

Ruffled Trick-or-Treat Tote



Technique:	Sewing, Fabric Crafting
Designed By:	Linda Turner Griepentrog
Skill Level:	Beginner
Crafting Time:	An evening
Finished size:	13½" x 14" (34.29cm x 35.56cm)

Featuring Dual Duty XP®

Whether you actually use this cute bag for trick-or-treating or just as a seasonal accessory, you're sure to get admiring glances. The secret to this easy to make winner is a ready-made tote that you simply embellish with Halloween prints.

Supplies

- Dual Duty XP® All-purpose thread in matching colors
- 1 pre-made black canvas tote, 13½" x 14" (34.29cm x 35.56cm)*
- ½ yard (30.48cm) each of 3 different Halloween print ruffle fabrics
- 1½ yard (1.49m) ¾" (1.91cm) grosgrain ribbon for ruffle trim/bow
- ¾ yard (68.58cm) ¾" (1.91cm) contrasting ribbon for bow
- 1 pumpkin button, 1" (2.54cm)

Note: If your tote is a different size, just be sure that the total ruffle length is 2-3 times the tote's circumference; adjust yardages accordingly.

Cutting

WOF=width-of-fabric

From each of the ruffle fabrics, cut:

2 strips, 5½" x WOF (13.97cm x WOF)

Preparing the Ruffles

Note: Seam allowances are ¼" (.64cm).

1. With right sides together, sew the short ends of each ruffle strip to a matching strip forming a circle.
2. Press the ruffle in half lengthwise, matching the long raw edges. Serge- or zigzag finish the raw edges together.
3. Stitch a row of gathering stitches along the finished edge, breaking the stitching at the seamlines. Fold the ruffle into quarters, using the seamlines as half-way points.

Assembling the Tote

1. Fold to tote widthwise into quarters, using the side seams as half-way points and pin mark.
2. Chalk-mark a horizontal line on the tote front and back 5" (12.70cm) up from the lower bag corners. Mark two other lines above the first one, each 2" (5.08cm) apart.
3. Pin the lower ruffle to the tote matching the upper edge to the drawn line and the quarter marks. Pull up the gathering threads and distribute the fullness evenly. Using the free-arm of your sewing machine for easy access, stitch the ruffle around the bag.
4. Pin and stitch the remaining two ruffles to the bag in the same manner.
5. Lap the ribbon over the gathering line of the upper ruffle and stitch in place on both edges, turning under the overlap end to finish.

Finishing the Tote

1. Tie bows with the two contrasting ribbons and stitch to the tote at the base of one handle.
2. Sew the button to the bow center.