

Quilt Carry-All – Large Tote (about 42" X 44")

Directions written by Louisa Jordan and revised by Diane Colum and Donna Lockwood for Brunswick Quilters



Supply List

Tote:

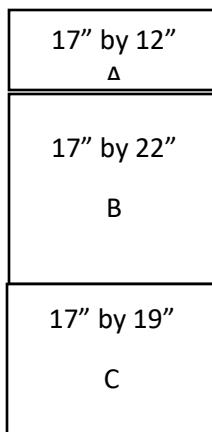
2 yards of 54" heavy material like denim or decorator fabrics
(You may use 3 different ½ yard pieces, plus another 8" by 54" of one of the fabrics available for the handle)
6" X 54" batting
1" wide non-roll elastic – two pieces each 18"

Instructions:

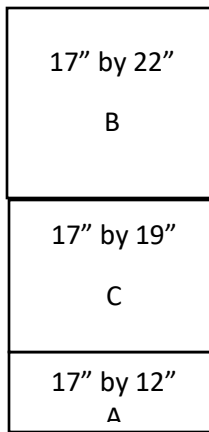
1. For the bag:
 - a. Cut 3 rectangles measuring 17" by 12". I'll call these pieces A.
 - b. Cut 3 rectangles measuring 17" by 22". I'll call these pieces B.
 - c. Cut 3 rectangles measuring 17" by 19". I'll call these pieces C.
2. For the 2 straps:
 - a. Cut 2 strips, 4" wide by 54" from heavy material.
 - b. Cut 2 strips of batting 3" wide by 54"
3. Assemble bag:
 - a. Using a flat felled seam for all seams (see below on how to make this seam). *Remember to have wrong sides together!* Sew one A rectangle to one B rectangle. Then sew one C rectangle to the B rectangle. This is panel X. See diagram.
 - b. Continue with the flat felled seam, sew one B rectangle to one C rectangle, then one A rectangle to the C rectangle. This is panel Y.
 - c. Continue with the flat felled seam, sew one C rectangle to one A rectangle, then one B rectangle to the A rectangle. This is panel Z

Example: (3) 17" x 12", (3) 17" X 19", (3) 17" X 22" sewn together according to this diagram.

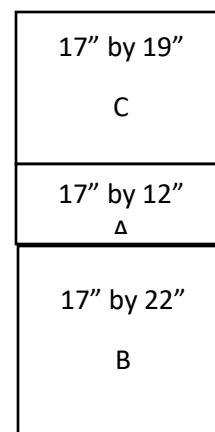
Panel X



Panel Y

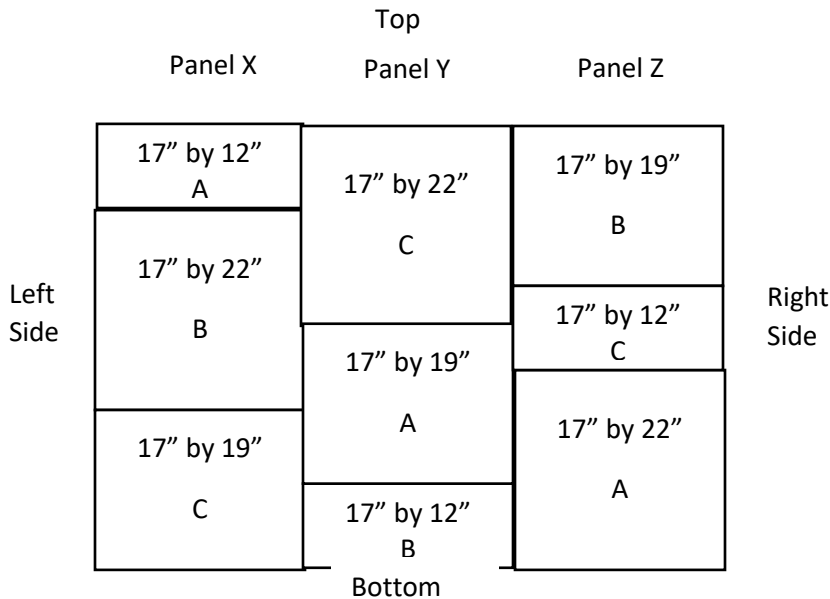


Panel Z



- d. Sew Panel X to Panel Y using the flat felled seam.
- e. Sew Panel Z to Panel Y using the flat felled seam.

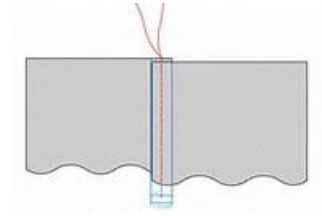
Your piece should look like this, with all seam flat felled.



- f. Fold all 4 edges (top, bottom, both sides) under by $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Press.
 - g. On right and left sides, fold the wrong sides together another 2". Press.
 - h. Unfold the right side and measure down 7" from the top and the bottom edge and in 3". Mark. Pin the ends of the elastic down at the mark and stitch using a zigzag stitch. The material in between the stitched ends of the elastic will bunch up.
 - i. Refold the $\frac{1}{2}$ ", then the 2" edge you had pressed and sew close to the $\frac{1}{2}$ " fold. The elastic will pull so you'll have to stitch small sections at a time. Don't catch the elastic as you sew.
 - j. Do the same with the left side.
 - k. Now we'll add casings for the handles. On the top edge fold over another 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and press. Pin in place and sew close to the $\frac{1}{2}$ " fold.
 - l. Do the same with the bottom edge.
4. Making the straps:
- a. Fold $\frac{1}{4}$ " on both long sides of the strap. Place batting under $\frac{1}{4}$ " folds.
 - b. Fold the strap in half, lengthwise and pin in place. Measure down 4" from the top and sew close to the $\frac{1}{4}$ " fold until about 4" from the bottom of strap. Sew the folded side also.
 - c. Make second strap in same manner
 - d. Insert one of the handle through the casing at the top edge of the bag. A large safety pin or bodkin is handy for this.
 - e. Sew edges of handle together by opening the ends of the strap and sewing edges together. Sew close of the $\frac{1}{4}$ " fold and the folded edge.
 - f. Insert second handle through the casing at the bottom edge of the bag.

You are done!

Sew Flat Felled Seams (as used on blue jeans) instructions



Place **WRONG** sides of material together.

Have the bottom piece of fabric extend $\frac{1}{2}$ " more than the top piece of fabric.

(Stagger the edges rather than aligning them.)

Sew a seam 1" from the outside edge of the bottom piece of fabric. It will be $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the outside edge of the top fabric.

Fold the edge of the bottom piece of fabric over the edge of the top piece of fabric. Press the seam so that the folded edge lies on the right side of the two pieces of fabric and edge stitch. No raw edges are exposed. You may want to pin this.

Video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQ_JgFXhEaE

You now have a strong seam with no raw edges on either side of the fabric.