

Large Tote for 22"x27" Panel + 6 smaller panels

Finished tote size: 19" deep by 21" with 3.5" box bottom

Includes 2 small outside pockets and 2 inside pockets.

Hint: The remaining 2 small panels could be used to make coordinating zip pouches.



Tote pictured with Desert Bird's "Acequia Parade" panel set.

Materials: Desert Bird panel set that features 1 large 22" x 27" panel and 6 smaller.

- *Canvas:* 1 yard of 45" wide canvas.
- *Lining:* You will need 2 22.5" x 20.5" - this should be possible from 3/4 yard of a coordinating fabric that is 42"-45" wide.
- *Bag straps:* nylon webbing or made from canvas straps
- *Optional:* 24" x 30" cotton batting
- *Optional:* 8" x 22" heavy weight fusible interfacing

Canvas Cut Instructions:

- Cut 6 canvas bands at 4" x 22.5". These are the top and bottom bands for the outside of the bag and the top band of the lining.
- Cut 1 22.5 x 20.5 panel for the bag back.
- Save the scraps for pocket linings, matching zip bags and handles.

Lining Cut Instructions:

- Cut 2 panels from you bag lining fabric at 22.5" x 20.5" high.

Prepare the Pockets - use a 1/4" seam allowance for pockets.

- Select 4 of the smaller illustrated panels for pockets (two will be located on the outside of the bag and 2 on the inside).
- Cut 4 pocket linings to match from any scrap fabric you like.
- Sew each pocket illustration to the lining, wrong sides together, leaving a large gap along the top of the illustration for turning.
- Turn pockets right side out and press. Aim for crisp corners and press the gap edges inside for a straight line.
- Top stitch across top edge to close gap.

Prepare Bag Front: 1/2" seam allowance

- Optional step: Baste or clip large panel to a piece of cotton batting and machine quilt the panel as desired.
- Trim the top panel to 22.5" wide x 17.5" high. (Yes, you will be cutting off a little bit of artwork on the edges but I tried making a bag with the full panel size and it turned out way too big.). If you did the optional quilting, above, stitch around the perimeter of the trimmed panel 1/4" from the edge to make sure everything holds together.
- Add a 22.5" x 4" canvas band to the top of the panel with 1/2" seam allowance. Press seam towards band and top stitch seam. Repeat for the bottom band.
- Cut a 2" x 2" notch in each bottom corner for the box bottom.

Prepare Bag Back: 1/2" seam allowance

- Add a 22.5" x 4" band to the top of the 22.5" x 17.5" canvas panel. Press seam toward band and top stitch. Repeat for bottom band.
- Cut a 2" x 2" notch in each bottom corner for the box bottom.
- Center 2 pockets, side by side, on the outside of the bag back. Top stitch around each pocket (sides and bottom) to affix the pockets to the back of the bag.

Assembly the Bag (outside): 1/2" seam allowance

- With right sides together, stitch the bag front to the bag back along the bottom between the notches using 1/2" seam allowance. Press the seam open.
- With right sides together, stitch the side seams from top to notch using a 1/2" seam allowance. Press seams open.
- Sew the box seams: for each bottom corner, match the bottom seam center to the side seam center. With a little bit of pinching the fabric wings on each side should flatten out to a straight line. Sew across this straight line with 1/2" seam allowance.
- Turn the back right side out and press the top under 1/2".

Prepare Bag Lining: 1/2" seam allowance

- Add a 22.5" x 4" band to the top of each of the 22.5" x 20.5" lining panels. Press seam allowances toward the band and top stitch.
- Center a pocket on each panel and stitch around pockets (side and bottom) to affix.
- Cut a 2"x2" notch in each lining bottom corner.
- Repeat the outside assembly instructions: sew the bottom seam and press, sew the side seams and press, then sew the bottom box seams.
- Leave the lining inside out but press the top band edge under 1/2"

Final Assembly:

- Drop the lining inside the bag, matching the side seams. Clip or pin the folded top edges of the bag and lining together. Top stitch to close the seam.
- Add bag handles.