

Stained Glass Tote

Designed & Quilted by Sandra L. Hatch

If you love hexagons but don't like to piece them, this is the project for you. Make this fabulous tote with fusible appliqué, machine stitching and no set-in seams.

Specifications

- Skill Level: Intermediate
- Tote Size: 15" x 15" x 5" (excluding handles)

Materials

- 56 (3½") squares assorted polka dot scraps
- ½ yard white-with-black polka dots
- ½ yard black-with-pink polka dots
- ⅔ yard pink-with-black polka dots
- 1 yard black solid
- ¾ yard fusible fleece
- Thread
- 1 (1¼") black button
- 1 (1½") swivel-eyebolt snap
- 1 yard 18"-wide paper-backed fusible web
- 4½" x 14" plastic canvas or stiff cardboard
- GO! Dies:
 - GO! Hexagon-1", 1½", 2½" Sides (¾", 1¼", 2¼" Finished) (55011)
- Basic sewing tools and supplies

Die-Cutting Instructions

From scraps:

- Cut out and apply 56 (3½") squares of paper-backed fusible web to the wrong side of each polka dot scrap. Place scraps individually, right side up, centered over the 1½" sided hexagon (middle shape). Die-cut 56 B hexagons. Do not remove paper; set aside.

Additional Cutting Instructions

From white-with-black polka dots:

- Cut 1 (4¼" by fabric width) strip. Subcut into 2 (4¼" x 21") C strips.
- Cut 1 (5¼" by fabric width) strip. Subcut into 2 (5¼" x 21") D strips.
- Cut 1 (1½" x 7") loop strip.

From black-with-pink polka dots:

- Cut 2 (5½" by fabric width) strips. Subcut into 4 (5½" x 19½") pocket rectangles.

From pink-with-black polka dots:

- Cut 1 (17" by fabric width) strip. Subcut into 2 (19½" x 17") lining rectangles.
- Cut 1 (1½" x 7") loop strip.

From black solid:

- Cut 1 (21" by fabric width) strip. Subcut into 2 (21" x 19") A rectangles.
- Cut 1 (3" by fabric width) strip. Subcut into 2 (3" x 21") handle strips.

From fusible fleece:

- Cut 2 (21" x 19") rectangles.
- Cut 2 (1¼" x 21") strips.

Completing the Appliquéd Front & Back Panels

1. Using light chalk pencil, measure and mark a line 5" from the bottom 21" edge and a second line 4" from the top 21" edge of one A rectangle as shown in Figure 1. Repeat on the second rectangle.

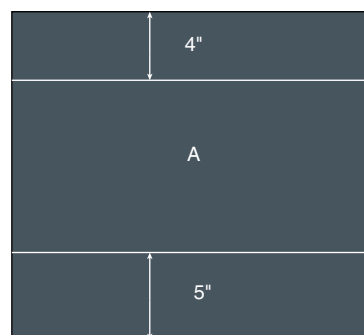


Figure 1



- Remove paper backing from the hexagons.
- Starting in the center, place one B hexagon on a $\frac{1}{4}$ " below the 4" top line of one A rectangle as shown in Figure 2.

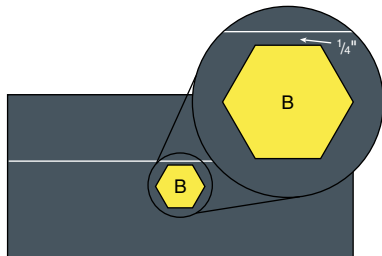


Figure 2

- Continue adding hexagons as desired in seven columns of four hexagons each. Leave $\frac{1}{4}$ " between pieces, with the hexagon columns on each side of the center extending above and below the marked lines shown in Figure 3. The first and last column should be positioned about $1\frac{1}{4}$ – $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from side edges, again referring to Figure 3.

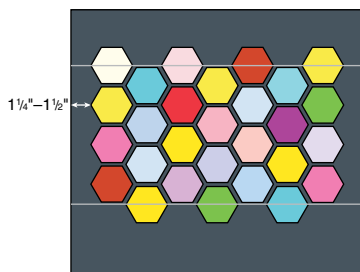


Figure 3

- Trim hexagons extending above and below the marked lines even with the marked lines.
- Fuse the hexagons in place following manufacturer's instructions.
- Repeat steps 1–6 to make a second hexagon panel.
- Fuse one 21" x 19" rectangle of fusible fleece to the wrong side of each hexagon panel.
- Using black thread, quilt in the black area between the hexagons.
- Using black thread and a machine buttonhole or blanket stitch, stitch around the edge of each hexagon.

- Align one long edge of a C strip right sides together along the top marked line of the hexagon panel as shown in Figure 4; stitch together using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

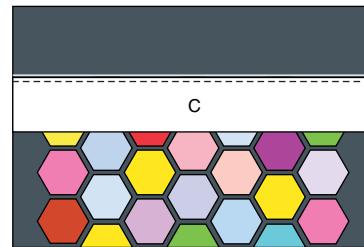


Figure 4

- Press the C strip away from the hexagon panel and over the black area; topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seam.
- Repeat steps 11 and 12 with the D strip on the bottom marked line of the hexagon panel to complete the tote front.
- Repeat steps 11–13 to complete the tote back.

Completing the Lining

- Place two pocket rectangles right sides together and stitch along each long edge. Repeat with second two pocket rectangles.
- Turn the stitched pockets right side out and press edges flat.
- Draw a line $5\frac{1}{2}$ " from one $19\frac{1}{2}$ " edge of a lining rectangle as shown in Figure 5. Align one long edge of a stitched pocket along the line and pin in place.
- Divide and mark the pocket into sections as shown in Figure 5 or as desired. Stitch on the marked lines and edgestitch the pocket bottom referring again to Figure 5.

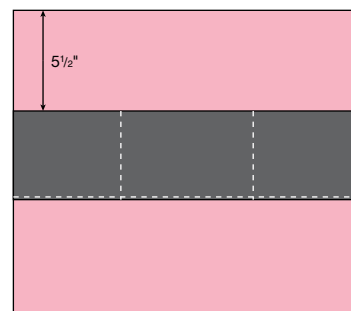


Figure 5



- Repeat steps 1–4 to complete the second lining piece.
- Place the two lining pieces right sides together, matching pocket edges, and stitch both sides and across the bottom edge, leaving a 5" opening on the bottom edge (Figure 6). Press seams flat.

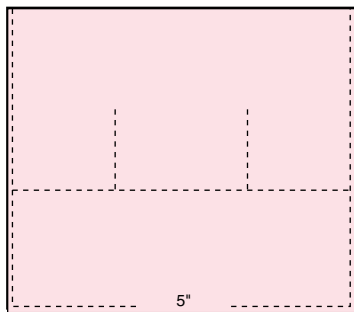


Figure 6

- To box bottom corners, fold corner, matching side and bottom seams to form a point. Stitch across the corner 3" up from the point as shown in Figure 7. Trim seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ " to make a boxed corner, again referring to Figure 7.

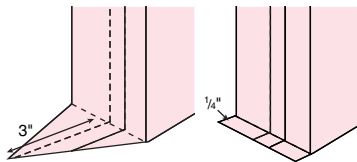


Figure 7

- Repeat step 7 on the opposite corner to complete the lining.

Completing the Tote

- Trim the two quilted hexagon panels to 20" x 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". **Note:** Trim panels to match so that seams will match when stitched.

- Place the two panels right sides together, starting with a $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam at the top and tapering to a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance on sides and across the bottom. Stitch to complete the quilted bag. **Note:** The lining is a little smaller than the quilted bag to avoid bulk inside after stitching, adjusting the seam allowance helps the top edges match.

- Box bottom corners referring to step 7 of Completing the Lining. Turn bag right side out.

- Referring to Figure 8, fold each of the white-with-black polka dots and pink-with-black polka dots loop strips in half with wrong sides together along length and press. Open the strips and fold the edges to the center; press. Refold the strips in half and stitch close to the open edges to make the loop strips.

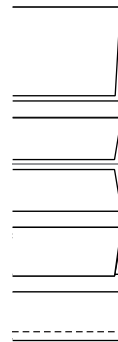


Figure 8

- Fold the white-with-black dot loop strip to make a loop. Center and pin to the right side of the quilted bag back as shown in Figure 9; stitch a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam back and forth to secure.

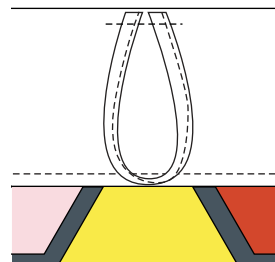


Figure 9

- Slide the pink-with-black dots loop strip through the enclosed end of the swivel-eyebolt snap and make a loop. Pin and stitch to the right side of the lining near a side seam for holding keys.

- Fold and press $\frac{1}{4}$ " to the inside along one 21" side of each 3" x 21" handle strips. Center a $1\frac{1}{4}$ " x 21" fusible fleece strip on each pressed strip. Fold the raw edge of the strip over the fleece strip and the pressed edge of the strip over the raw edge and press to make the handle strips (Figure 10).

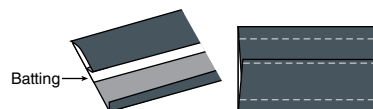


Figure 10

8. Stitch close to the center of the strips along the folded edge and then $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each side of the strips to complete the handles referring again to Figure 10. Trim each handle to 20" long, squaring up the ends.

9. Pin and stitch the ends of one handle right sides together on the quilted bag front $4\frac{3}{4}$ " from the side seams as shown in Figure 11. Repeat with the second handle on the quilted bag back.

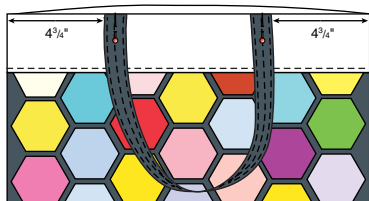


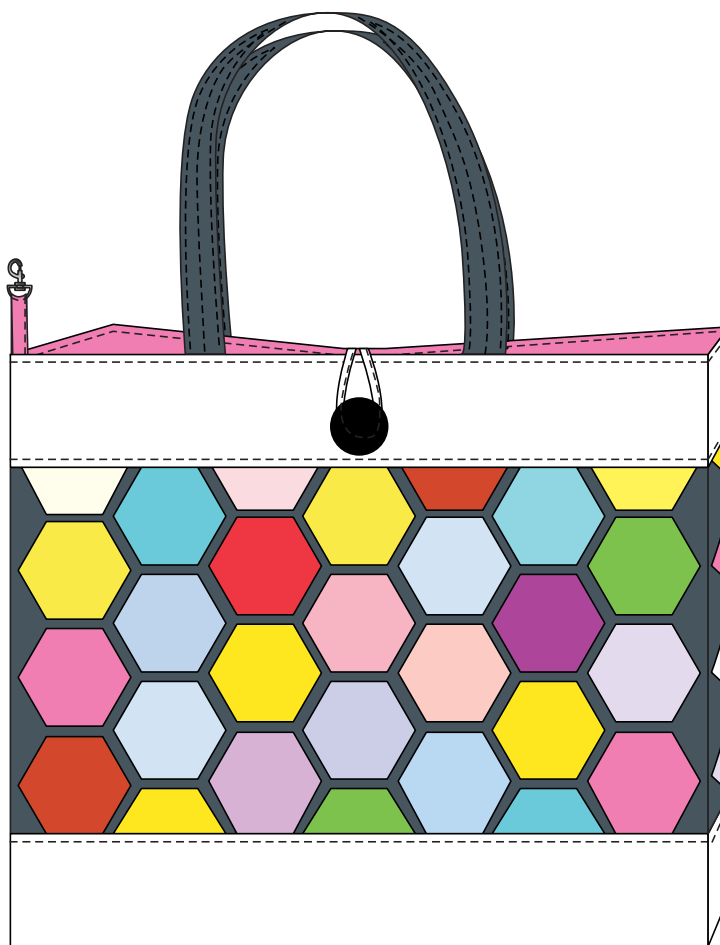
Figure 11

10. Insert the quilted bag right sides together into the lining shell, matching side seams; stitch all around the top edge, backstitching over the handle and loop areas.

11. Turn the tote right side out through the opening in the lining, pulling handles and loops away from the seam. Press the lining opening closed and machine-stitch close to the edges. Press lining to the inside of the tote and along top edge.

12. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the top edges of the tote.

13. Center and sew the $1\frac{1}{4}$ " black button with the edge of the button even with the C strip edge referring to the Placement Diagram to finish. ❖



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Placement Diagram 15" x 15" x 5"