

POP-ON POCKET

the tote bag add-on



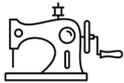
- > Pocket Fabric 2qty 9.5" wide x 13" length
- > Straps 1qty 2.5" x 17" (or 2qty 2.5" x 8.5")
- > Interfacing 2.5" x 17" (or scraps - iron where the button holes will be)
- > 2 buttons

A chance to be creative with your fabric choice, make contrasting straps, add buttons from your tin.



At the iron ...

Fold a **HANDLE** in half, lengthways, and press to create a fold running the centre length of the handle. Still working lengthways, open back out and fold each outer edge towards the centre fold, and press. Fold once again, creating your handle, it is folded into 4, meaning the finished size is 3/4" x 17". **INTERFACING [2]** iron this onto the inside of one piece of fabric, along the top edge. You need this to stabilise your fabric when you sew your button holes.



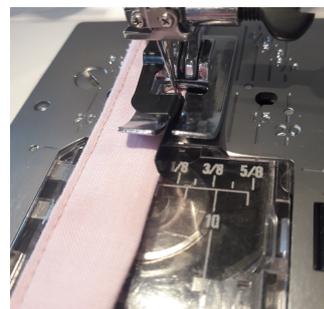
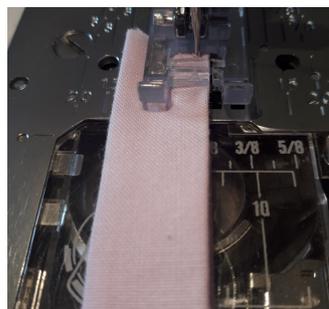
At the sewing machine ...

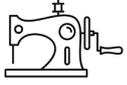
I have used patterned fabric in example below, in the hope it is easier to see what's going on!

We are finishing the short ends of your **STRAP** first. Look at your handle you just pressed in place. Note the 2 outer sides are the right sides. Now place the right sides together, essentially you are folding the strap back on itself. **[a]** Stitch across the end, use a small seam allowance 1/8" (3mm), repeat for the other end. **[b]** Now turn the ends right sides out. You will have a beautifully finished end. **[c]** Give the straps a press and cut into 2 shorter straps.



[3] Using the same small seam allowance (1/8") topstitch down the length, pivoting and the short end and all the way around to where you started. Use either you standard foot, or if you have a stitch in the ditch foot, use it here, remembering to move the needle over





At the sewing machine ...

[4] On the top end of the fabric which does not have the interfacing, mark the centre with a pin.

[5] Measure 3" to the right of the centre, again mark this a pin. Centre one strap here, the raw edge of the strap is flush with the top edge of the fabric. Repeat pinning the other strap to the left of the centre pin. You can stitch these straps in place, or if only pinning, make sure the pins are lower down on the straps, so won't get in the way of the next bit of sewing

[6] Lay the interfaced piece of fabric on top, sandwiching the straps in between. The interfacing is showing on top, not inside the fabrics.

[7] With pins, mark a gap for turning, 3" down from the top and another 5.5" down from the top. Gap being 2.5" wide. **[8]** Continue to pin around the entire fabric.

Starting at the 5.5" marker, sew around fabric, using a 1/4" seam, pivoting at corners and finishing at the 3"marker.

[9] Trim the corners, turn the pocket to the right side, **[10]** pulling it through the gap. Press.

[11] Fold the bottom up by 5", creating the pocket. Pin in place. **[12/13]** Topstitch around the entire piece.

[14/15] Starting from the bottom fold, stitch straight up the middle, creating the centre pocket divide.

[16] Sew your button holes, I have placed these to the inside of where each strap lies, have a look at the photo for reference. **[17/18/19]**

[20] Finally sew on your buttons, to the end of your straps.

[21] Slip around your tote bag straps ...

Tah Dah !!! *stand back and admire.*

Marice & Fiona xx

