

# Tote Bag with Shoulder strap

## FREE PATTERN



The DAWN CHORUS panel is the perfect shape and size for a small tote bag - perfect for carrying your knitting, stitching or for a trip to the library. This easy tote bag pattern, has a long shoulder strap and closes with a button loop at the back.

The bag measures 37cm x 30cm wide (14 1/2" x 12").

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# Tote Bag with Shoulder Strap

## You will need

- \* 50cm x 75cm wide (20" x 30") piece of medium weight linen or cotton for the back, handle and strap
- \* 45cm x 70cm wide (17 3/4" x 27 1/2") piece of cotton homespun for lining
- \* 2.5m (1") button
- \* matching sewing thread

## Cutting Out

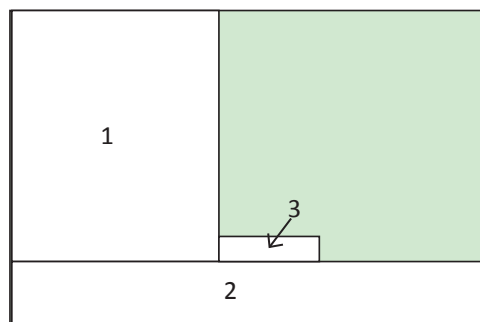
Cut the fabric according to the measurements below.

### Medium weight linen or cotton

1. Back: cut one, 40cm x 32.5cm wide (15 3/4" x 12 3/4")
2. Strap: cut one, cut one, 10cm x 75cm wide (4" x 29 1/2")
3. Button loop, cut one, 4cm x 15cm wide (1 1/2" x 6")

### Cotton homespun

Lining: cut two each, 40cm x 32.5cm wide (15 3/4" x 12 3/4")



## Changing size

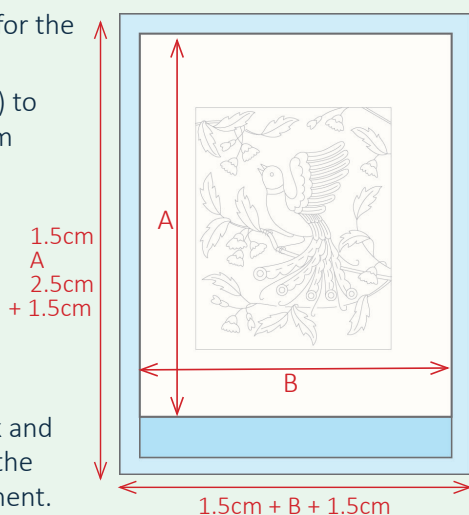
The measurements given in these instructions suit a front panel that measures 40cm x 32.5cm wide (15 3/4" x 12 3/4").

If your embroidery is very different in size or you want and bigger or smaller bag you can easily adjust the measurements for your pieces using the following:

1. Measure the size for your finished bag front (A x B).

Add 2.5cm (1") for the base.

Add 1.5cm (5/8") to all sides for seam allowances.



2. Cut your back and lining pieces to the same measurement.

3. Cut the strap and button loop the measurements provided.

## Construction

All seam allowances are 1cm (5/8") unless otherwise specified. The coloured areas on the following diagrams indicate the right side of the fabric.

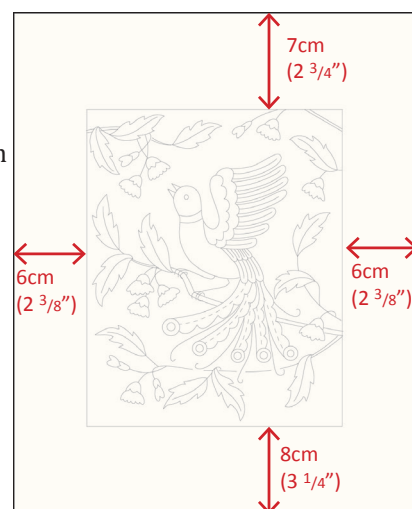
### Preparing the embroidered panel

1. Place the embroidery with the right side down onto a soft, padded surface and press.

**NOTE**- if you have blocked your crewel embroidery you won't need to press.

2. Measuring from the stem stitch border in the wrong side, rule a line 6cm (2 3/8") to each side, 7cm (2 3/4") at the top and 8cm (3 1/4") at the base.

Trim along the marked lines.

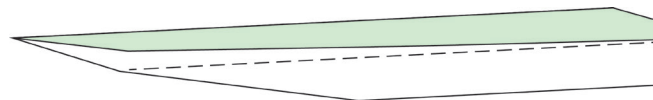


### Preparing the strap

3. Fold the strap piece in half along the length with wrong sides together and matching raw edges and press.

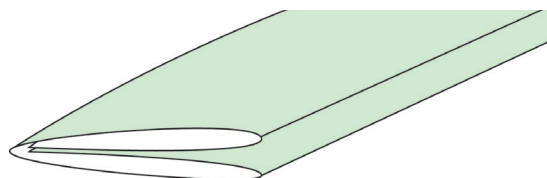
Unfold.

Fold one long side to the centre, aligning the raw edge with the fold line and press (diag 2).



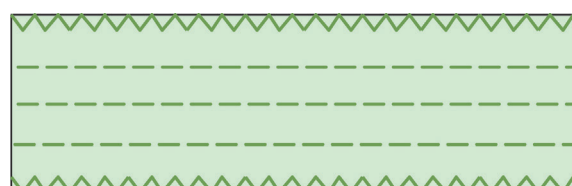
4. Repeat for the remaining long edge.

Refold the centre fold, enclosing the raw edges (diag 3).



5. Using a wide zigzag stitch (or decorative edging stitch) stitch along each side.

You can leave the strap as is or add three rows of evenly spaced straight stitches (diag 4).



# Tote Bag with Shoulder Strap

## Preparing the button loop

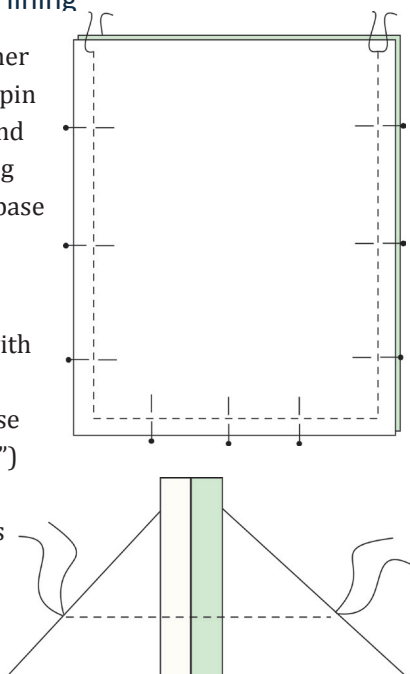
**6.** Fold, press and stitch the button loop in the same way as the strap.

## Preparing the bag and lining

**7.** With right sides together and matching raw edges, pin and stitch the bag front and back pieces together along each side and across the base (diag 5).

Press the seams open.

**8.** Open out the corner with right sides together and matching the side and base seams. Measure 2.5cm (1") from the corner point. At this point, stitch across the corner (diag 6). Press the corner triangle seam towards the base.

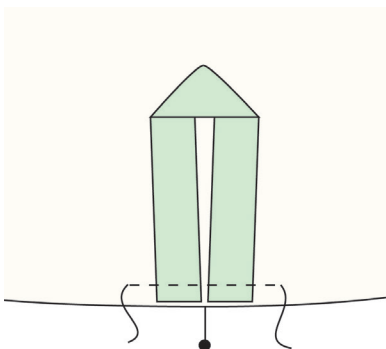


**9.** Prepare the lining in the same way, leaving a 15cm (6") opening in the middle of the base seam. Turn the lining to the right side.

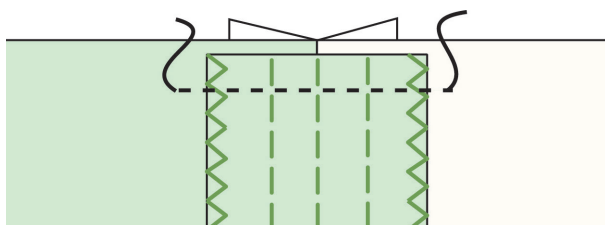
## Making the bag

**10.** Mark the centre at the upper edge of bag front with a pin.

Matching raw edges, place each end of the button loop at the centre on the right side of the bag. Baste in place, 1cm ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ") from the raw edge (diag 7).



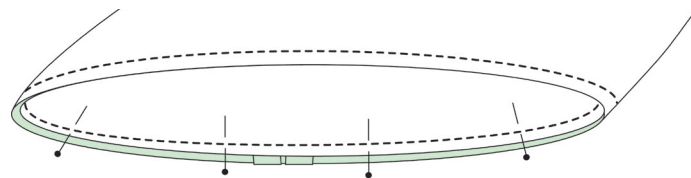
**11.** Matching raw edges, centre one end of the bag strap over one side seam on the right side of the bag. Baste in place, 1cm ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ") from the raw edge (diag 8).



Repeat for the other end of the strap at the opposite side, making sure the strap is not twisted.

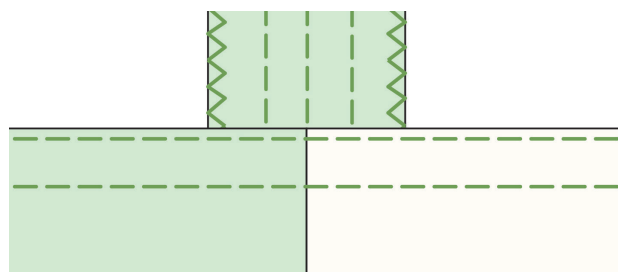
**12.** With right sides together and matching side seams, slide the lining into the bag, sandwiching the button loop and strap between.

Pin and stitch around the upper edge (diag 9).



**13.** Turn the bag to the right side through the opening in the lining. Machine stitch the opening closed, close to the folded edges.

**14.** Push the lining into the bag and press the upper edge. Top stitch close to the folded edge and a second row 1cm ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ") below the first (diag 10).



**15.** Measure 3cm ( $1\frac{1}{4}$ ") down from the centre back of the bag and stitch the button in place.

