

Quilt For A Cure Tote Bags



Materials:

5/8 yard cotton print for tote and pillow
5/8 yard coordinating cotton lining fabric and pillow

Or

Five Coordinating Fat Quarters

Or

1/2 yard cotton print for tote
1/2 yard cotton print for lining
1/4 yard for pillow

18" by 40" piece of Low-loft, or Soft Touch Cotton, batting
About 3 oz. Polyfil® or Soft Touch Polyfil® Supreme fiberfill

Thread to match fabrics

Instructions

Cutting

1. To make pattern for tote, draw a 19 1/2" x 15 1/2" rectangle on a piece of paper. Trace the template found on the back of this page to the upper left hand corner of the rectangle. Reverse the template and trace to the upper right hand corner of the rectangle. Cut out the rectangle cutting away the template sections to make the shape of the handle. This pattern includes 1/2" seam allowances.
2. Cut two tote pieces from cotton fabric and two from lining.
3. Cut a 6" x 7" pocket from each cotton fabric and lining.
4. Cut an 8" x 12" pillow piece from each cotton fabric and lining or from pillow fabric.

All seam allowances are 1/2" (except for step 10)

(the pocket for this tote is not attached to the tote until step 9)

Tote

1. With right sides together, stitch tote pieces together along short straight edge of handle. Stitch lining pieces together in the same manner.
2. Decide how you are going to quilt the tote bag. Some suggestions are diagonal quilting lines

- about 2" apart in both directions, channel quilting - vertical lines about 2" apart, stipple quilting, or quilting around the motifs on the fabric. Mark any quilting lines at this time.
3. Pin tote and pocket to quilt batting and cut out batting along the edges of the pieces.
 4. Baste tote and pocket to quilt batting a scant 1/2" from edges. Trim batting close to basting stitches.
 5. Pin tote and pocket to lining pieces with right sides of fabric together.
 6. Stitch around tote leaving a six inch opening on the lower edge of one tote section. Trim seam allowance and clip curves and corners. Turn right side out. Lightly press edges flat. Stitch edges of opening closed.
 7. Topstitch 1/4" from curved edges. Quilt the tote according to your plan.
 8. Stitch around pocket leaving a 3" opening on one long edge. Trim seam allowance and clip corners. Turn right side out. Lightly press edges flat. Topstitch along top edge of pocket. Quilt the pocket according to your plan.
 9. Pin pocket to tote bag front centered about 2 3/4" from the lower edge. Or if you desire sew the pocket to the lining side of tote in the same manner. (The pocket can be on either the outside or the inside.)
 10. With lining side out, pin the sides and lower edges together. Stitch these edges together 1/4" from the edge. Turn tote right side out.

Pillow

1. Pin the two pieces together with right sides in. Stitch 1/2" from the edges leaving a 4" opening on one long edge.
2. Turn right side out and stuff the pillow with Polyfil®.
3. Stitch the edges of the opening closed.