

# Lula Louise

crafts and design

## REVERSIBLE SHOULDER BAG PATTERN

Whether you're going to the library or the beach, it's easy to find uses for this simple and attractive bag. The long handle allows the bag to be carried on the shoulder or across the chest, like a messenger bag. Scale the size of the pattern up or down to suit your needs. Made from only four pieces of fabric this is a great project for an advanced beginner.

### SUPPLIES

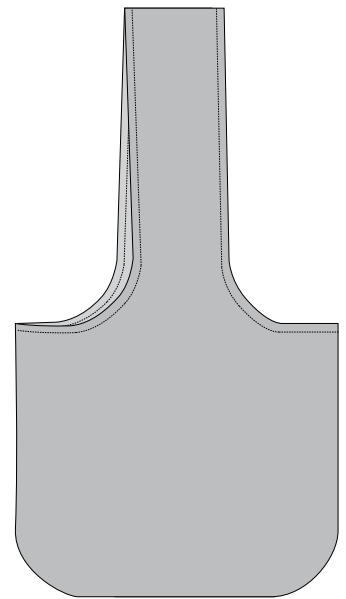
½ yd fabric A (60" wide)  
½ yd fabric B (60" wide)  
thread  
scissors or utility knife  
paper  
ruler

### Fabric Recommendations:

Choose sturdy washable fabrics such as home decor fabric, heavy cottons, corduroy and denim. Pre-wash your fabric so it doesn't shrink later. Finally, pick two fabrics that complement each other, both will be visible when the bag is completed. An easy combination is a neutral solid color and a brighter print.

### Step 1:

Create your pattern. *Option 1:* Use the diagram on page 3 to draw the pattern on a large piece of paper. *Option 2:* Print the pattern from the tiled pdf. Cut out and assemble the pattern.



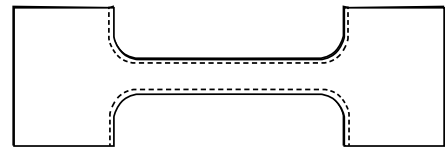
### Step 2:

Arrange the pattern on your fabric. Cut one each of bag body and bottom from fabric A and fabric B. You now have four total pieces.

*Tip:* If you are short on fabric, make a seam at the top of the handle instead of placing it on the fold. Before continuing, cut the handle 1/2 inch longer and stitch together.

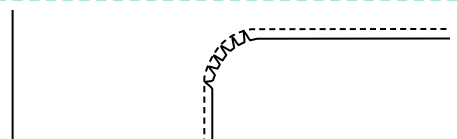
### Step 3:

Pin body of fabric A to body of fabric B, right sides together, along curved edges and handle. Stitch using a ½" seam allowance, leaving sides open.



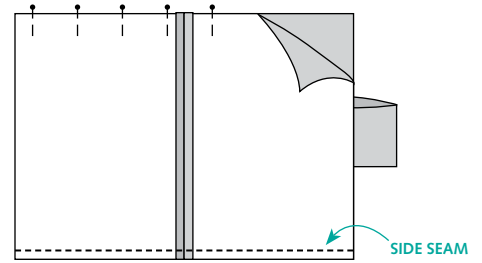
### Step 4:

Clip the curved edge. Turn right side out through the handle.

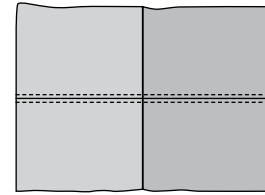


**Step 5:**

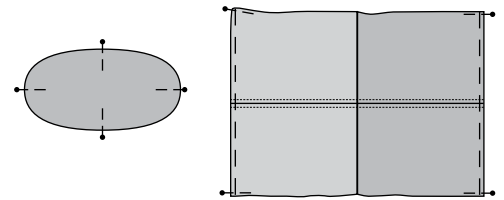
You can now see the bag starting to take shape. This is a good time to press the handle of the bag. Open the bag so the wrong side is facing and the handle is in the middle. Press the seams open a few inches. Next, stitch the side seams. With right sides together, match seams and fabrics and stitch using a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance.

**Step 6:**

Press seams open. Topstitch on each side of the side seams, stitching only through the body of the bag and the seam allowance.

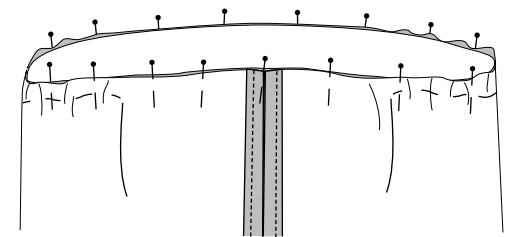
**Step 7:**

Place pins or clip at center of each side of bag and at each end of bottom piece. (To find the centers of the bottom piece, fold in half lengthwise and width wise.) Baste around bottoms of bag body.

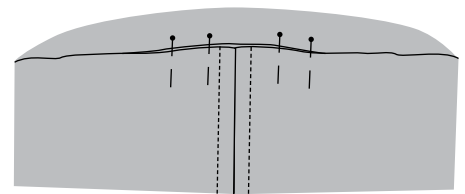
**Step 8:**

With right sides together, align center of long edge of Fabric A bottom piece with the side seam of Fabric A bag and pin. Match pins at short end of bottom piece with pins bag centers. Pull basting stitches on bag body to gather along short ends of bag bottom. Pin in place. Stitch using a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance.

Repeat for the fabric B side of bag, leaving an opening next to a side seam about four inches long.

**Step 9:**

Pull the bag right side out through the opening in the bottom of fabric B bag. Stitch the opening closed by hand.

**Step 10:**

Press where necessary and topstitch around curved edges and handle.

