

Tote Bag

2 Sizes: 13"x15", 15"x18" (finished width x height). The size doesn't have to be exact, but within this range, per request of Wheeler Mission.

Materials:

½ yd of medium to heavy fabric – denim, heavy cotton, canvas, etc, are some examples.

1 yd of cotton webbing for straps (or you may use the same or contrasting fabric to make straps – see **Tote Bag Extras** for instructions)

2" of Velcro for closure

Thread to match or contrast

1. Cut 2 14" x 16" pieces (16" x 19" for lg size) for body.
2. Cut 2 15" pieces of webbing; place and pin ends perpendicular to the top of bag about 3" from sides. (See figure A) Zigzag stitch along the top edge, including the ends of the straps. (You can also make straps from the same or contrasting fabric)
3. Sew the Velcro in the center about ½" from the top edge with zigzag stitch around all four sides. Make sure that both pieces will match up when the bag is finished!
4. Put pieces right sides together and stitch ½" from edge on the sides and bottom, using a backstitch to reinforce the top edge.
5. Zigzag stitch along the edges to keep them from raveling.
6. Then fold over upper edge 1 ½", and top stitch ¼" from the lower edge, and again ¼" from the fold. (See figure B) Backstitch across the straps to reinforce them.
7. Trim off the bottom corners, and zigzag the edges again.
8. Turn right side out, and you're done!
9. See **Tote Bag Extras** for additional ideas and instructions.

