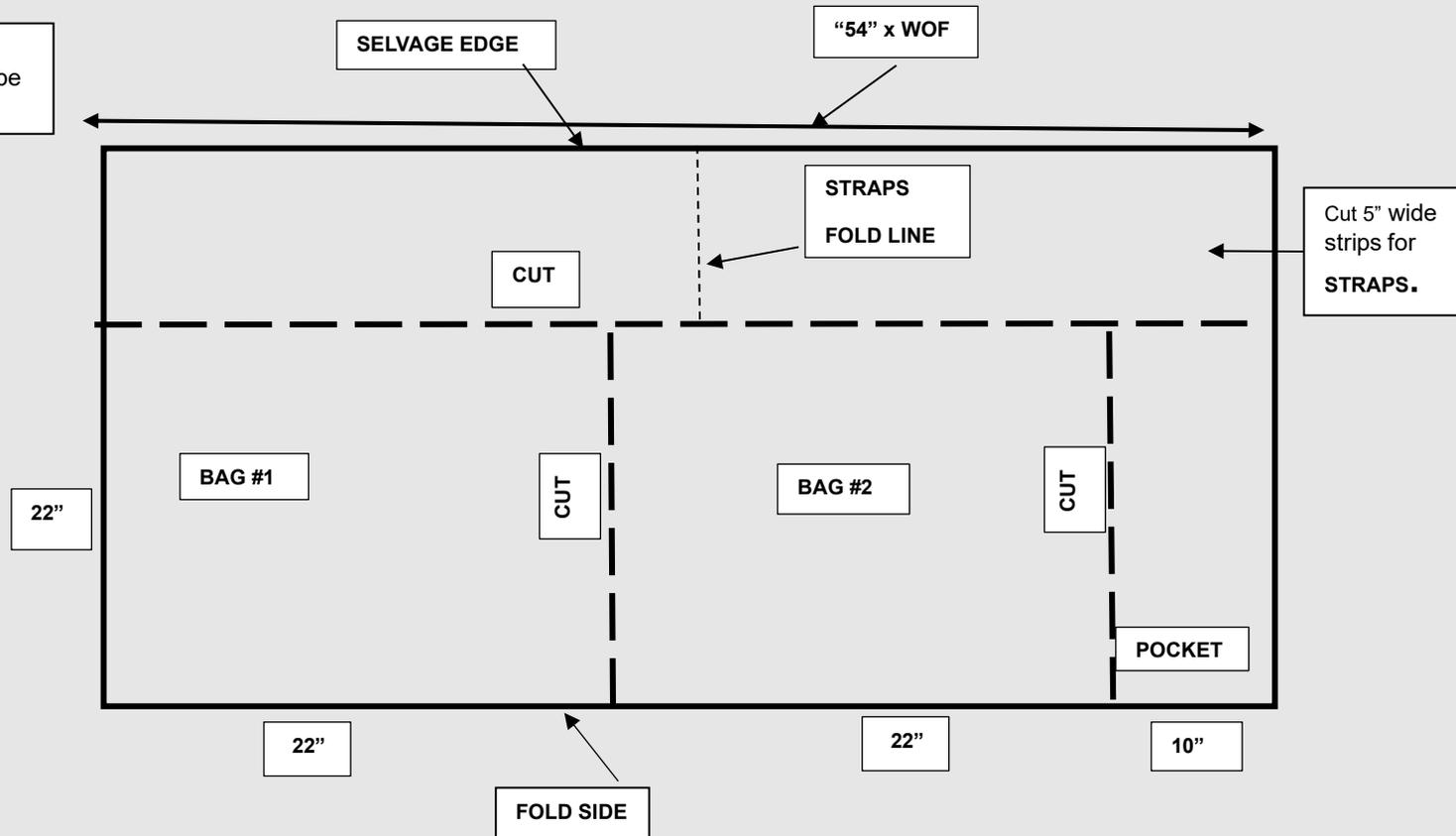


Maryhurst (Two) Tote Bag Instructions

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

With this revised layout, there will be little or no waste.



CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS: **(Refer to illustration above.)*****

1. Begin with fabric 54" X WOF. Fold in half selvage to selvage.
2. Measure 22" up from fold side and cut **full length** across fabric (as shown in drawing). This large piece of fabric will then be cut into two main bag bodies, 22" x 22" and two pockets, 10" x 22".
3. Next cut a clean selvage edge on remaining fabric which will become the straps. Fold in half from end to end. Cut on straps fold line. This gives you four straps, two per bag.

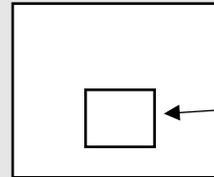
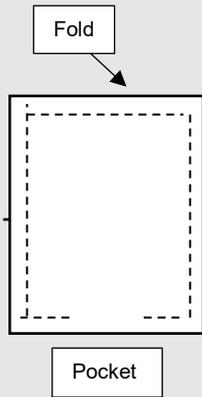
Maryhurst (Two) Tote Bag Instructions

Tote Bag Construction

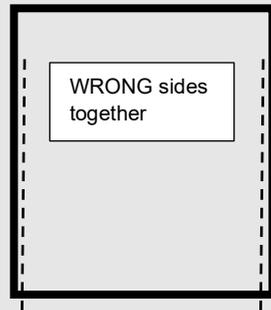
Suggestion: You may want to use a “jeans” needle for heavy weight upholstery fabric. A “jeans foot” also exists for sewing heavy weight fabrics, but neither are required.

Pockets: Fold one pocket piece in half with right sides together. Stitch all sides using $\frac{1}{4}$ ” seam allowance, leaving wide enough space for turning pocket inside out. Once stitched, turn pocket to right side out and push out corners. Fold in unfinished edges lining up with finished edges.

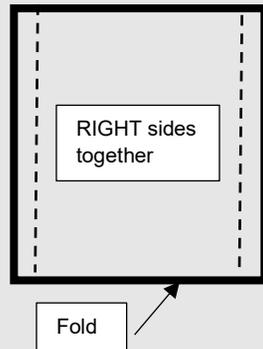
Fold sewn **pocket** in half, finding the vertical center and pin. Find the vertical center of the **bag** by folding in half and pin. Place pocket on front of bag 3” from bottom of bag, and even from side to side, lining up centers (unfinished pocket edge to the bottom). Stitch three sides of pocket, careful to catch only one layer of bag.



Pocket 3” from bottom & even on sides. Stitch 3 sides on only one layer of bag.

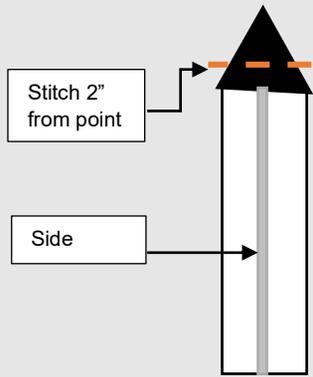


Tote Body: Take one 22” x 22” main bag piece and fold in half with wrong sides together. Stitch a narrow seam (about $\frac{3}{8}$ ”) along both open sides of body piece, leaving top side open. It is not necessary to stitch fold (bottom) of bag.



French Seams: Next, **turn the bag inside out with right sides on inside of bag**. Stitch again along the side seams using $\frac{1}{2}$ ” seam allowance. This will enclose the raw edges in the seam allowance which is called a “French seam”.

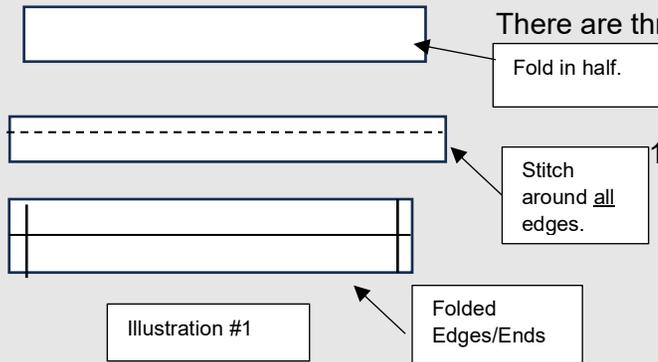
Maryhurst (Two) Tote Bag Instructions



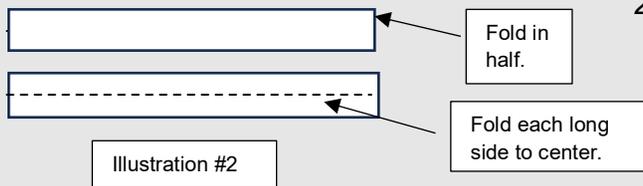
Box Seams: Continue with right sides of bag together, flatten one side seam out, aligning it with bottom fold, checking that seam is all folded in same direction. This should make a point at bottom of bag. Measure 2" from point along seam and draw a line. Stitch across the drawn line. The bottom of bag should now form a boxed corner. **Repeat** on the other side seam.

Straps:

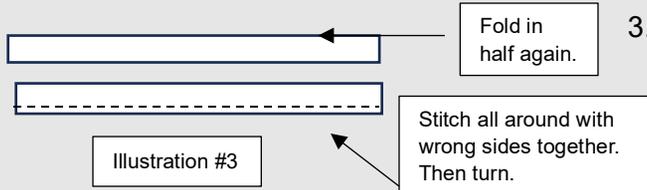
There are three (3) ways to complete the bag straps. Methods vary in width of straps.



1. Illustration #1: For heavy fabric, such as **upholstery fabric**, this method is recommended yielding **wider straps**. Fold each strap in half, long ways, **wrong sides together** and press. Next open and fold in a small hem (up to 1/4") on raw edges (ends and sides) and press (or stitch down). Refold strap with folded edges to the inside then stitch down both long sides and ends, close to edge (about 1/8" seam). Repeat for 2nd strap.

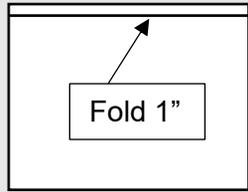


2. Illustration #2. Fold strap in half along the long edge, **wrong sides together** and press or crease. Then, **open the strap** up and fold each long edge to the center. Fold in half again and stitch close to the edge on two sides (1/8" seam). The strap will be narrower than #1 or #3. Repeat for strap 2.



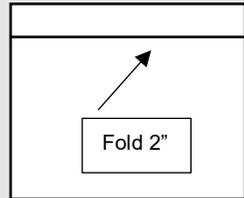
3. Illustration #3: For **lighter fabrics**, you may prefer the "pull-through method" yielding a **wider strap**. Fold strap (right sides together) and sew the two long edges. Next turn strap to right side.

Maryhurst (Two) Tote Bag Instructions



Top Hem of Bag:

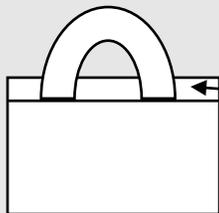
With tote turned inside out, fold raw edge down about 1 inch and press.



Next fold down about 2 inches of top edge and press.



Now, topstitch the lower and top folds all the way around the bag.



Attaching Straps:

Lay bag flat. **Measure 3\"/>**



Now top stitch straps to bag, first stitching a square then forming an "X" to secure straps. (See close-up drawing.) Repeat for each strap end, **careful** not to twist straps while attaching.

