

# **Tote Bag**

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A bag for the young girls to store their doll items and take them with them as they go from one area of the hospital to another.

This pattern has two options: one for quilters and one that does not require quilted squares.

This tote bag is to be given with the Hearts For Hearts doll and wardrobe or the Corolle Baby doll as part of the Stitchin' for Kids project.

These instructions are for the basic tote bag – feel free to get as creative with quilting or trims as you like.

### **Requirements:**

Instructions for the tote bag

½ yard or fat quarter main fabric
Lining fabric for inside of tote
Cotton webbing for handles if not self made with tote bag fabric
Buttons, ribbons or other embellishments
Scissors, Thread, Pins, Needles, Sewing machine, etc.

### **Assumptions:**

All seams are ¼ inch unless specified.

### For the quilted option.

- Two quilt blocks 12 ½" x 12 ½" for bag front and back. (1 3/8" squares cut from each bottom corner for boxed corners).
- Two fabric squares same size for lining
- Two pieces of batting same size
- Two fabric strips 3" wide sewn for handles about 12"-14" long

## For the non-quilted option.

- Two pieces of sturdy fabric 12 ½" x 12 ½" for bag front and back. (1 3/8" squares cut from each bottom corner for boxed corners).
   (If needed for stability, back with fusible interfacing)
- Two fabric squares same size for lining
- Two fabric strips 3" wide sewn for handles about 12"-14" long
- Option decorative ribbon or lace

#### **Directions:**

- Quilters only: Pin bag front and back to batting and quilt as desired.
- 1 3/8" squares need to be cut from the corners of the bag and lining bottoms to do boxed corners. (See page 3 for directions on boxed corners)
- Pin bag front and back right sides together and sew along the sides and bottom using 1/4" seams, (do not sew cut out corners) and turn bag right side out. Press. Make boxed corner on each side of bag.
- Pin lining pieces right sides together and sew along sides and bottom leaving an opening on the bottom for turning the bag right side out. Press under 1/4" on each side of your opening. Make boxed corners on each side of lining.
- Create handles: Press fabric strip in half, then each side to the center. Top stitch closely to the edges. Pin sewn ties to bag front and back 3" from side seams, (handle should be approx. 3/4" wide). Or use cotton webbing if not making fabric handles.
- Place quilted bag inside lining bag right sides together and pin, matching side seams. Sew lining to bag along the top, double stitching the ties to secure well.

moreinfo@stitchinforkids.org

- Pull bag through lining so wrong sides of lining are together. Meet pressed lining edges and sew together to close the hole left for turning, topstitching close to the edge.
- Tuck lining inside bag and topstitch bag ½" from top edge.
- Non-quilted version: Add optional trim round top edge.



After sewing side and bottom seams, open and align the corner raw edges of each side so the side seams align with the bottom seam. This creates a boxed corner. Pin with seam allowances open.

Stitch the two pinned edges with a 1/4 inch seam.

