



COATS *Dual Duty^{XP}*

T-Shirt Tote

Skill level – Beginner/Easy

By Lynn Browne

Technique:	Machine Sewing
Brand:	Dual Duty XP
Crafting time:	An Evening

Materials

Dual Duty XP® All-purpose thread to match shirt and ribbon: 1 spool each.

Additional Requirements

Sewing machine.

T-shirt with design on front.

Grosgrain ribbon, 1½" wide: 1½ yards.

Grosgrain ribbon, 5/8" wide: 1½ yards (or circumference of T-shirt).

Shoestring or cord for drawstring: 36".

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T-Shirt Tote

Steps

1. Thread machine with Dual Duty XP in color that matches shirt. When sewing on ribbon, change to color that matches ribbon.
2. Cutting shirt: Lay T-shirt out flat. Cut sleeves off at arms eye seam. Set sleeves aside.
3. Draw a line across front of shirt approximately 3" from shoulder seams. Line should be above design and below neckband. Cut across line, through back and front of shirt.
4. Turn shirt wrong side out. Sew side seams, beginning at the end of the original side seam and stitching to cut edge, tapering if necessary to follow shape of armhole curve.
5. Draw a line approximately 5" -7" below design. (This determines the length of the bag. You may make it any length you desire). Cut across shirt, through front and back.
6. Drawstring: Press ½" to the right side along upper edge of shirt. Mark center front of bag. Cut a length of the 5/8" ribbon 2" longer than circumference of upper edge. Fold one end of ribbon under ½". On the right side of bag, place folded edge of ribbon at center mark, pin ribbon around the top of the bag, aligning edge with folded edge of shirt. Fold under ½" on the other end of ribbon, (trim off excess if needed) and pin so that it meets the other end leaving a ¼" gap. Topstitch along both edges of the ribbon in matching thread.

Optional back pocket using sleeve:

1. Place the sleeve on a flat surface with the seam centered in the back. The hem of the sleeve becomes the top of the pocket. Draw a straight line across the cut edge and cut. Press under ½" along bottom edge.
2. Center the pocket on the back of the tote. Pin in place. Topstitch sides and bottom of pocket to shirt.



7. Bottom of bag: Turn bag wrong side out and sew across bottom of bag. Zig zag next to seam and trim. Turn bag right side out. To shape bottom of bag, fold bag with one side seam centered on the bottom seam. Sew across bag 2" from the corner. This forms a triangle on the outside of the bag.
8. Ribbon trim: On right side of bag, place 1½" ribbon with one cut end butted against corner seam. Center ribbon over side seam, pinning in place. Repeat on the other side, being careful not to twist ribbon between the two sides of the bag.

With thread color that matches ribbon, topstitch on either side of ribbon, being careful not to catch other parts of bag in stitching.

9. Fold up triangle over end of ribbon and topstitch in place, following outline of triangle.



10. Thread drawstring through top ribbon.