

How to Sew



a Mini Tote Bag

a illustrated guide



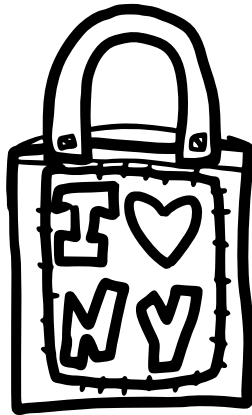
Clarissakleveno.com

Ideas Customization



add additional pockets
to the outside

sew on patches or
graphics from an old
tshirt



why mini?
increase the
body size to
your preferred
tote dimensions



Sewing instructions

this project can be done by hand, or by
machine, though I recommend the extra
stength a mahcine will provide.

All seams should be sewn with $\frac{1}{4}$ in
allowance unless otherwise noted



notates the right side of fabric



notates the wrong side of fabric

(the right side is the side you would like
to visable on the outside when the bag is
complete)

Suggested Materials:

- Medium Weight Canvas (denim or twill)
- Webbing or strapping of any width

Tools:

- Scissors
- Measuring Tape
- Iron

Note on fabrics

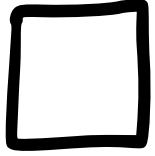
Any fabric of a medium weight will work to give structure to the bag. I do not recommend lighter fabrics such as quilting cottons. Heavier fabrics such as upholstery is fine, though it might be more difficult to sew through.

Webbing is recommended for ease of use, but if none is available, you can also sew long tubes out of your fabric to replace them.

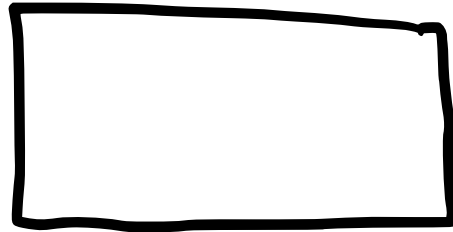
I designed this project to be a people's first sewing machine in my sewing classes. It features a small pocket and boxed corners. It has brought me much joy to see my students assemble this, and see their brains start turning with the possibilities. I hope this brings you joy, and empowers you to make your own stuff!



1. Cut out pieces



7x7 inch square
for pocket



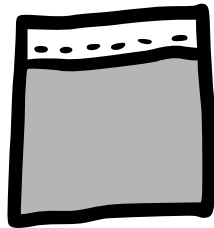
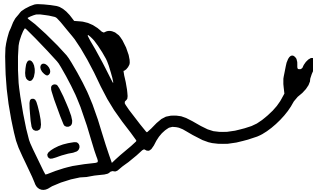
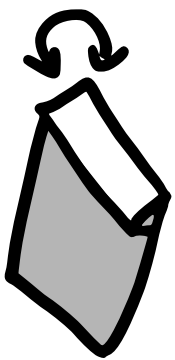
26x12 inch rectangle
for the body



(2) 18 inch lengths of webbing for the handles

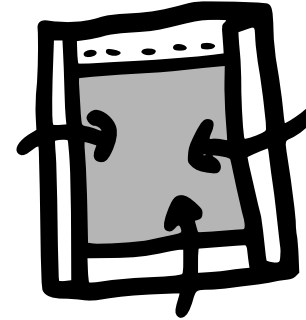


2. Prepare Pocket

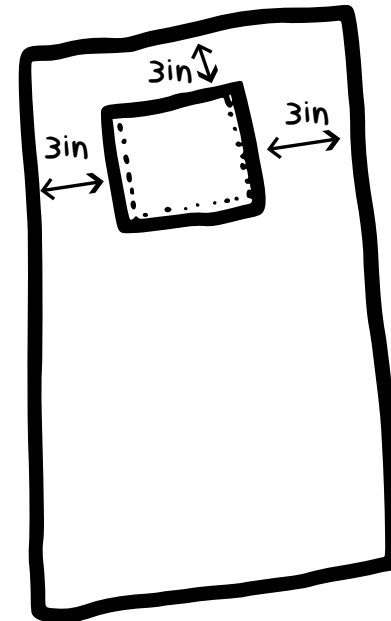


Measure $\frac{1}{4}$ a inch and iron down one side of the square, repeat a second time on the same side. Sew along $\frac{1}{8}$ a inch from folded edge.

3. Attach pocket to body



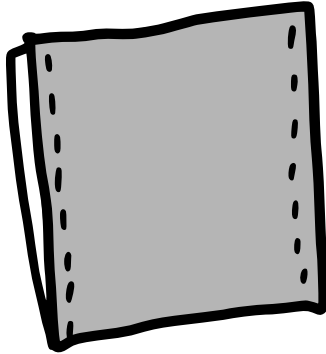
Measure $\frac{1}{4}$ a inch and iron down the remaining sides.



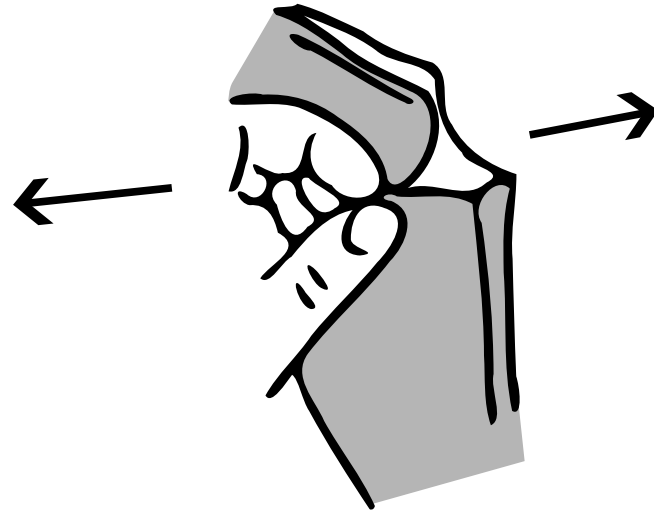
Place pocket on body 3 inches from the top and 3 inches from either side. Pin down and sew in place.

4. Sew Body Seams

Fold the body short sides together, with pocket on the inside, and sew down the sides.

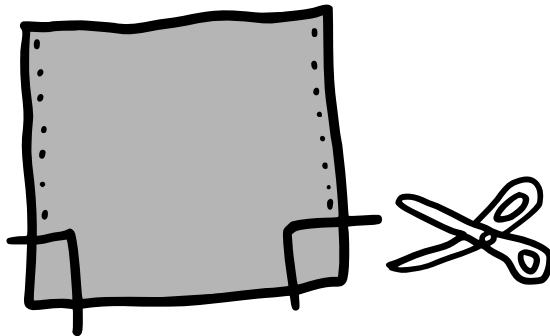


Pinch the opposite corners together. This will create the boxed corner and a flat bottom on our bag.

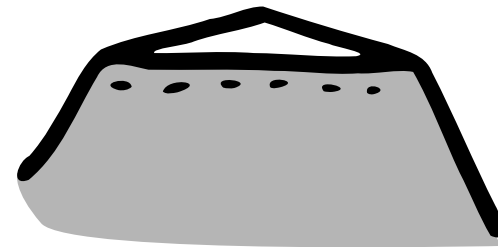


5. Sew body Corners

Cut (2) 1x1 inch square out of the bottom corners

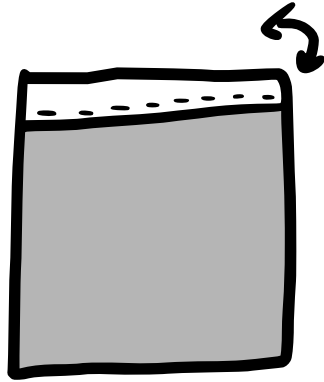


Fold flat with the side seam in the middle. Sew into place.



5. Finish top of body

Measure $\frac{1}{4}$ an inch and iron down the top edge of the bag towards the inside, repeat a second time. Sew along $\frac{1}{8}$ an inch from folded edge.

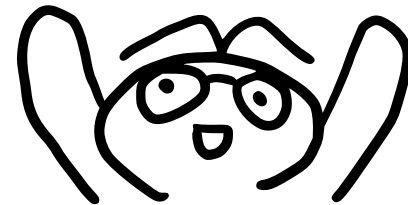
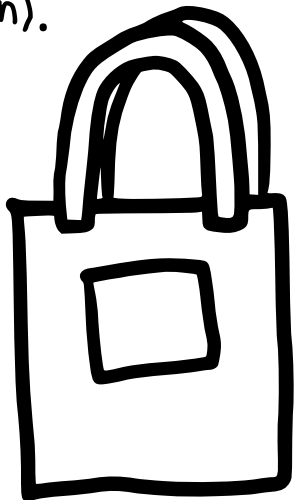


Enjoy your new bag!



6. Attach handles

Turn bag right side out. Pin handles 3 inches from the side on both sides. Sew down in a square, then diagonal line (as shown).



You're going to look so cool!