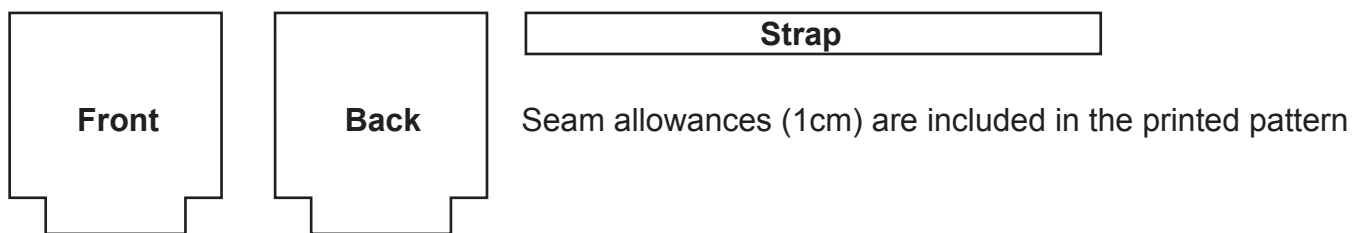


# How to sew the Tote Bags 1/3

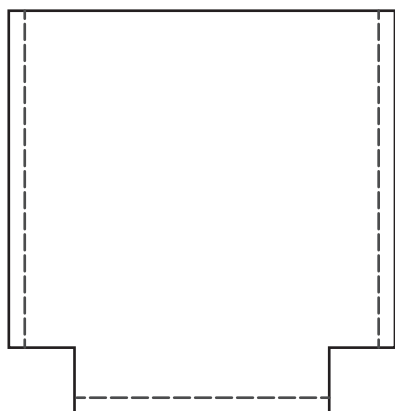
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Cut the pieces by removing all the white fabric. You get one front and one back, plus one long strap.

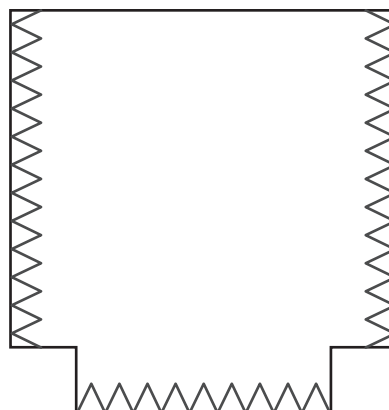


We won't sew a lining, it is not mandatory. Microfiber velvet is very resistant, machine washable (40°). You can put it in the dryer, using a soft program.

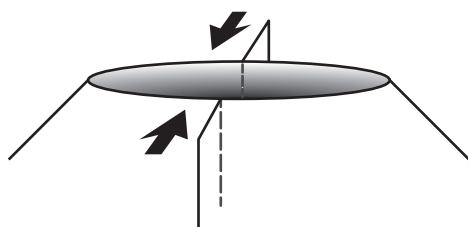
Put the front and the back fabrics right sides together, the sew them together on both sides and bottom with a 1 cm seam allowance.



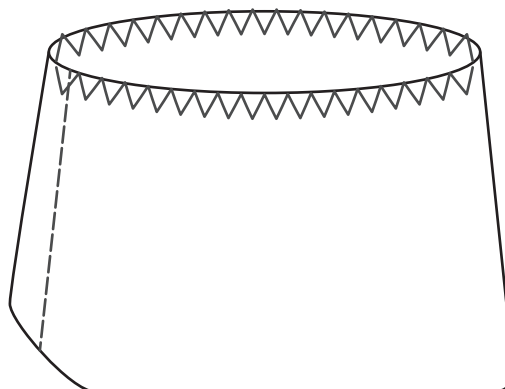
Overstitch with your sewing machine on the same sides with a large zig-zag stitch, while slightly projecting beyond the edges, in order to strengthen the bag.



Crush the bellows to form the bottom of the bag. Pin and sew using the same seam allowance, and overstretch.



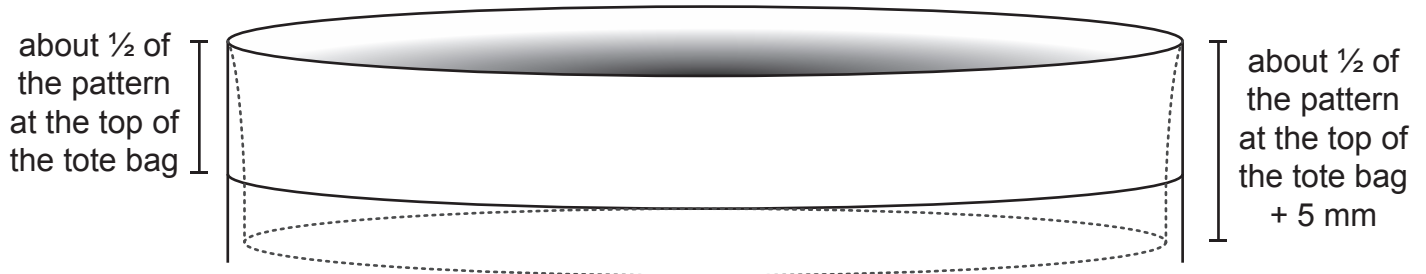
Turn the bag right side out and overstretch all around the upper edge.



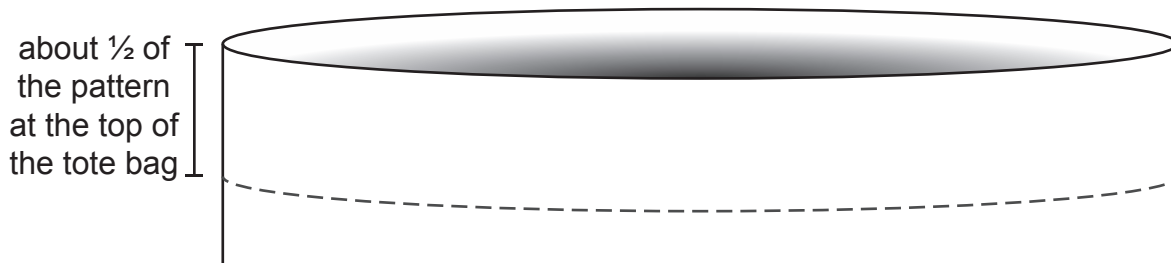
# How to sew the Tote Bags 2/3

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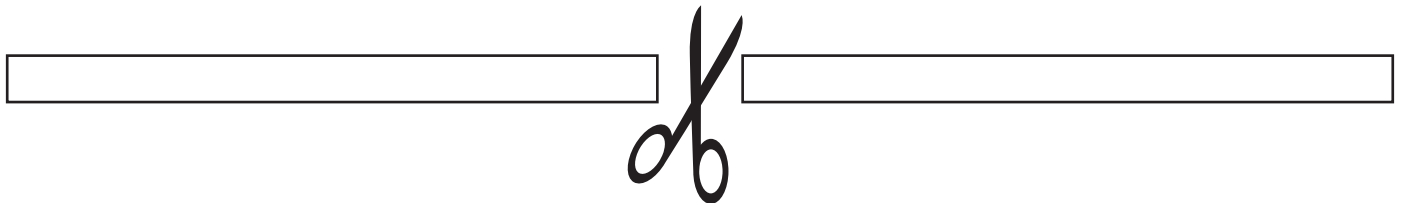
Fold the top side inward, wrong sides together, at about 4.5 cm. Pin carefully, the edge must be parallel to the pattern border printed on the bag (see the dotted line on the drawing below) and reach about 5 mm below the pattern border.



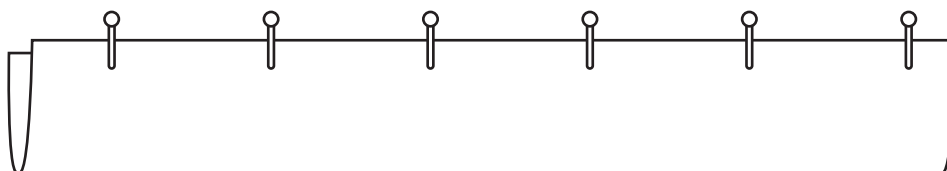
Sew all around, following the line at the bottom border of the printed pattern, using a regular stitch.



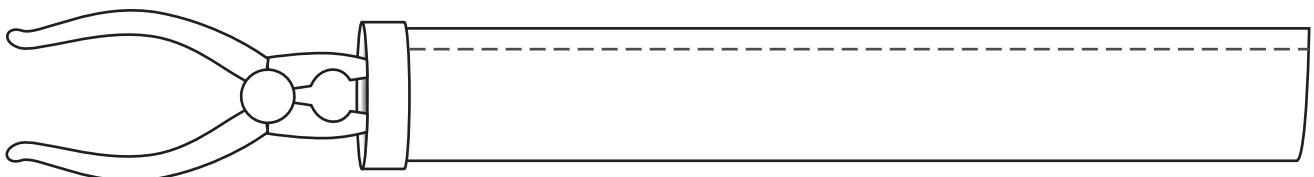
Cut the strap in two equal parts.



Fold lengthwise, right sides together, and pin.



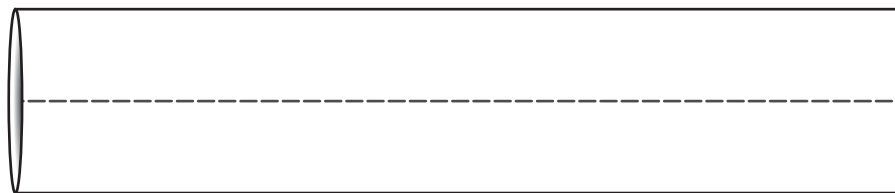
Sew at about 4 mm from the border (half a presser foot width). Flip the strap inside out. You can use small pliers if the tips are blunt, or taped over, the velvet is resistant. You can also sew a long cord or rattail inside the straps (on one of the short sides) before sewing them. You flip a strap by pulling the cord then remove it. It is much faster.



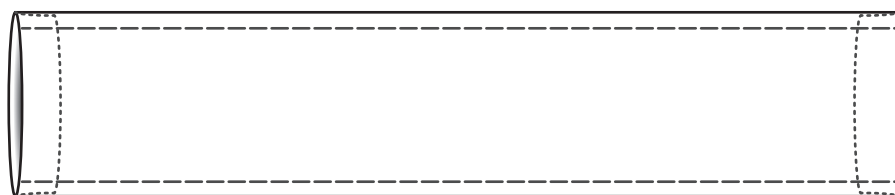
# How to sew the Tote Bags 3/3

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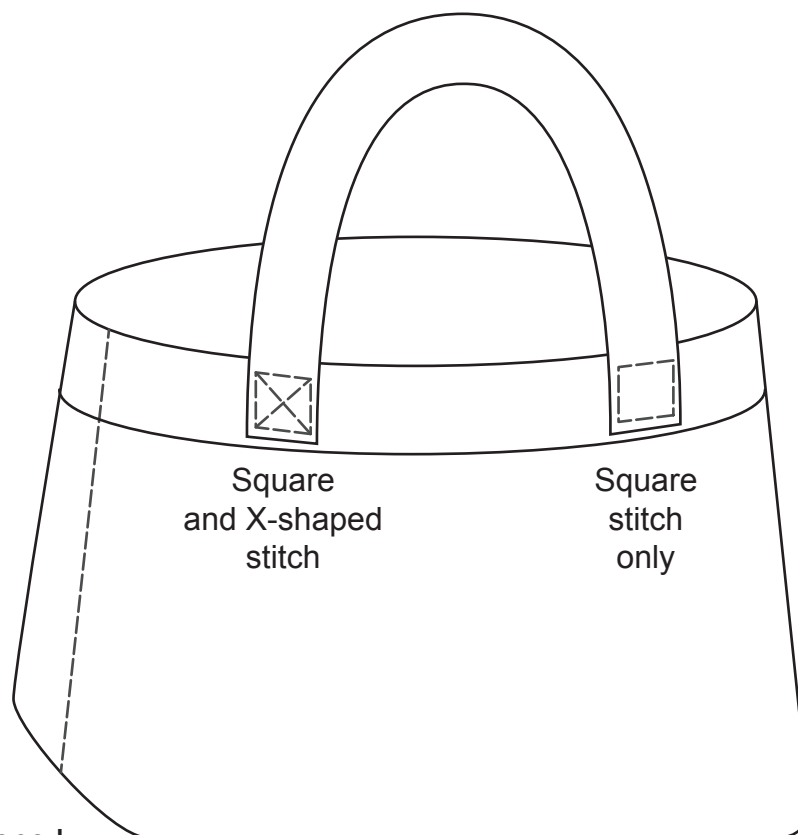
Place the stitch at the center of the strap, then iron softly each shoulder strap. You can choose to overstretch the straps on each border with a regular stitch, as you want.



Fold each end inward (about 1 cm) and pin, then add top stitches at each end at 5 mm from the fold.



Sew the first shoulder strap at about 10 cm from the edges. First sew a square stitch, then add a X-shaped stitch if you want. The strap can be sewn over the top pattern, or just below it. Sew one on the front, and the other on the back.



Bravo ! Your tote bag is done !

*Bénédict*

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