



## CRAFTY GEMINI PATTERNS

# Alachua Tote Bag

Finished measurements: ~15 1/2" x 12 1/2" X 1/2"



### Main supplies

- Exterior fabric: 1/2 yard of cotton fabric
- Lining fabric: 1/2 yard of cotton fabric
- Webbing for handles: 1" wide x 1 1/2 - 2 yards
- Drawstring cord: 2 1/2 yards of rope, ribbon, t-shirt yarn, etc.
- Fusible interfacing: 1/2 yard
- Bodkin OR Safety pin to thread drawstring
- Rotary cutter + cutting mat
- Ironing + ironing board
- Basic sewing supplies including scissors, plastic sewing clips, pins, fabric marker, etc.
- Sewing machine
- Size 80/12 universal sewing machine needle
- All-purpose polyester thread: 40-50 weight recommended
- Optional: basting glue, wooden tailor's clapper

### Fabric & Interfacing Cutting Directions:

- Cut 2 exterior fabric @ 12 1/2" x 16 1/2"
- Cut 2 lining fabric @ 14 1/2" x 16 1/2"
- Cut 2 fusible interfacing @ 12 1/2" x 16 1/2"
- Cut 2 pieces of 1" wide webbing @ 20" long (or longer) for handles
- Cut 2 drawstring cord @ 40" long
- Print & cut out printed PDF template for the rounded corners

## Directions:

### Fuse interfacing and trace template:

1. Fuse the fusible interfacing (12 ½" x 16 ½") to back of 2 exterior fabric pieces.
2. Fold exterior pieces in half down the 16 ½" dimension and lightly crease at top to locate the center.
3. Place template on corner of exterior piece with the curve facing out. Trace/cut around template for bottom two corners to curve them. Repeat to other exterior piece to get two identical curved panels. Set aside.
4. Fold lining pieces in half down the 16 ½" dimension. to locate the center.
5. Place template on corner of lining piece to cut out curved corners. Trace on bottom two corners to curve bottom corners. Repeat to other lining piece to get two identical curved panels. Set aside.

### Prep exterior:

1. Fold top straight edge of exterior fabric by ½" towards wrong side and press.
2. Repeat to other exterior panel. (Optional: glue baste the folds in place.)

### Prep lining:

1. Fold top straight edge of lining fabric down towards wrong side by 1 ½" and press. Then open and press top edge under by ½" (or draw a line ½" down on the pretty side of lining fabric). Repeat steps to other lining panel.

### Construction:

1. Place both exterior panels together with pretty sides touching and place them on top of both lining panels (also with pretty sides touching).
  - a. The top of the folded down exterior panels should be @ 2 ½" down from the top of the lining fabrics.
2. Using a ⅜" seam allowance sew down sides and curved edges only. Start sewing at top of exterior panel folds, backstitch at beginning and end of seam.
3. Make a small slit from the side, only through the top lining fabric, underneath the beginning and end of the stitch line underneath the exterior fabrics on both sides. Trim seam allowance around curves to reduce bulk.
4. Reach inside exterior fabric and flip right side out. Tuck lining inside.
5. On side seams, press lining side seam open, press and topstitch folds down in place on both sides of bag.
6. Tuck lining raw edge under exterior fabric panel by ½" (up to the marked/creased line) and pin in place all around. **Glue basting here is helpful!**

## Directions (continued):

### Add handles:

- Cut 2 pieces of 1" webbing to 20" long (or longer if you want it long enough to wear over the shoulder).
- Measure and mark center at top of bag on both sides.
- Measure and mark 2 ½" to the left and right of center and slide webbing in between exterior and lining fabrics at the marks. Only insert about ½" of webbing in between the fabric layers. Place pins and repeat to other side. Make sure handles are centered and equal heights before sewing!
- Topstitch all around top edge by sewing ⅛" down from where exterior fabric and lining meet on the exterior fabric. Optional: Sew a second line of stitching ⅛" down from the first line all around.

### Drawstring:

- Cut 2 pieces of cord @ 40" long each.
- Use bodkin or safety pin to feed through top edge casing.
- Tie a knot on each end of cord.

Enjoy your new Alachua Tote Bag!