

# Haiti Bag

## Instructions

These instructions assume that you have a sewing machine and know the basics of its use. The finished size of these bags are 14" x 18", with handles.

Suitable fabrics are medium to heavy-weight home decorative fabrics, denim, linen, canvas, and bottom-weight fabrics.

Instructions for fabric handles and nylon web handles are included.

These instructions are for basic bag

construction. If you wish to embellish the bags, piece fabrics together (as shown in an example picture), or otherwise deviate from the standard bag, that's fine. All we ask is that it be close to 14" x 18" and have handles.



**Materials needed:**

1 pc. 15" x 38" fabric

--OR--

2 pcs. Fabric 15" x 19"

2 pcs. 3" wide fabric, 18 1/2" long,

--OR--

2 pcs. 1" wide nylon webbing, 18" long

Coordinating thread

**Tools needed:**

Sewing machine

Measuring tape

Scissors

Straight pins

Rotary cutter and mat, optional

Iron and ironing board



## Instructions:

1. Cut all materials to sizes specified in Materials Needed
2. To finish the top edges of the bag, turn over 1/4", press. Turn it over again, press well and topstitch the top of each side of the bag



3. Attach the handles. See "Handles" for instructions

- Put right sides of the bag together, pin sides (and bottom, if using two pieces of fabric) together. Using a straight stitch, start at the bottom of the bag, sew  $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the edge



- At end of seam, switch to a narrow zig-zag stitch, with stitches close together (4 mm)





6. Snip all loose threads, turn bag right side out and press well.

7. Voila!

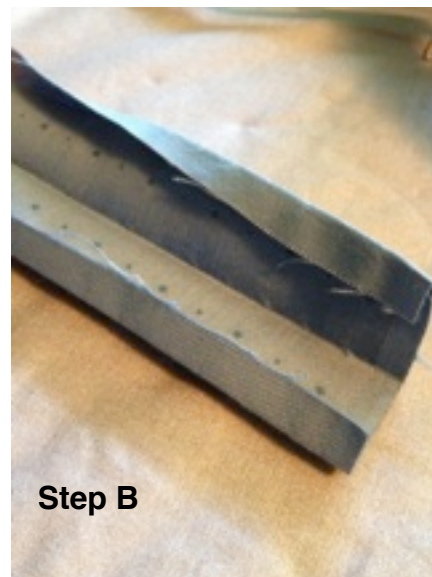


## Handles

If using fabric handles:

A. Fold 3" x 18" fabric strips in half, lengthwise. Press

B. Fold in 1/2" on either side, lengthwise. Press

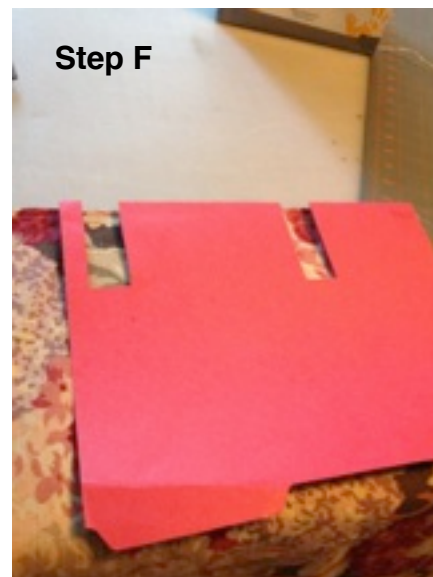


C. Stitch 1/8" from the long side, the length of the fabric



D. Fold and press 1/4" on each of the short ends of the handle

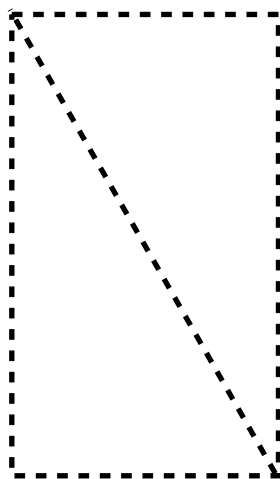
E. On the right side of the bag, align template with the right edge and finished top of the bag



F. Pin each end of the handle in each of the openings on the template, making sure not to have handle twisted.



G. Sew each end of the handle, approximately 1/8" from the edge, to the bag to make the following design:



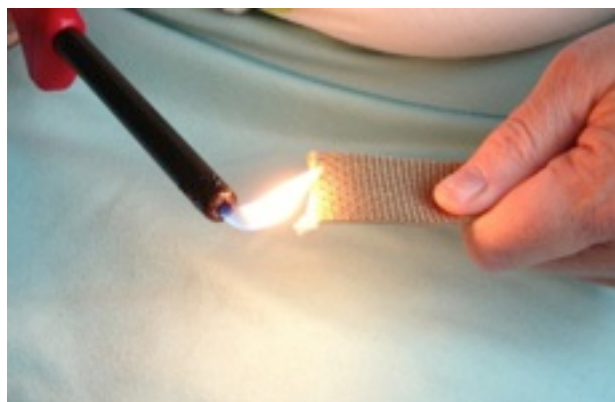


If using nylon web handles:

- A. Nylon webbing frays really easily when cut



- B. Finish the ends of the nylon webbing using a flame. Quickly pass the raw edges through the flame to melt the frayed edges



- C. Continue with steps E. through G. in the section "If using fabric handles"