

Free Grocery Bag Pattern

Description

Gusseted grocery bag pattern inspired by the polypropylene bags available in the stores.

Materials needed

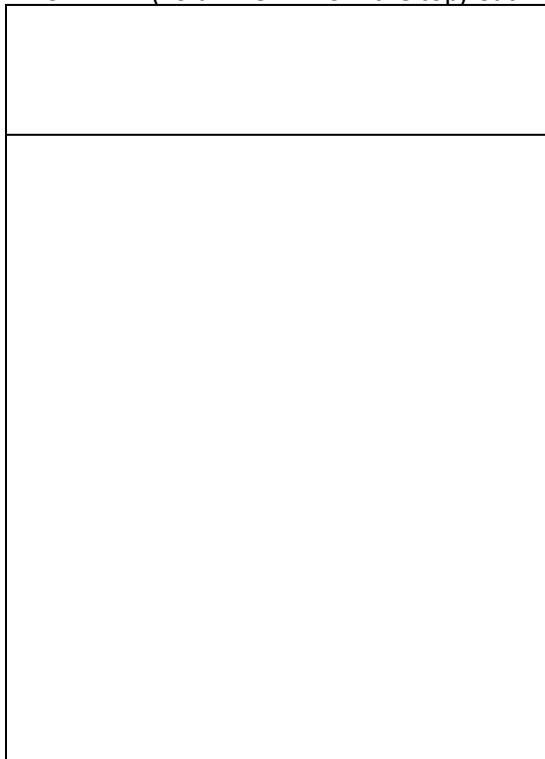
- 1 yard Oilcloth or Canvas (I recommend oilcloth because its sturdy and it does not fray). 1 yard will make two bags if you reduce the width of the gusset by a few inches and instead of cutting it on the fold, make a center seam on the 2nd bag. You may have to piece the binding also.
- Double Fold Bias binding (only if using canvas)
- Magnetic Snap (optional)
- Plastic Canvas
- Nylon Strap (or make your own) 1" wide

Pattern

Couldn't be simpler! Just two rectangles

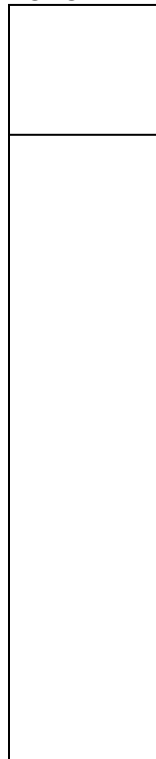
Piece A: Bag Body

12.5" X 17" (Fold line 2" from the top) Cut 2



Piece B: Gusset

23.25" X 7" (cut 1 on Fold).



Piece C: Bias Binding or Strips cut out from the Oilcloth. We'll do this later

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Step 1: Fold the tops of the Bag pieces and the gusset to the wrong side. Finger Press



Step 2: Insert the magnetic snap in the folded “facing” about an inch from the top. Topstitch the top of the bag and the gusset 1/8” from the fold.

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Step 3: Strap

Place the Nylon strapping on the bag and figure out how big you want your handle to be. Cut two of the determined length from the strapping. Place the strap 2 1/2" from the side of the bag and sew it on. I pinned it in the center before sewing it. Repeat the step on the other bag piece, making sure that the straps are aligned.



Step 4: Gusset

Pin (use binder clips if you have them) the gusset to the front of the bag pinning the sides, bottom and the other side. Stitch 1/4" from the edge. Repeat the step to join the other side of the bag to the gusset.

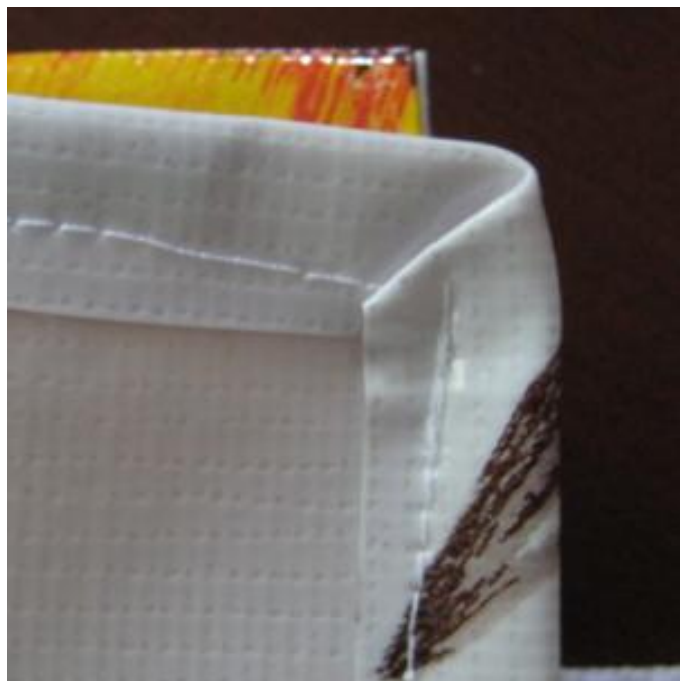
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Step 5: We're almost there! Now we'll measure the bag and cut out the binding strips from the oilcloth. Measure the two sides and the bottom of the bag, add 1" for the folds and cut out two binding strips about $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide. I cut mine 43" long and $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide.

Fold and finger press the binding to the wrong side all along the length of the binding.

Cover the bag's exposed edges with binding and sew $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the edge, mitering the corners.



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Step 6 : Inserting the Plastic Canvas

I bought the stiffest plastic canvas I could find in the craft store. Measure the bottom of the bag to ensure a tight fit. Mine measured 6" X 12". Cut out a piece from the plastic canvas and place it inside your bag pushing it to the bottom. This will give the bag more strength and help it in "standing up". You're done! Quick... go to the grocery store to show off your designer bag.

