Ten Pocket Travel Tote

FABRIC REQUIREMENTS using 44-45” wide cotton:
(Please allow for extra fabric if centering large designs)

FOR DIRECTIONAL FABRICS - OPTION A (pictured on front)
Tote Outside, Utility Pocket, Zipper Pouch Accessory Pocket: 1 yard
Tote Lining, Zipper Pouch: 1 yard

FOR DIRECTIONAL FABRICS - OPTION B (pictured on page 12)
Tote Outside: 1/2 yard
Tote Lining: 1/2 yard
Zipper Pouch: 2/3 yard
Zipper Pouch Accessory Pocket: 1/3 yard
Utility Pocket: 1/4 yard

FOR NON-DIRECTIONAL FABRICS (pictured on page 12)
Tote Outside: 1/2 yard
Tote Lining, Zipper Pouch, Zipper Pouch Accessory Pocket and Utility Pocket: 1-1/2 yard

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS:
Interfacing: 2 yards 20” wide iron-on light to medium weight
Cotton Belting: 2-3/4 yards 1-1/2” or 1-1/4” wide cotton belting
Batting (Optional): 1 piece 20” x 32”
Zipper: 14” zipper to match zipper pouch
Tote Zipper (Optional): 18” separating zipper to match cotton belting
Thread to match Cotton Belting
Thread to match Tote
Heavy Duty Sewing Needles
Zipper Foot

APPROXIMATE FINISHED DIMENSIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tote</td>
<td>12 1/2” h x 18 1/2” w</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zipper Pouch</td>
<td>9” h x 18 1/2” w</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zipper Pouch Accessory Pocket</td>
<td>5 1/2” h x 18 1/2” w</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility Pocket</td>
<td>8” h x 18 1/2” w</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Designed by Karen Gorman Roark

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Road Trip Travel Tote - Getting Started

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MATERIALS KEY:

right side of fabric  
wrong side of fabric  
interfacing  
batting  
belting

DIAGRAM KEY:

sewing instruction-step number

refer to pages 10-11 for color photo of this step

sewing line

basting line

marking line

pins

RST - right sides together

WST - wrong sides together

CUSTOMIZING THE TOTE:

Before getting started, answer these questions to decide which optional features of this bag you want to include.

1. Do I want to add batting between the outside and lining fabrics? (Batting helps the fabric last longer, adds protection to the contents inside the bag and helps the bag stand more upright.)

2. Do you want to locate the utility pocket on the inside or outside of the bag?

3. Do you want to include a zipper closure at the top of the tote?

NOTES:

1. If you intend to machine wash this tote in the future, pre-wash fabrics and belting before cutting.

2. There are layouts included for both directional and non-directional fabrics. If your fabric has an obvious pattern with a top and bottom (such as a smiley face) use the directional layouts.

3. Using a fabric marker, mark the top upper side of your fabric pieces after cutting. It’s easy to get these flipped around while pinning, so this helps to keep track of the top upper side of the fabric.

4. Apply iron-on interfacing to tote outsides, zipper pouch outsides, zipper tabs and accessory pocket prior to sewing. (See diagram on page 3.)
** Indicates Material Requirements if using Non-Directional Fabric

**TOTE**

- **Tote Outside Fabric (A)**
  - Cut 2 - 20” wide x 16 1/2” high
- **Tote Outside Iron-On Interfacing (A1)**
  - Cut 2 - 20” wide x 16 1/2” high
- **Tote Lining Fabric (B)**
  - Cut 2 - 20” wide x 16 1/2” high
- **Tote Zipper - Optional (C)**
  - 1 zipper 18” long
- **Cotton Belting Handles (D)**
  - Cut 2 - 26” long
- **Cotton Belting Facing (E)**
  - Cut 1 - 40” long
- **Batting - Optional (F)**
  - Cut 1 - 20” wide x 32” high
- **Thread to match Fabric (G)**
- **Thread to match Cotton Belting (H)**
- **Heavy Duty Sewing Needles (I)**

**ZIPPER POUCH (for both directional and non-directional fabrics)**

- **Zipper Pouch Outside Fabric (J)**
  - Cut 2 - 20” wide x 10” high
- **Zipper Pouch Outside Interfacing (J1)**
  - Cut 2 - 20” wide x 10” high
- **Zipper Pouch Lining Fabric (K)**
  - Cut 2 - 20” wide x 9 1/2” high
- **Zipper Pouch Accessory Pocket (L)**
  - Cut 1 - 20” wide x 11” high
- **Accessory Pocket Interfacing (L1)**
  - Cut 2 - 7 1/2” wide x 1 1/4” high
- **Zipper Pouch Zipper (M)**
  - 1 zipper 14” long
- **Zipper Pouch Zipper Tab Fabric (N)**
  - Cut 2 - 7 1/2” wide x 1 1/4” high
- **Zipper Pouch Zipper Tab Interfacing (N1)**
  - Cut 2 - 7 1/2” wide x 1 1/4” high

**UTILITY POCKET**

- **Utility Pocket Fabric (P)**
  - Cut 2 - 20” wide x 8” high
  - **Cut 1 - 20” wide by 15 1/2” high**
- **Cotton Belting (Q)**
  - Cut 1 - 20” long
**Directional Fabric Layout - Option B**

**TOTE LINING - 1/2 YARD**

TOTE - LINING (B)
cut 2
20” w x 16 1/2” h

**TOTE OUTSIDE - 1/2 YARD**

TOTE - OUTSIDE FABRIC (A)
cut 2
20” w x 16 1/2” h

**ZIPPER ACCESSORY PCKT - 1/3 YARD**

ZIPPER POUCH ACCESSORY POCKET (L)
cut 1 - 20” w x 11” h

**UTILITY POCKET - 1/4 YARD**

UTILITY POCKET (P)
cut 2
20” w x 8” h

**ZIPPER POUCH - 2/3 YARD**

ZIPPER POUCH OUTSIDE (J)
cut 2 - 20” w x 10” h

ZIPPER POUCH LINING (K)
cut 2 - 20” w x 9 1/2” h

**ZIPPER TABS (N)**
cut 2 - 7 1/2” w x 1 1/4” h

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**Non -Directional Fabric Layout**

**TOTE - 1/2 YARD**

TOTE - OUTSIDE FABRIC (A)
cut 2
20” w x 16 1/2” h

**TOTE LINING AND ALL POCKETS - 1 1/2 YARD**

TOTE LINING (B)
cut 1
20” w x 32” h

ZIPPER POUCH OUTSIDE (J)
cut 2 - 20” w x 10” h

ZIPPER POUCH LINING (K)
cut 2 - 20” w x 9 1/2” h

ZIPPER POUCH ACCESSORY POCKET (L)
cut 1 - 20” w x 11” h

**UTILITY POCKET (P)**
cut 1
20” w x 15 1/2” h

ZIPPER POUCH TABS (N)
cut 2 - 7 1/2” w x 1 1/4” h

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**Interfacing Layouts**

**20” wide INTERFACING - 2 YARDS**

**TOTE OUTSIDE (A1)**

DASHED LINE FOR NON - DIRECTIONAL TOTE OUTSIDE (A1)

**ZIPPER TABS (N1)**
**Sewing Instructions**

**TOTE ASSEMBLY (USE PIECES A, A1, B)**

1. Piece (A1) refers to interfacing. **All interfacing for this project should be applied prior to sewing.**

Place tote outside fabrics (A) with right sides together and with top and bottom edges aligned and facing.

Pin across bottom edge only. Using 1/2" seam, sew across bottom edge.

If using directional fabrics, **repeat for tote lining** (B).

Press seams open.

**UTILITY POCKET - (USE PIECES P, Q, and A OR B)**

2. Place utility pocket (P) right side up and with top edge facing up.

Place the belting (Q) over the utility pocket (P) aligning top edges.

If using directional fabrics - Place the other utility pocket (P) right side down and with top edge facing up over the belting, aligning edges. **If using non-directional fabrics**, fold the utility pocket in half, lengthwise, right sides together.

Pin. Using 1/4" seam, sew through all layers. If using directional fabrics, **sew bottom seams together** using 1/2" seam.

3. Turn pocket right out, so wrong sides of utility pocket (P) are facing. Press seam at the top of the utility pocket down and away from belting (Q).

Press entire utility pocket (P) so it lays flat.

4. Topstitch through all layers near fold where utility pocket (P) meets cotton belting and again 1/4" away from this stitching.

5. First, determine if you will be attaching the utility pocket (P) to the outside (A) or lining (B) of your tote.

Place tote outside (A) or tote lining (B) right side up. Place completed utility pocket right side up over the lining or tote, 3 1/2" up from seam, aligning side edges and pin. Using a 1/2" seam, machine baste the utility pocket onto the tote or lining along each side.

6. Topstitch across bottom of utility pocket near fold to secure pocket.

Topstitch again 1/4" away from this stitching. Remove basting stitches.

7. Using a fabric marker, draw a vertical line 6" in from the left edge, drawing from top edge to the bottom edge of pocket.

Draw the rest of the pocket lines following diagram 7 or customize your pocket sizes.

Topstitch over these lines, starting at the bottom fold of utility pocket and sewing to the top edge of the belting, reinforcing the stitching at both ends.
Sewing Instructions

ZIPPER POUCH ACCESSORY POCKET
(USE PIECES L, L1, J, J1)

8. Fold zipper pouch accessory pocket (L) with RST lengthwise. Pin long raw edges together.

Using 1/2” seam, sew long raw edges together.

Turn right out, press seams open, then press flat.

9. Topstitch across top of pocket (L) near edge and again 1/4” away from stitching.

10. Place pocket (L) right side up over the right side of a zipper pouch outside (J), with the top of pocket (L) 1 1/2” down from top of zipper pouch (J), aligning side edges. Pin.

Using 1/2” seam, machine baste pocket (L) to outside of zipper pouch (J) along side edges.

11. Topstitch across bottom of pocket (L) near edge to secure to outside of zipper pouch (J).

Topstitch again 1/4” away from this stitching.

12. Using a fabric marker, draw a vertical line 5” in from the left edge, from the top of the pocket (L) to the bottom.

Draw the rest of the pocket lines following diagram 12 or customize your pocket sizes to suit your own storage needs.

Topstitch over these lines. Start at the bottom fold of pocket (L) and sew to the top of the pocket reinforcing the stitching at both ends.

ZIPPER POUCH ASSEMBLY
(USE PIECES J, J1, K, L, L1, M, N, N1)

13. Fold zipper pouch zipper tab (N) in half, wrong sides together, so short ends meet.

Fold short ends of tab (N) under 1/2” with wrong sides together and press.

14. Insert the end of the zipper (M) right side up into tab (N) keeping zipper pull free from folded end of tab. Center and pin.

Using a zipper foot, topstitch about 1/8” away from folded edge of tab (N) through all layers.

Topstitch again 1/4” away from this stitching. Repeat for other end of zipper, keeping zipper stop free from tab (N). Trim off edges of zipper tab fabric to match width of the zipper.

15. Place one zipper pouch lining (K) right side and top facing up.

Place zipper right side up on top of zipper lining (K) with closed zipper pull at the left, aligning the edge of the zipper (M) with the top edge of zipper lining (K).

Next, place one zipper pouch outside (J) right side down with top edge facing up, over the zipper and aligning top edge with zipper. Pin together all 3 layers.

Using a zipper foot, sew 1/4” away from edge.
Sewing Instructions
ZIPPER POUCH, CONTINUED

16. Pull zipper pouch outside (J) and zipper lining (K) away from zipper, so zipper is exposed and both pieces of fabric are WST.

Press zipper pouch and zipper lining away from zipper.

Topstitch through all layers about 1/8” away from fold. Topstitch again about 1/4” away from this stitching.

17. Place other zipper pouch outside (J) right side up and top edge facing up. Place zipper right side down on top of zipper pouch outside (J) aligning the edge of the zipper tape with the top edge of zipper pouch outside (J).

Next, place the other zipper pouch lining (K) right side down over zipper, aligning with top edge of zipper. Pin through all 3 layers.

Using a zipper foot, sew 1/4” away from edge.

18. Pull zipper pouch outside (J) and zipper lining (K) away from zipper, so zipper is exposed.

Press zipper pouch (J) and zipper lining (K) away from zipper.

Topstitch through all layers about 1/8” away from fold. Topstitch again about 1/4” away from this stitching.

19. Open zipper (M). Bring both pieces of zipper pouch outside (J) to meet with right sides together, aligning long edges.

Sew zipper pouch outsides (J) together using 1/4” seam. Press seam open.

Bring both pieces of zipper lining fabric (K) to meet with right sides together, aligning long edges. Pin.

Sew zipper pouch linings (K) together using a 1/4” seam. Press seam open.

Reach into zipper and pull out the pouch outside through the zipper opening. Push the zipper pouch lining back down into the pouch through the zipper.

Press zipper pouch so it lays flat, with the zipper located in upper fold.

20. Place the tote lining (B) right side up. Place completed zipper pouch right side up over the tote lining (B) 2” down from top edge of tote, aligning side edges and pin.

Switch to a heavy duty needle. Using 1/2” seam, machine baste zipper pouch to tote lining (B) along side edges.

21. Open zipper. Starting 1” down from zipper, in the middle of the pocket, sew on the inside of the pocket through all layers, all the way down to the bottom seam to create an interior divider with two equal spaces.
Sewing Instructions

TOTE ASSEMBLY (USE PIECES A, B, F)

22. Place outside tote (A) right side down.

Place optional batting (F) over outside tote (A) aligning edges and smoothing batting out with your hands from the center to outer edges.

Cut away all 4 corners of the batting 1 1/2” in from the long edge and 1” down from the top edge.

23. Fold the outside tote (A) in half with right sides together so short edges align. Pin.

Sew 1/2” seams, starting at the fold and sewing to raw edges. Trim away batting close to stitching. Press seam open.

24. Fold the tote lining (B) in half with right sides together so short edges align. Pin.

Sew 1/2” seam starting at the fold and sewing to raw edges - with center seam open flat if using directional fabric. Reinforce stitching over zipper pouch.

Cut away 1/4” of the zipper pouch edges to remove bulk in the seam.

25. With wrong sides together, insert tote lining (A) into the tote outside (B) aligning top edge and side seams. Smooth out and pin.

Sewing on the inside of the bag, baste 1/2” away from edge through all layers. Lay flat. Make a fresh cut across all top edges to align all layers.

ATTACHING HANDLES AND THE BELTING FACING (USE PIECES A, B, D, E, F)

26. On outside of tote (A), pin handles (D) 4 1/2” in from side seams with raw edges facing top of tote and extending 1/4” above the edge and with a slight angle outward - being careful not to twist handles.

Sew 1/4” away from top edge over each of the 4 handle ends, reinforcing stitching as you go.

27. Begin pinning belting facing (E) to outside of tote (A) at side seam leaving 1” or more overhang at both ends.

Place top edge of belting facing (E) 1/4” below the top raw edge of tote outside.

28. Change threads to match belting. At side seam, sew beginning and end of belting facing (E) together vertically, holding stitching snug against the edge of tote.

Trim belting (E) ends to 3/4” away from seam.

29a. Sew around top of tote, 1/4” away from edge of belting facing (E). Keep short raw ends of belting facing (E) free from stitching.

29b. Trim away outside tote fabric (A) tote lining (B) and batting (F) close to this stitching, but do not trim the belting facing (E). Trim carefully to prevent cutting the lining! These raw fabric edges will be covered up in a later step.
Sewing Instructions

TOTE ASSEMBLY CONTINUED

30. Fold belting facing (E) up towards handles and roll down unfinished seams of tote lining (B) and tote outside (A) so they are hidden beneath the belting facing (E) on the inside of the bag.

Change your top stitching thread to match outside tote fabric and bobbin to match belting.

Topstitch on outside of bag just under the lower edge of belting facing (E) through all layers, keeping short ends of belting facing (E) at the seams free from top stitching. Also take care to keep the lining free from this stitching.

Top stitch again about 1/4” from this stitching.

31. On the inside of the tote, finger press the unfinished ends of the belting open flat.

Change to threads that match your belting and set your machine to a wide and close zip-zag. Zig-zag over the belting facing (E) raw edges through all layers.

32. Turn the tote inside out so lining fabrics (B) are on the outside. Keeping the outer fabric and lining together, push the corners all the way out.

Open tote and flatten the corner so it forms a point with the seam in the middle of the point.

Mark a line 3 1/2” in from the point to make a triangle, then sew across this stitching line. Repeat for other end.

33. Turn tote so the outside fabric (A) is now facing out. On the inside of the bag, fold the triangles down, laying them flat against the bottom of tote lining and pin.

Machine stitch along the edges of the triangle shaped pleats on the bottom of the bag to secure pleats in place or hand sew the tip of the triangles to the bottom of the bag.

TOTE ZIPPER, OPTIONAL (USE C)

34a. Lay zipper (C) face down against lower edge of cotton belting on the inside of bag. Align zipper edge with bottom edge of belting facing (E) with end of zipper 1/4” away from side seam of cotton belting. Pin together.

Change to zipper foot. Change top stitching thread and bobbin thread to match cotton belting. Open zipper about 3-4”.

34b. On the outside of the bag, start sewing at the zipper tab end, with your needle right along the bottom edge of belting facing (E). Sew through all layers.

When the zipper foot gets close to the zipper tab, raise the zipper foot and close the zipper. Then continue sewing to the end. Stop 1/2” away from opposite side seam.
Sewing Instructions

TOTE ZIPPER CONTINUED

35. Pull zipper apart. Lay other half of zipper with right side of zipper against lower edge of cotton belting on the inside of bag. Align zipper edge with bottom edge of cotton belting, with end of zipper 1/4" away from side seam of cotton belting.

On the outside of the bag, start sewing at the zipper tab end with your needle right against the bottom edge of belting facing. (E) Sew through all layers.

36a. Connect bottom of zipper together. (This gets a little frustrating, but it will go in.) Tuck end of zipper down into bag. This should be tight so the zipper does not come open with use. “Bend” the zipper end down and in place.

At the opposite end, you can leave the long ends of the zipper loose and tucked down inside the bag or trim them as follows.

36b. Cross the zipper ends to the end teeth are close and pin together.

36c. Close the zipper to make sure it lays correctly when closed, then repin if necessary.

36d. On the outside of the bag, place the needle right along the bottom edge of belting facing (E) and sew through all layers to secure the ends of the zippers in place.

36e. This step is optional if you want to tidy up the ends. Trim off excess zipper ends.

Zig-zag sew through all layers to prevent the ends just cut from unraveling.

**Stripped Down Sewing Option**

This tote “stripped down” makes a great bag to carry larger items such as a blanket, stuffed animals, sweatshirts, etc.

(USE PIECES A, A1, B, D, E)

1. Apply interfacing to outside tote (A). Place tote outside fabrics (A) with right sides together and with top and bottom edges aligned and facing.

   Pin across **bottom** edge only.

   Using 1/2” seam, sew across bottom edge.

   Repeat for tote lining (B).

   Press all seams open.

2. Follow steps 23-33.
Sewing Instruction Photos

14

18

21

28

29a

29b

31

32
Sewing Instruction Photos

34a

34b

35

36a

36b

36c

36d

36e