

Cuddle® Flag Tote

Approximate Finished Size: 16" x 16" x 2" plus straps

*Show your patriotic spirit with this generously-sized tote bag.
Perfect for summer picnics or for trips to the beach.*

Fabric Requirements (as shown)

- 1 Flag USA Digital Cuddle® Panel Navy, *Exterior and Pocket*
- ¾ yard Americana Digital Cuddle® Ink, *Straps and Lining*

Suggested Notions

- 18" x 36" flexible foam stabilizer (such as ByAnnie's Soft and Stable®)
- 1 yard (20" wide) woven, sew-in, medium weight interfacing (such as: Pellon SF785)
- 90/14 stretch machine needle
- Polyester thread
- Felt tip marker or ballpoint pen
- Rotary cutter and mat
- Micro-serrated scissors and/or craft knife
- Long, flower head pins
- Fabric clips
- Stiletto
- Basting spray
- Walking foot

Pattern designed by Michelle Hall for Shannon Fabrics.



*For more information on sewing with Cuddle®,
scan the QR code or go to:
offers.shannonfabrics.com/beginner*



The information in this pattern is presented in good faith.
Every effort has been taken to assure the accuracy herein.

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info@shannonfabrics.com | www.shannonfabrics.com | 866.624.5252

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Cuddle® Flag Tote

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Cuddle® Flag Tote

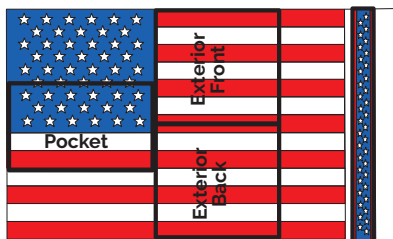
Approximate Finished Size: 16" x 16" x 2" plus straps

DIRECTIONS

- Read *Cuddle® Basics* before beginning.

Cutting

- From the Flag Panel, cut:
 - 1 (19" x 18"), *Exterior Front*.
 - 1 (19" x 18"), *Exterior Back*.
 - 1 (21" x 13"), *Pocket*.



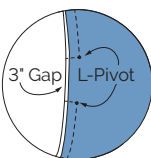
- From Americana Cuddle®, cut:
 - 1 (36" x 20"), *Lining*.
 - 3 (3" x WOF), *Straps*.
- From woven interfacing, cut:
 - 4 (1¼" x 36"), *Strap interfacing*.

Assembly

Make the Pocket

- On the left edge of the Pocket, mark a 3" turning gap. Staystitch between the marks. Staystitch a matching 3" gap on right side.
- With right sides together, fold the Pocket in half.
- Sew the top, side, and bottom of the Pocket, making an L-Pivot at the side gap.

Note: The L-Pivot secures the seam ends when the pocket is turned and helps the seam allowance turn in.
- Turn the Pocket right side out.



Add the Pocket to the Exterior

- Center the Pocket 3½" down from the top edge of the Exterior Front.
- Blanket stitch or zigzag the sides and bottom of the Pocket to the Exterior Front.

Note: The stitching will close the turning gap.

Make the Straps

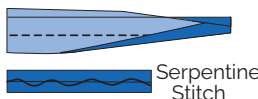
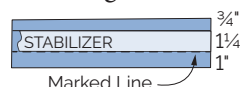
- Using diagonal seams, sew the three Strap pieces into one long strip.
- With a 1" overlap, zigzag the interfacing pieces into one long strip.
- On the wrong side of the Strap, draw a line 1" from one long edge.
- Spray baste the wrong side of Strap. Smooth interfacing to the Strap with one edge along the marked line.



- Sew the ends of the interfaced Strap together to form a circle.

Note: Before sewing, check that the circle is not twisted. The interfacing may be a bit shorter than the Strap. This is okay.

- Fold bottom edge up over the interfacing. Fold the top edge down. Hold in place with fabric clips.
- Sew down the center of the strap with a wide zigzag or serpentine stitch.



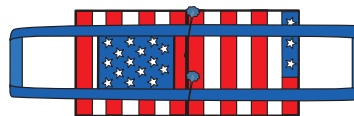
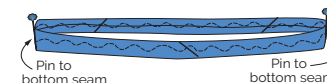
Add the Foam Stabilizer

- With right sides together, sew the Exterior Front to the Back along bottom edge.
- Open the Exterior. Spray baste foam stabilizer. Center and smooth to wrong side of Exterior.
- Baste along the length of the seam allowances on the side.

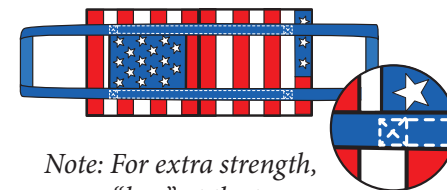
Note: Basting helps keep layers together when sewing the side seams and will also compress the foam in the seam.

Attach the Straps

- Fold the Strap in half. Pin mark each fold.
- Place each pin mark on bottom seam. On Front, center and pin Strap over side edges of Pocket.



- On Back, pin the Strap at the same distance from the sides as on the Front.
- With the Straps pinned in place, fold the tote to check that Straps are equal above the top edge. If not, re-pin and check again.
- Measure the distance from the top of the Front to the top of the Pocket. Measure and mark an equal distance from the top of the Back along the straps.
- Stitch from the bottom seam to Pocket top, across the narrow top of the Strap, along the Strap to the mark on Back. Stitch across Strap and back to the bottom seam.



Note: For extra strength, sew a "box" at the top.

- In the same manner, sew Strap to the other side of the Exterior.

Cuddle® Basics

- Seam allowances are ½" unless otherwise noted.
- Mark measurements on reverse side of Cuddle® with a felt tip marker or ballpoint pen.
- Cut Cuddle® with a rotary cutter, craft knife, or scissors.
- Shake cut pieces or put in a no-heat dryer with a damp washcloth for a few minutes to remove loose fibers.
- Sew with polyester thread in the top and the bobbin.
- Reduce presser foot pressure when sewing multiple layers.
- Increase stitch length to 3–4 mm.
- Double pin by using 2 rows of pins—the first row every 1½" along the seam line and a second row 1" to the left and parallel to the cut edge.
- Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam.
- Use an even-feed or walking foot, if possible. It makes a difference!

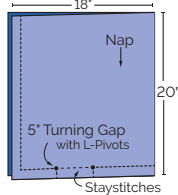


Complete the Exterior

1. With right sides together, align the side seams of the Exterior Front and Back.
2. Sew the side seams.

Create the Lining

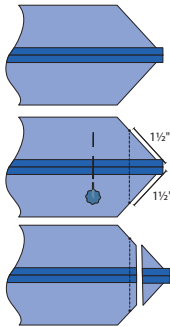
1. With right sides together, fold the Lining in half widthwise.
2. Mark 5" gap on the bottom for turning. Staystitch the gap and a matching 5" gap on the opposite side.



3. Sew the side seam and the bottom, with an L-Pivot at the gap.

Box the corners

1. Turn the Exterior and Lining inside out.
2. In each bottom corner, do the following:
 - Pinch and pull apart the corner until the side and bottom seams align. (On one side of the Lining, align fold and bottom seam.)
 - Pin the matched seam allowances.
 - On each folded edge, mark a dot 1½" from the point. Connect the dots.
 - Sew along the marked line. Trim the seam allowance to ½".

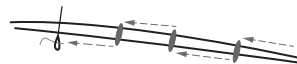
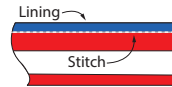


3. When all four corners are boxed, turn the Exterior right side out and slide it into the Lining.

Note: Lining is slightly longer than the Exterior. The extra length forms a faux binding on the top edge.

Finish

1. Right sides together, double pin the Exterior to the Lining around the top edge, matching the side seams.
2. Sew completely around the top edge.
3. Turn right side out through the turning gap in the Lining. Slide the Lining into the Exterior until ½" of the Lining extends above the Exterior.
4. Stitch-in-the-Ditch in the seamline.
5. Sew the gap in the Lining closed with a ladder stitch.



Ladder Stitch: Using polyester thread and a hand sewing needle, catch one side of the opening, then the other. Pull to tighten every few stitches.

6. Hand or machine tack the Base of the Lining to the Exterior along the bottom seam.



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