

# Freezer Paper Piecing Diamond Tote Bag



Making diamond quilt blocks using freezer paper templates will help you get accurate seams and crisp points. The plastic side of freezer paper temporarily adheres to fabric and the edge of the paper is your seam guide. Use your momento™ craft cutting machine to draw and cut the freezer paper pattern pieces. The fabric pieces for the tote bag are also cut on your craft cutting machine. The finished size of the block is approximately 10" x 10" (25cm x 25cm) and the bag is 14" x 14" (35cm x 35cm).

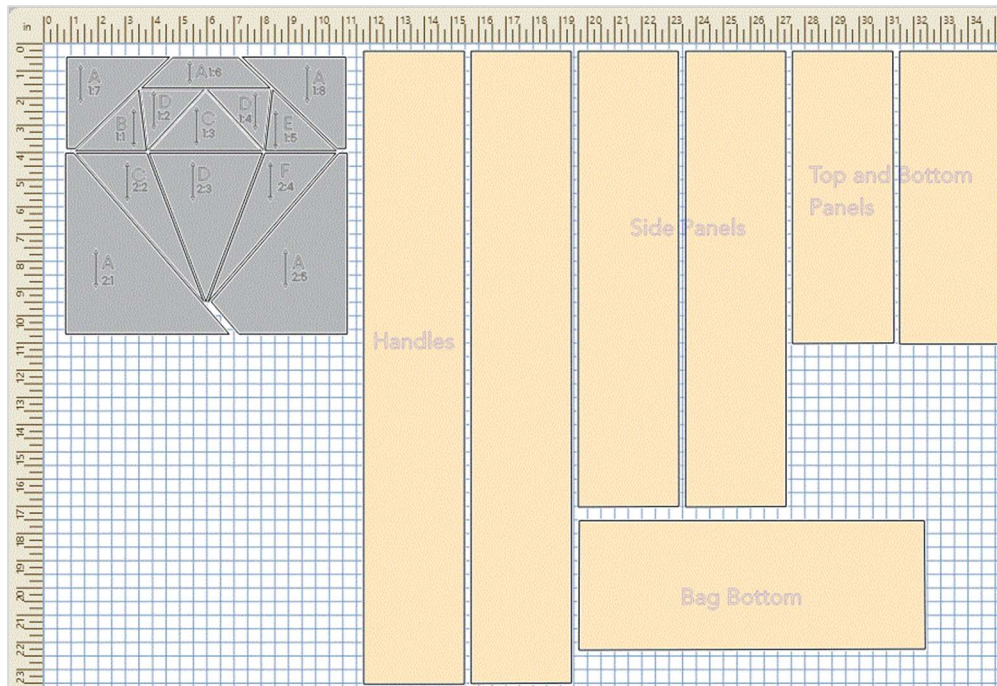
## What you need

- Quilting Cotton for background and bag 1 yard (1m)
- Quilting Cotton scraps in 5 shades for the diamond
- Backing Fabric (white broadcloth or similar)
- Low Loft Batting
- Fabric for Lining
- Freezer Paper

- Standard Grip Mat 12" x 12"
- Fabric Grip Mat 24" x 24"
- Basic Blade
- SINGER® momento™ Dual Tip Marker
- Rotary Blade
- Brayer
- Sewing Machine
- Edge Guide/Quilting Guide
- Iron and Ironing board
- Thread
- Rotary Cutter and Mat
- Straight pins

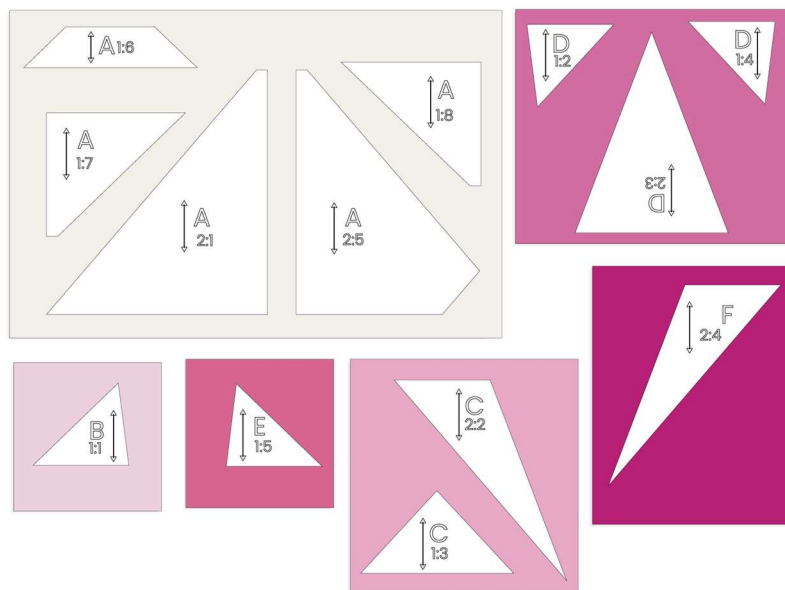
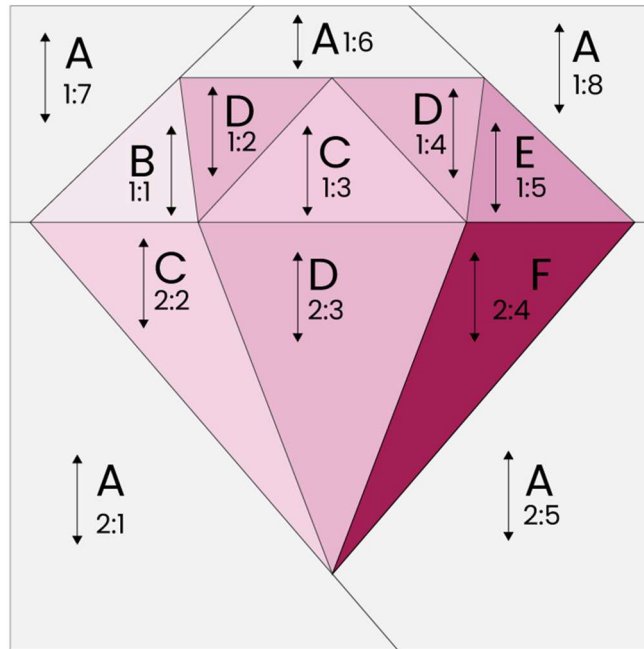
## Directions

1. To make the diamond block, open the project in Canvas. Place the freezer paper, shiny side down onto your Standard Grip Mat. Use a Brayer to help adhere the material to the cutting mat, eliminating wrinkles or bubbles. Insert the marker pen into the left carriage and the basic blade in the right. Select mat and material. Change the input for material size. Follow the steps to draw and cut the paper pieces on your craft cutting machine.

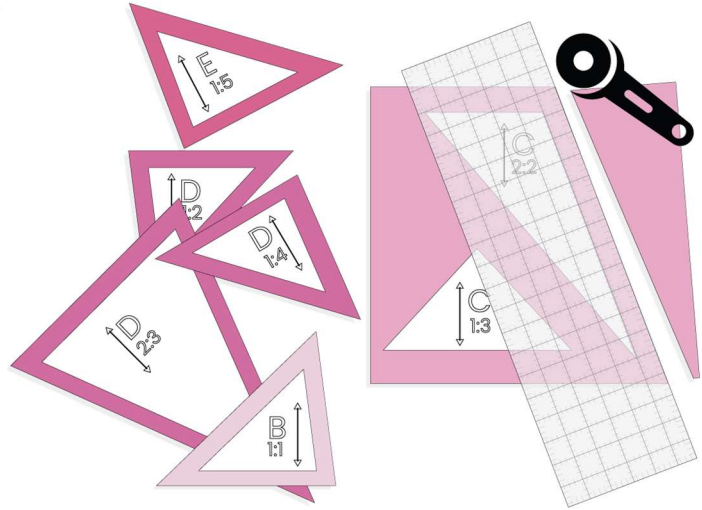


- Use a hot iron to apply the freezer paper templates, shiny side down onto the back of your fabric. Lay the pieces out with enough space between them to allow 3/8" (1 cm) seam allowance on each piece. The arrow on the template shows the direction of the grainline of the fabric. Use the chart to apply the paper to the right color fabric.

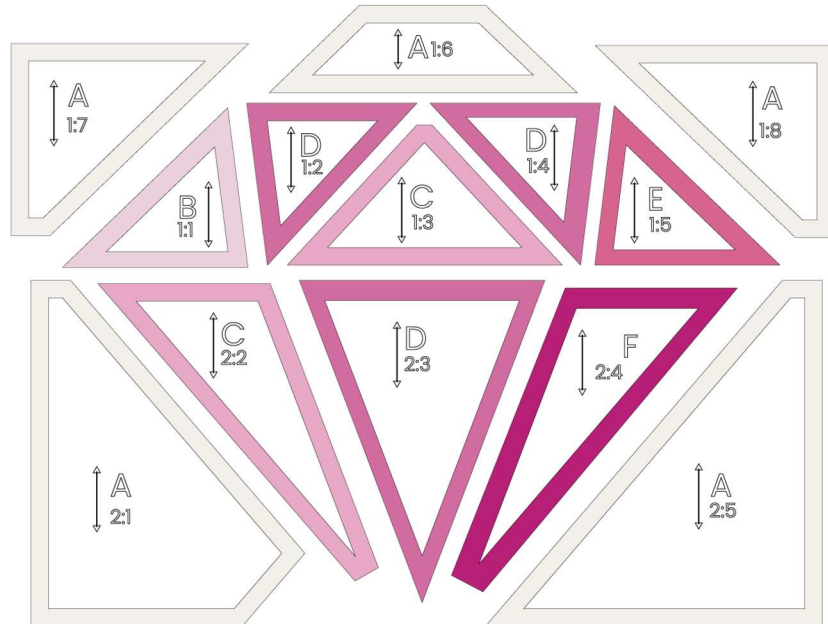
A Background Fabric  
 B Light  
 C Medium Light  
 D Medium  
 E Medium Dark  
 F Dark



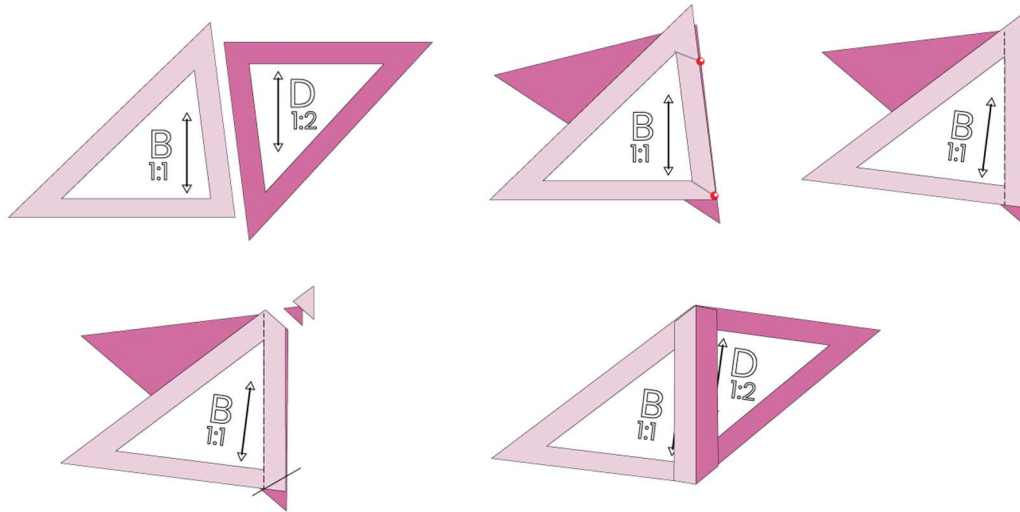
- Using a ruler and rotary cutter, cut each piece with an added  $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1 cm) seam allowance all the way around.



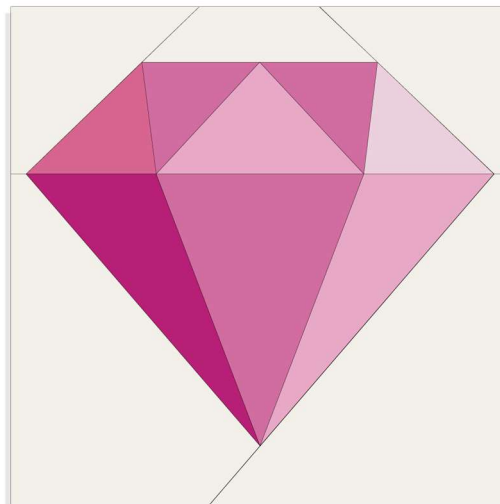
- Lay the pieces out and arrange them as the diagram shows.



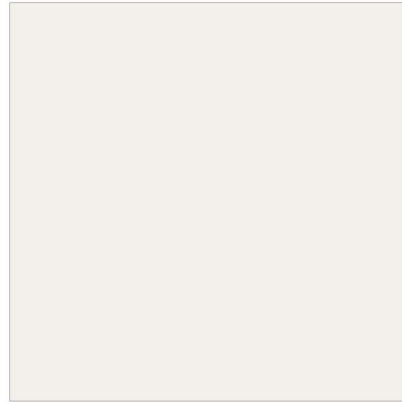
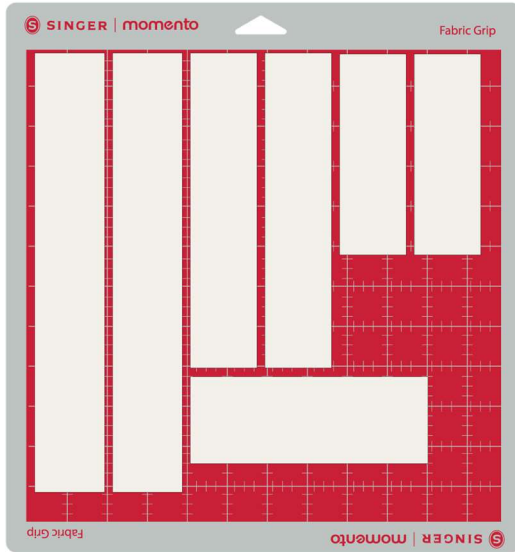
- Place piece 1:1 and 1:2, right sides together. Push a pin through the corner points, matching it with the corner points on the second piece, then pin pieces together. Set your sewing machine for straight stitch with a short stitch length. Sew close to the edge of the paper, avoid stitching on the paper. Back-stitch at the start and end of the seam. Trim the seam allowance triangle tips at an angle, be careful not to cut your stitching. Keep the paper in place and press the seam open.



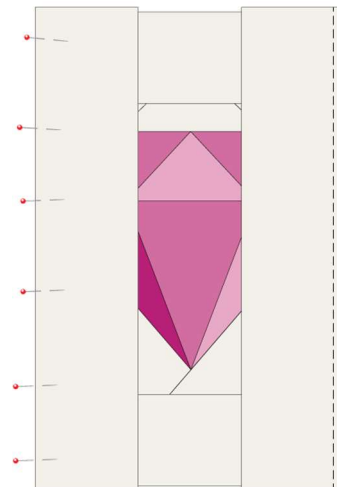
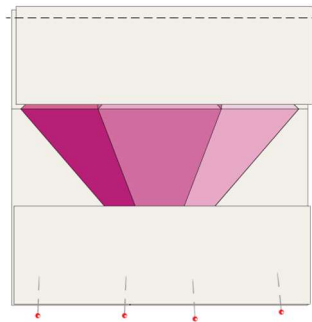
- Continue sewing the pieces together in this manner, in numerical order, matching points, stitching along the edge of the paper and pressing seams open. When all section 1 pieces are sewn together, sew all section 2 pieces together. Sew sections 1 and 2 together. Remove the freezer paper and press.



- Cut the pieces for the bag. From main fabric, one piece 18" x 18" (45cm x 45cm) and one to fit onto the 24" x 24" fabric grip mat. Place the large piece onto the mat. Use a Brayer to help adhere the material to the cutting mat, eliminating wrinkles or bubbles. Insert the Rotary Blade into the right carriage. Change the inputs for mat size and material. Follow the steps to cut the fabric on your craft cutting machine.



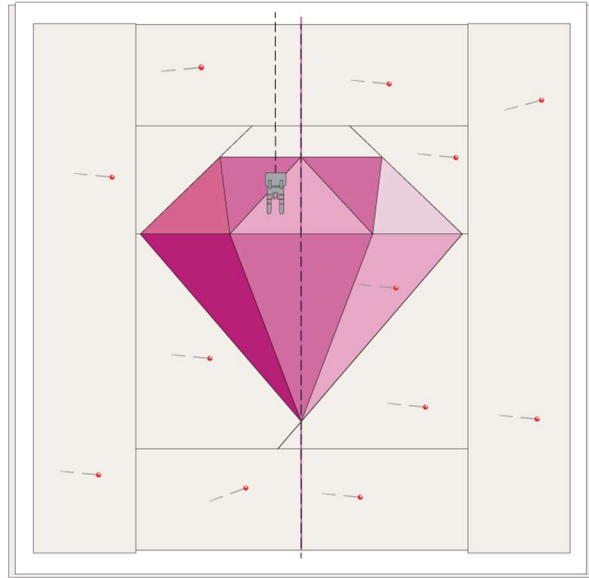
- Pin the top and bottom panels, right sides together with the diamond block. Stitch together using 3/8" (1cm) seam allowance. Backstitch at the beginning and end. Press the seams open. Pin the side panels to the block, right sides together. Stitch and press the seams open.



9. Cut the batting and backing slightly bigger than the bag front, bag back and bag bottom.

Lay your backing fabric right side down on a flat surface and smooth out any wrinkles. Place the batting on top, matching up the raw edges. Place the bag front right side up on the batting, smoothing it into place. Use pins to secure the layers.

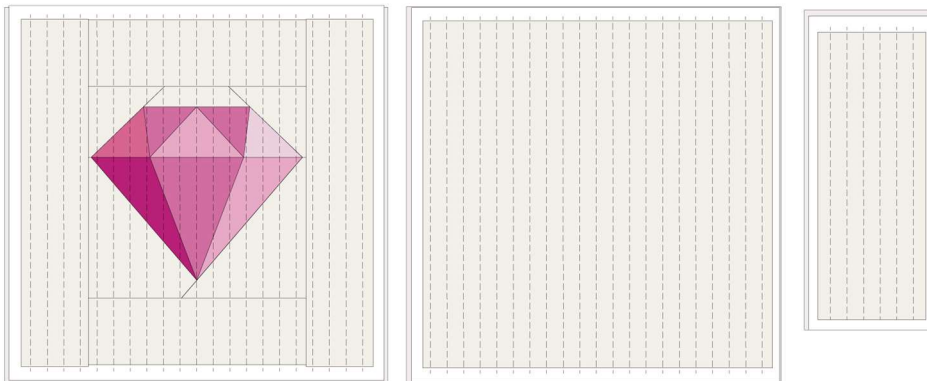
Set your sewing machine for straight stitch with a stitch length of 2.5. Quilt the layers together in vertical lines, 1" (2.5cm) apart. Start in the centre and work your way to the sides.



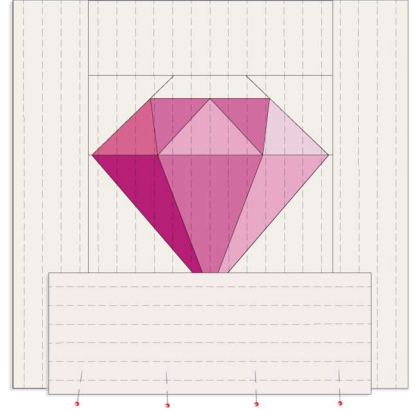
Tips: Use the Edge Guide / Quilting Guide on your sewing machine to get perfect parallel stitch lines.



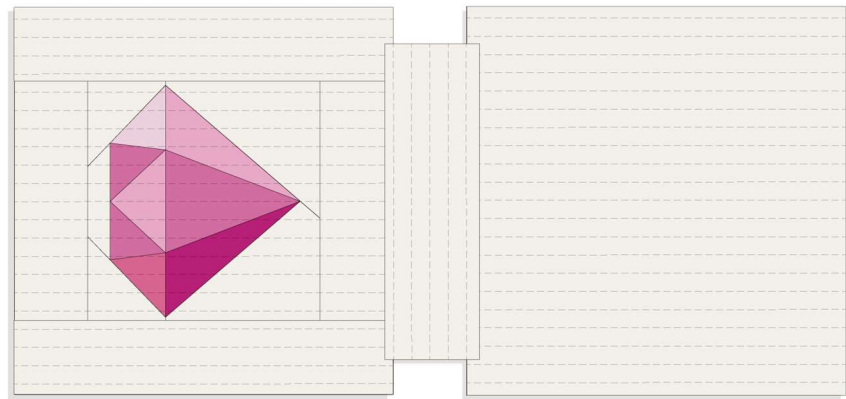
10. Stitch the layers together the same way on the back and bottom bag piece. Trim the edges of the bag front and cut the bag back the same size.



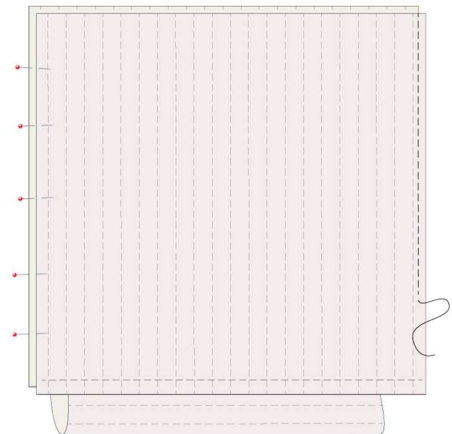
11. Pin the bag bottom, centered and right sides together with the bag front. Sew together using  $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1cm) seam allowance.



12. Sew the back piece to the other side of the bag bottom.

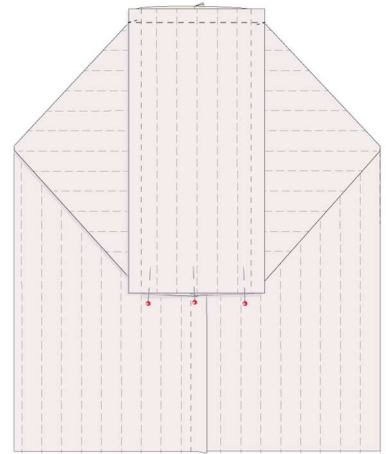


13. Fold the bag, right sides together and sew along both sides of the bag.





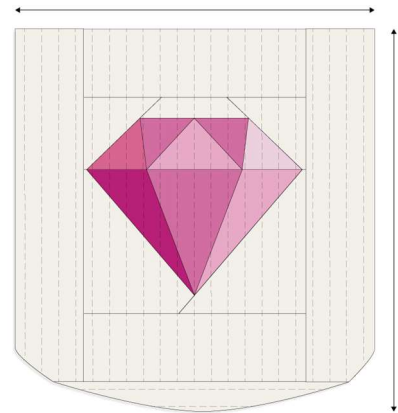
14. Fold the corners and stitch across on both sides. Turn the right side out.



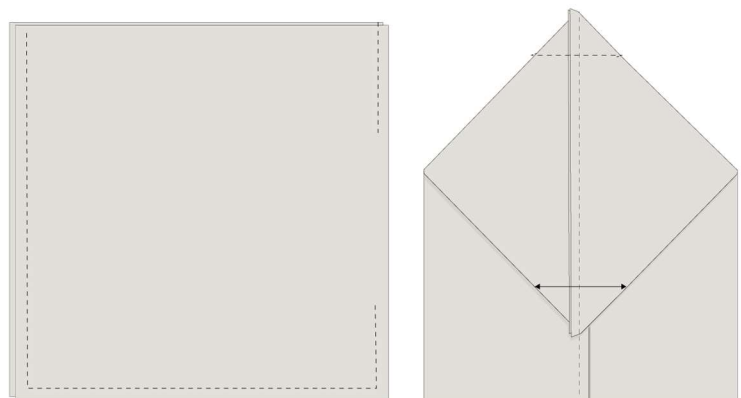
15. Prepare the Handles: Fold the handle pieces in half lengthwise, right side out, and press. Fold the long sides raw edges towards the center and press. Topstitch along each side of the strips.



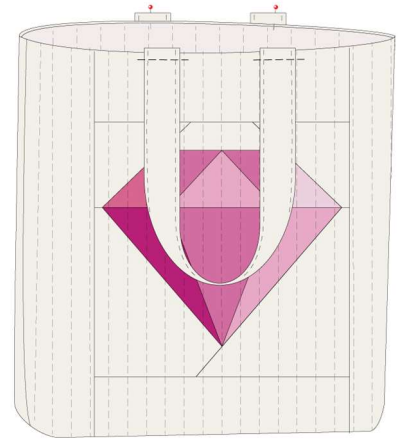
16. Cut the fabric for the lining. Lay the bag flat and measure across and top to bottom. Add 6/8" (2cm) seam allowance across and 3/8" from top to bottom. You should get a square measuring approximately 16" x 17" (40cm x 43cm). Cut two from your lining fabric.



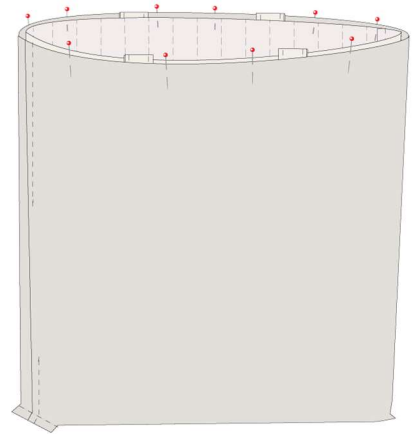
17. Sew around three sides, leaving an opening to turn the right side out. Fold the corners and stitch across on both sides.



18. Pin the handles to the bag, making sure they are not twisted. Stitch in place.



19. Insert the outer bag in the lining with the right sides together. Stitch along the top using 3/8" (1cm) seam allowance. Through the opening in the lining, turn the right side out. Sew the opening in the lining closed.



20. Press the top edge of the bag and topstitch.

