

Supplies:

- 1/2 Yard cotton fabric for outside main & pocket **OR**
- (1) 18" x 27" cork **OR** (2) 9"x27" corks for pieced outside
- (1) 9" x 12" cork for outside pocket (for cork outside only)
- \*1/4 Yard cotton fabric for handles **OR**
- \*(1) 9" x 27" cork for handles
- 1/2 Yard cotton fabric for the lining
- 1 yard Pellon Decor Bond #809 fusible interfacing\*
- (\*1/2 Yard for cork outside)
- Matching thread
- All usual sewing/quilting supplies including pins, rotary cutter, ruler, mat, pencil, seam ripper, etc.

Check out my 4 part YouTube series on making this tote!



Includes optional pieced outside – see cutting instructions!

Cork & Fabric can be found on the website!

\*You will need additional fabric if you want shoulder length handles.

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# Market Tote

#526

Includes outside pocket & optional pieced outside

Finished Size:

9 1/2"W x 11"H x 4"D



[www.sewmanycreationsny.com](http://www.sewmanycreationsny.com)

by Jessica VanDenburgh

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All instructions are based on using 44" wide 100% cotton quilt-weight fabrics and cork leather fabric as well as the specific supplies listed that I prefer to use. Heavy/decorator weight fabrics, lightweight satins & other synthetic materials, metal zippers, non-fusible interfacing, etc. can all be used at your own discretion. Some alterations to instructions may be necessary. I recommend using the suggested supplies for your first try until you are comfortable with the techniques. Please read supply list and all instructions carefully before making your Market Tote.

W = Width of piece   ↔   L or H = Length or height of piece   ↕   RSO = Right Sides Out  
RST = Right Sides Together

Terms used in this pattern:

Topstitching - Decorative stitching that will be seen later. I prefer using a longer length stitch (My standard length is 2.5 so for me I topstitch with a 3.0 - 3.5 length). Don't forget to backstitch!!

WOF - Width of Fabric   Seam Allowance - 1/4"   Topstitching 1/8" & 1/4"

**Check out my 4 part YouTube series on making this tote!**

Within Seam Allowance - Stitching that will NOT be seen later

From outside fabric or cork cut:

A (12) 13" W x 3" H strips **OR**

A (2) 13" W x 15 1/2" H rectangles

From outside pocket cut:

B (1) 7" W x 12" H rectangle **OR**

B (1) 7" W x 6 1/2" H rectangle cork + (1) 7" W x 6 1/2" H fabric (not interfaced)

From handle fabric or cork cut:

C (2) 4" W x 43" L strips cotton fabric **OR**

C (4) 2" W x 24" L strips cork

From lining fabric cut:

D (2) 13" W x 15 1/2" H rectangles

\*The handles are meant to be short and not shoulder length. For longer handles, you would need to sew additional strips to lengthen.

From Interfacing cut: (all measurements are for fabric - cork does not get interfaced!)

A (2) 13" W x 15 1/2" H rectangles

B (1) 7" W x 12" H rectangle

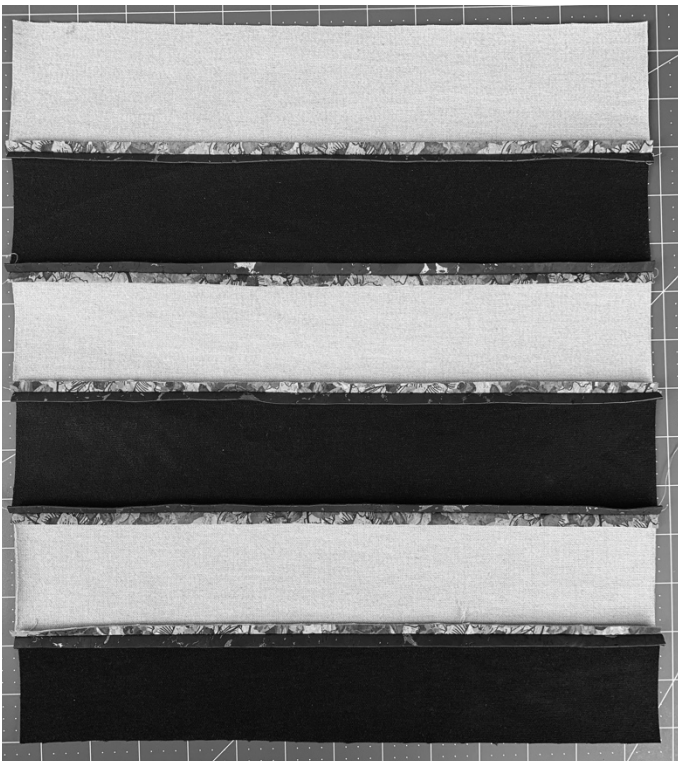
C (2) 4" W x 41" L strips

D (2) 13" W x 15 1/2" H rectangles

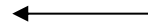
### Step 1 Piecing the Outside Main & Handles (A & C)

If you are using a solid piece for the outside main, you can skip this step and move onto Step 2. For a pieced outside you will sew together (6) total strips for the front and (6) for the back. Sew strips using 1/4" seam, press seams open when finished. Pieces should measure 13" W x 15 1/2" H. Trim if needed. If you're using cork, you can go ahead and topstitch. For cotton fabric, fuse interfacing (see Step 2) and then topstitch.

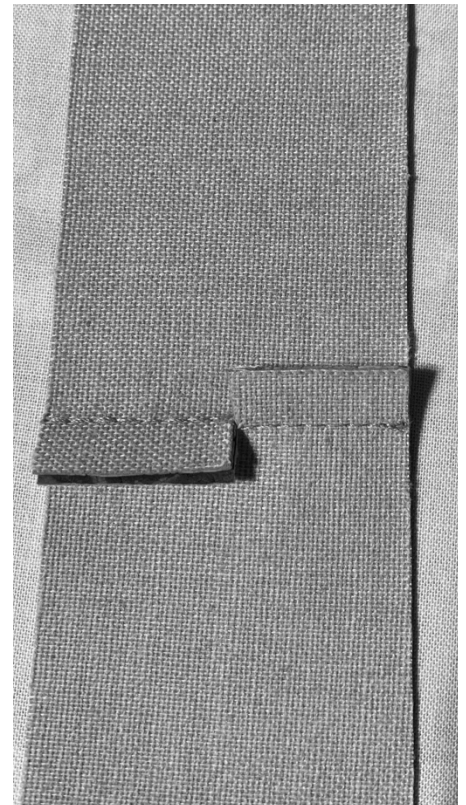
If you are using cotton for your handles, you can skip this step and move onto Step 2. For cork handles, piece together 2 strips along short end creating a 2" wide x 47 1/2" long strip. I like to split my seam (as shown) and press. Set aside until step 4.



For a pieced outside, sew two sets of 6 and press seams open. For cork, topstitch next. For cotton, add interfacing (see Step 2) and then topstitch.



For cork handles, sew in two sets of 2. Split seam and press.



### Step 2 Fusing (A, B, C & D)

Cork pieces DO NOT get interfacing - this step is for cotton only. Iron the fusible interfacing to the wrong side of A, B & D. For C handles, fuse interfacing 1" short from each end to reduce bulk later. I recommend you iron from the front *first* then from the back (if necessary) for a few reasons: #1 fusible interfacing + hot iron = sticky mess. Mistakes happen sometimes but I'm sure you'd rather iron the interfacing to the ironing board than to your iron. And #2 it decreases the chance of wrinkles in your fabric if you iron from the front. Iron well, concentrating on the corners and edges.

	C - fuse interfacing short on both ends.	
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### Step 3 Preparing the Outside Pocket (B)

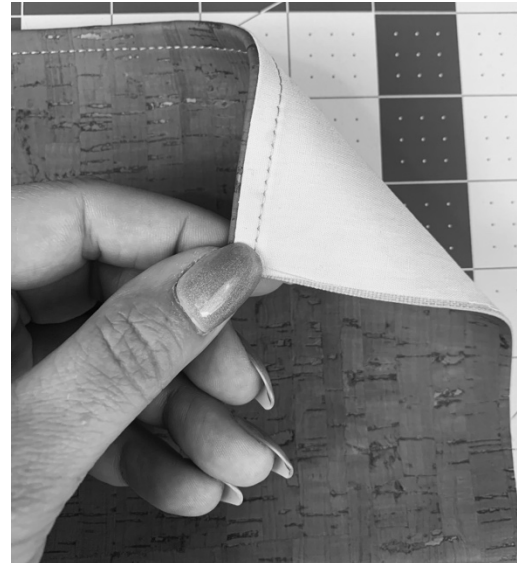
Cotton: Fold the 7" W x 12" H piece in half right sides together and stitch closed creating a tube that measures 7" wide. Turn the tube RSO and press. Topstitch the top edge only. The 2 sides will have raw edges. Your pocket should now measure 7" W x 5 1/2" high.

Cork: Place cork and cotton fabric RST. Stitch both 7" edges. Turn RSO, press and topstitch. The 2 sides will have raw edges. Your pocket should now measure 7" W x 6" high



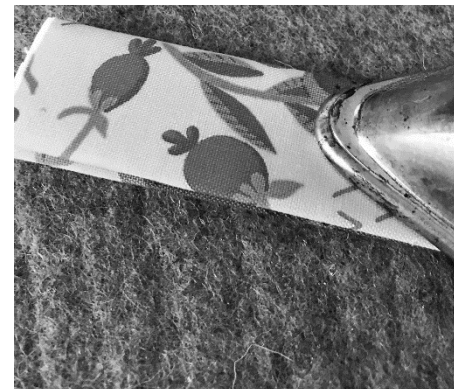
For cotton, fold in half RST and stitch 7" sides creating a tube. Turn RSO, press and topstitch the top edge.

For cork pocket, place RST with fabric lining piece. Sew both 7" sides creating a tube. Turn RSO, press and topstitch the top edge.



### Step 4 Preparing the Handles (C)

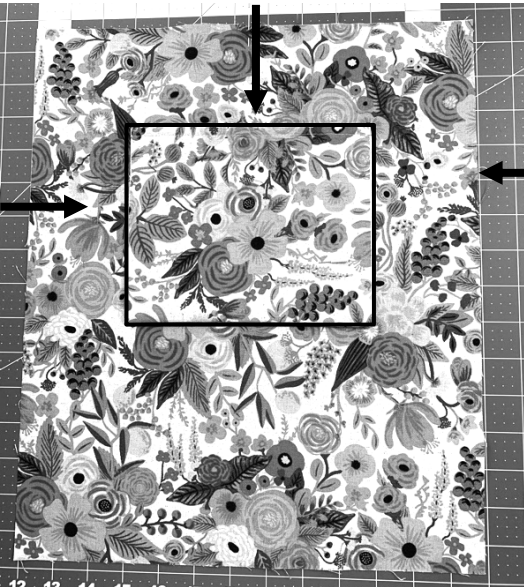
Cotton: Fold one long strip in half the long way and press, interfacing sides together. Next open it up and fold each of the raw edges in towards the center fold and press again. Fold in half & press one more time. Topstitch approximately 1/8" from each long edge. I like to increase my stitch length to 3.5 for topstitching. Tip: If you have a "stitch-in-the-ditch" foot or blind hem foot with a center metal guide you can use this to sew evenly along your edges. Just move your needle position over to the left of the guide. I also like to add an extra line of topstitching 1/4" from the edge - more for decoration and also to add a professional look to my finished bag. Your handle should now measure 1" x 43". Repeat to make two handles. Cork: The cork is folded in half only and topstitched.



Fold in half lengthwise and press down the center. Fold each edge in towards the center & press. Press so all raw edges are hidden.

### Step 5 Adding the Outside Pocket (A & B)

Find the center of your bag front and mark. Find the center of the pocket as well and place 3" from the top. Stitch the sides within seam allowance. Stitch the bottom 1/8" - 1/4" from edge.



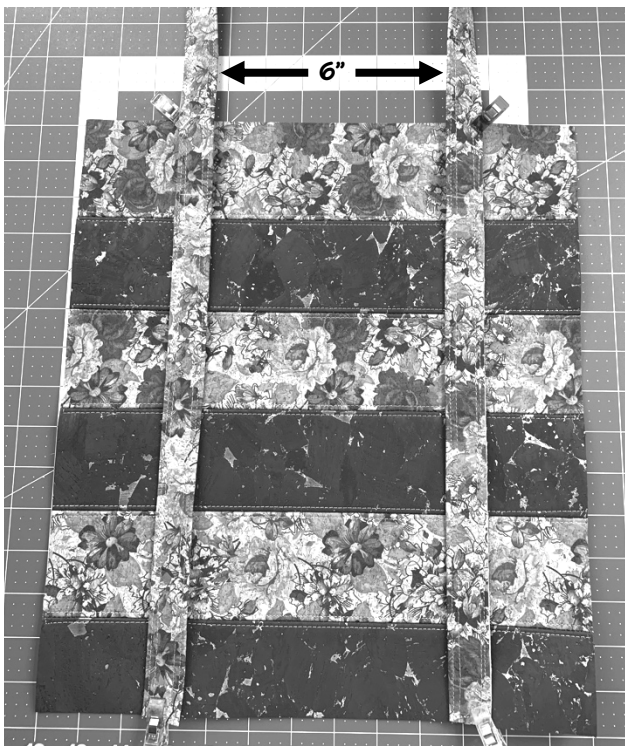
Place top of pocket 3" down, centered. It should also be 3" from each side. Use your ruler to keep Pocket straight.

Stitch sides within seam allowance. Stitch bottom 1/8" or 1/4".



### Step 6 Adding the Handles to the Outside (A & C)

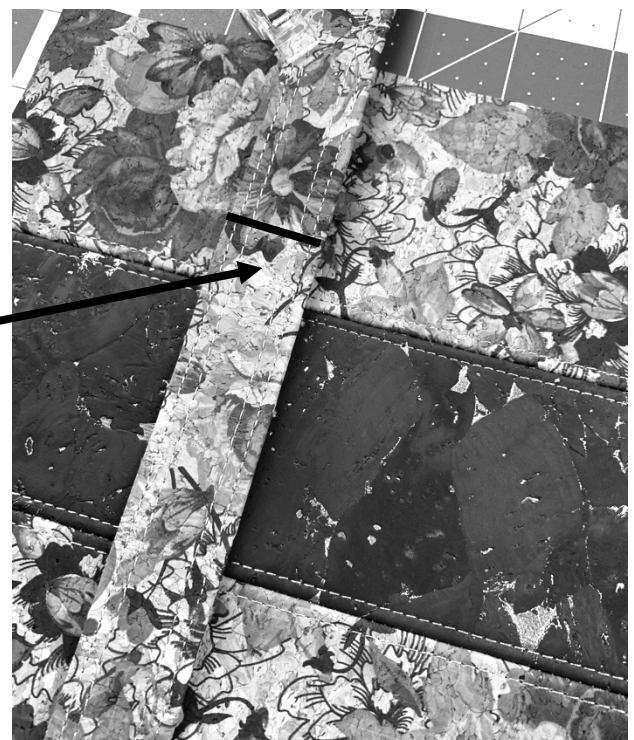
Find the center of your bag front & back and make a small mark at the top & bottom of each. Place a handle on bag front, centered 6" apart. Handle will cover the raw edges of the pocket from Step 5. Tip: I lay my ruler down and use the center marks to keep my handle straight while I pin in place. If you're using cork, you can make light marks to align the handle for sewing. Stitch from the base of the handle all the way up on both sides following 1/8" topstitching from Step 4 stopping 2" from the top - you'll want the handles to be loose at the top of the bag. I like to stitch 2-3 times at the top of the handle for added strength. Repeat with second handle on outside back.



Place one handle on each side. Handle should be centered and 6" apart.

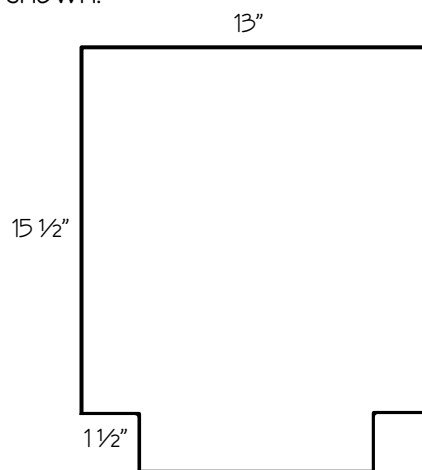
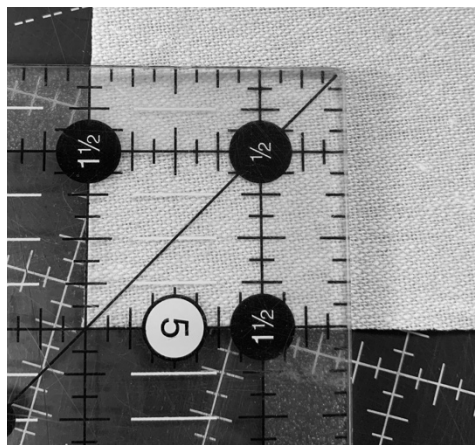
Mark 2" from top - handles should not be sewn all the way to the top of the bag.

Stitch from bottom to top mark and back down. Reinforce back and forth at 2" mark.



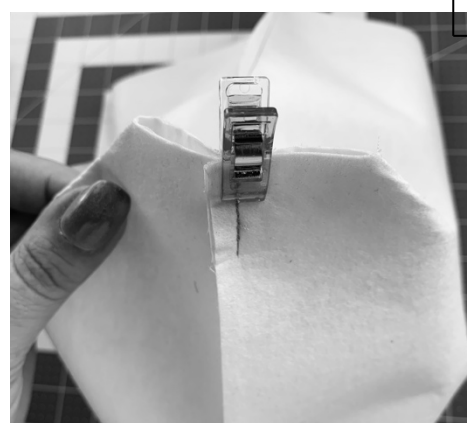
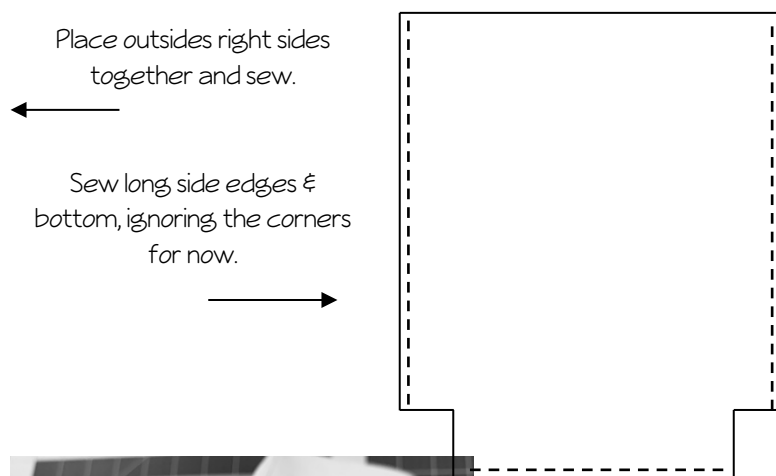
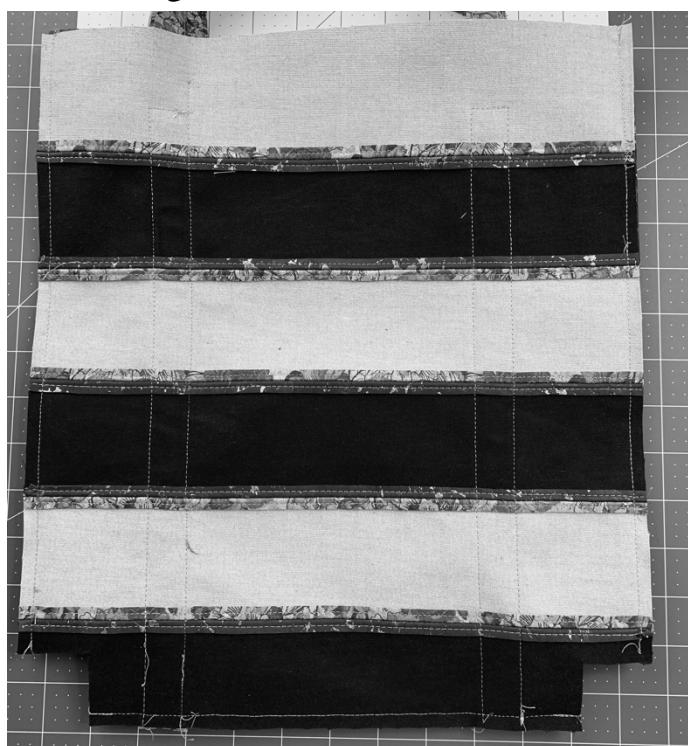
### Step 7 Cutting corners (A & D)

The bag's depth and bottom are formed by cutting out the corners from the bottom of all 4 body pieces - 2 outside A & 2 lining D. Mark and cut 1 1/2" squares as shown.



### Step 8 Assembling the Outside of the Bag

To finish the outside, place the front and back RST and clip all the way around. Align the bottom of the handles as best as you can. If your outside is pieced, align those seams as well. Stitch down the sides and across the bottom, ignoring the corners for now. I like to stitch twice for durability especially since these pieces are a little thick. The bag's depth and bottom are formed by the 1 1/2" squares you cut in Step 7. To make the depth of the bag you will need to box the corners. Begin by pinching and nesting the side seam & bottom seams you just sewed together. Add a couple clips to hold. Next sew across using a 1/4" seam to create a flat bottom. Repeat with both corners. Turn the bag RSO & press.



Lastly, box the corners and turn RSO.

### Step 9 Assembling the Lining (D)

Just as you did in Step 8 with the outsides, place the D linings RST and clip or pin. Sew the sides as well as the bottom leaving a large opening in the bottom.

### Step 10 Finishing the Bag

Place the outside of the bag **inside** the lining, RST, aligning the side seams. Using binding clips (Pinning can be very tough for this step), clip all the way around the bag. You should NOT see the handles - they should be tucked inside the bag. Sew around the top, **SLOWLY**, making sure to catch all the edges. I like to sew around **twice** to catch everything since it's so thick. When finished, turn the bag RSO through the hole in the lining bottom that you left. Close the lining by hand or machine (I prefer machine) and tuck inside the bag. Give the bag a good press and topstitch around the top. When topstitching I find that using binding clips helps to keep layers in place.

Please be sure to check out the 4-part tutorial I have for this bag on my YouTube Channel! It works you step by step through the pattern and includes an optional embroidery tutorial using my Janome 15000. And be sure to post your Market Totes to social media and tag me!

Congratulations - you're finished!!