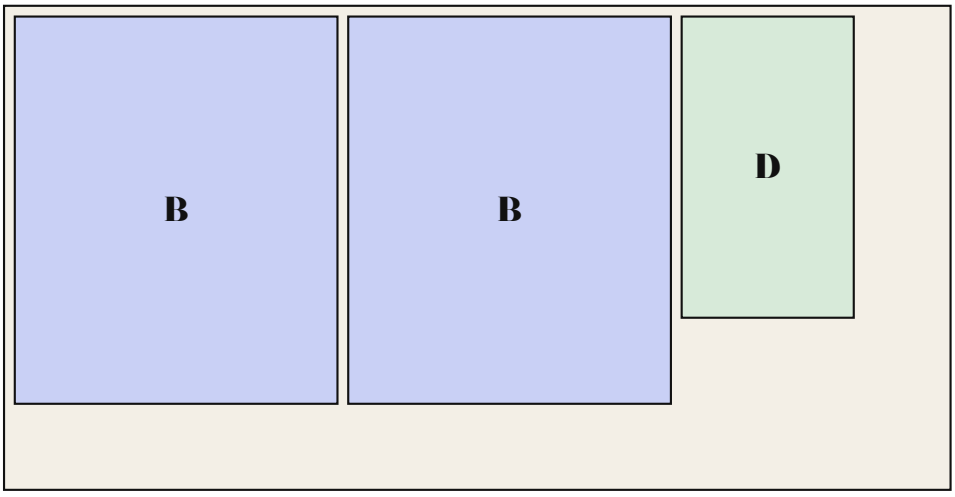


selvage ↔ selvage: 44" 27" along the grain

Straps C run along the grain, the most stable direction, so they won't stretch out.

On 58–60" fabric, buy ¾ yd outer for the 24" straps along the grain; buy ⅝ yd lining.

LINING FABRIC, 44" WIDE · ⅝ yd

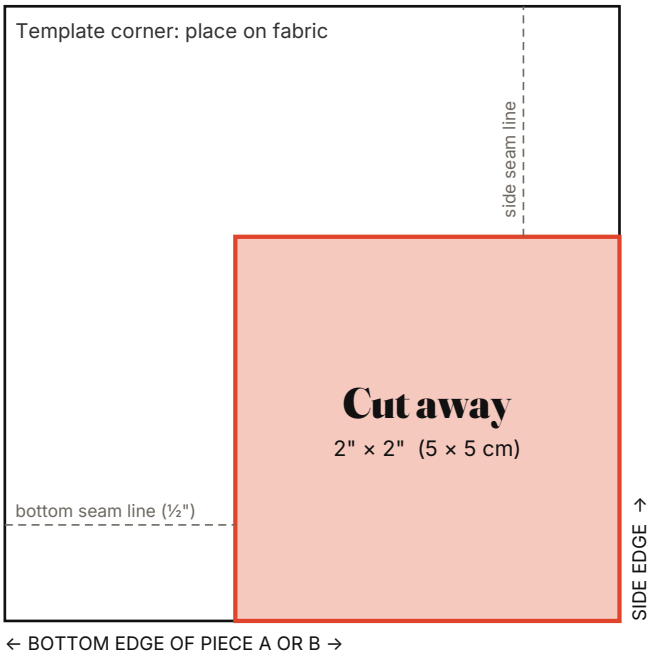


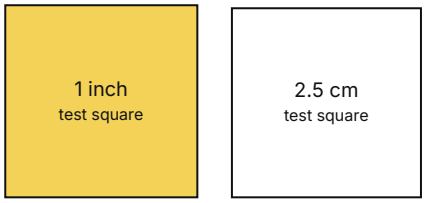
selvage ↔ selvage: 44" 22.5" along the grain

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Boxed-corner template

Full size. Cut it out, line it up with the bottom corner of each outer and lining piece, and cut away the shaded 2" square. Do all four corners of A and all four of B.





Measure before you cut. Print at 100% / "Actual size", never "Fit to page". Off by more than 1 mm? Reprint.

Sew it

1. Straps. Press each strap C in half lengthwise, open, fold both long edges to the centre crease and fold again: 1" wide, four layers. Topstitch ⅛" from both long edges.
2. Pocket. Fold D in half right sides together to 8" × 7". Sew the three open sides, leaving a 3" gap; clip corners, turn, press. Stitch it to one lining piece 3" below the top, closing the gap as you go.
3. Outer bag. Interface A if you're using a light fabric. Sew the two A pieces right sides together down both sides and across the bottom. Leave the cut-out corners open. Press seams open.
4. Box the corners. Pull each open corner apart so the side seam sits on top of the bottom seam, making a straight edge. Stitch across it, ½" from the raw edge. Repeat for all corners. Repeat steps 3–4 for the lining, but leave a 5" gap in the bottom seam for turning.
5. Straps on. With the outer bag right side out, pin the strap ends to the top edge, 3½" in from each side seam, strap loops hanging down. Baste ¼" from the edge.
6. Join and turn. Slide the outer bag (right side out) inside the lining (wrong side out), top edges and side seams matching. Sew around the top. Pull the bag out through the lining gap, then edgestitch the gap closed.
7. Finish. Push the lining inside, press the top edge and topstitch around it ¼" from the edge, catching the straps.

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