

**VICTORIA'S QUILTS CANADA**  
**Instructions for Completing Tote Bags**

**Cutting instructions**

1. Cut 2 outer bags 24" high by 22" wide
2. Cut 2 inner bags 24" high by 22" wide
3. Cut 2 straps 18" x 4"

**Sewing instructions - straps**

1. On each strap, sew long edges together, leaving the ends opened.
2. Turn straps right side out and press, centering the seam on one side.
3. To stitch along both edges.

**Sewing instructions - bag**

1. With right sides together, stitch 1/2" around the two short and one long side for both the inner and outer bags. **Fig.1**
2. Fold the corners of the side seam and the bottom seam, aligning the seams and sew across the corner approximately 2 1/2" from the point on both the inner and outer bags. **Fig.2**
3. Turn the inner bag right side out and pin the straps 7" from the bag's edge. Check to ensure the strap is not twisted. Sew securely with a double stitch. **Fig.3**
4. Slip the inner bag into the outer bag with right sides facing. Pin along the upper edge matching the end seams. **Fig.4**
5. Sew 1/2" from the top edge, leaving an opening between one set of straps. Backstitch over each strap as you pass to make them very secure. **Fig.5**
6. Turn the bag inside out, through the opening between the straps. Turn the edges of the opening in and pin them closed. Top stitch around the top edge of the bag being careful to keep the straps free. **Fig.6**
7. Stitch-in-the-ditch at the bottom corners to keep the inner and outer bags together.
8. **Optional pocket** may be added to the bag —this may be an "orphaned block" or a piece of fabric. Cut a square 9", turn under on all 4 sides. Top stitch the pocket opening and sew the other 3 sides to the bag.

