

33. STUFF-IT!

A great big roomy tote that is almost big enough to hold the kitchen sink. Use it to pack your gym gear, needlework projects, as an overnight or flight bag.

Materials:

- 1 1/4 yds. (54") chintz or 1 1/4 yds. (45")
- 1 1/4 yds. (54") fabric or 1 1/4 yds. (45") (lining)
- 3/4 yd. (1") wide non-roll elastic
- thread

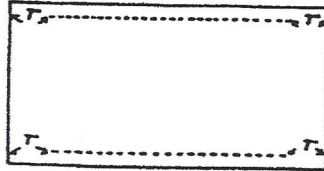
Cut:

- of chintz:
 - 38" x 54" piece
 - (2) 3 1/2" x 44" pieces (handles)
- of lining:
 - 38" x 54" piece
- of elastic:
 - (2) 10" pieces

Directions: 1/4" seam allowance

1. Pin 38" x 54" pieces, right sides together.
2. Stitch around all edges leaving an 8" opening in the center of each short side.
3. Trim corners, turn and press with seam allowances of openings pressed to inside.
4. Mark 7" in on long side from all four corners. Stitch from mark to mark.

1/4" from edge to form casing for elastic as shown.



5. Through openings in short ends, insert elastic into each casing, pinning at each end. Stitch each end of elastic as shown to reinforce.



6. Fold each short side down 2" toward lining side. Pin.
7. Edgestitch to form casing for handles. Stitch 1/4" in from first stitching to reinforce.
8. To make handles, fold and press all edges 1/4" toward wrong side. Fold each handle lengthwise, matching folded edges together. Stitch close to edge, across end, long side and end of each handle.
9. Insert a handle into each casing. Bring both ends of one handle together and tie a knot near ends. Repeat for other handle.

Changes

- 1 yd. tapestry or decorator 36" x 54"
- 1 1/2 yd. lining fabric + handles

Cut:

- lining fabric to same measurement as main fabric (36 x 54)
- (2) 4" x 44" for handles
- (2) 2" x 42" batting
- (2) 12" pieces elastic

8 Handle making

- Right sides together, layer with batting, stitch long sides.

Turn. Tuck ends and edge stitch.