

pellon[®]

*The Magic
in the Middle*

Uptown Bag

Skill Level: Intermediate

Designed By
Deborah Vollbracht
Sewn By
Deborah Vollbracht

www.CreativeFolkQuilting.blogspot.com



Create a shopping/traveling tote (15-1/2" wide x 16-1/2" high, 30" from strap top to tote bottom), packed with style. It features a fabric motif as the 'star of the show'. Adjustable strap is designed for hand held usage and can be easily lengthened for shoulder wear. Fusible Thermolam[®] Plus speeds construction of this uniquely fashioned carry-all.

Fabrics Needed

Fabric A - Center Motif - Robert Kaufman Satsuki #11993	3/8 yard
Fabric B - Motif frame/lining - Laurel Burch for Clothworks LB Basic Glitter	5/8 yard
Fabric C - Tote body/straps - Anna Griffin Honoka Collection CF9004	1-1/8 yards
Fabric D - Accent Strips, strap lining - Kaffe Fassett GP117 Rowan	5/8 yard

Materials Needed

Pellon [®] TP971F Fusible Thermolam [®] Plus	1-1/2 yards
Pellon [®] SF101 Shape-Flex [®] Fusible Interfacing	5/8 yard
Pellon [®] ST-807 Wonder-Web [®] Tape	One roll
Thread	
Quilting thread	

Tools Needed

Sewing machine and related supplies
Rotary cutter and related supplies
24" rotary ruler

<http://www.pellonprojects.com>

Graphic Artist Alexandra Henry

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Cutting and Assembly Instructions

Print the A and B strap templates. Cut out both templates on the solid lines. Tape the two pieces together to create one template.

Cut one 9-1/2" x 12-1/2" rectangle from fabric A for center motif.

Cut two 1" x 10-1/2" and two 1" x 12-1/2" strips from fabric B for motif frames.

Cut two 17" x 19" rectangles from fabric B for lining.

Cut two 17" x 19" rectangles from fabric C for tote body.

Using the strap template cut two straps using fabric C.

Cut four 2" x 19" and two 2" x 17" strips from fabric D for accent strips.

Using the strap template cut two straps using fabric D.

Cut four Fusible Thermolam® Plus 16" x 18" rectangles.

Cut four Fusible Thermolam® Plus using the strap template.

Cut one Fusible Thermolam® Plus 8-3/4" x 11-3/4" motif rectangle.

Cut four Shape-Flex® 1" x 18" and two 1" x 16" strips.

NOTE: Trim the four Thermolam® Plus strap pieces 1/4" on all sides.

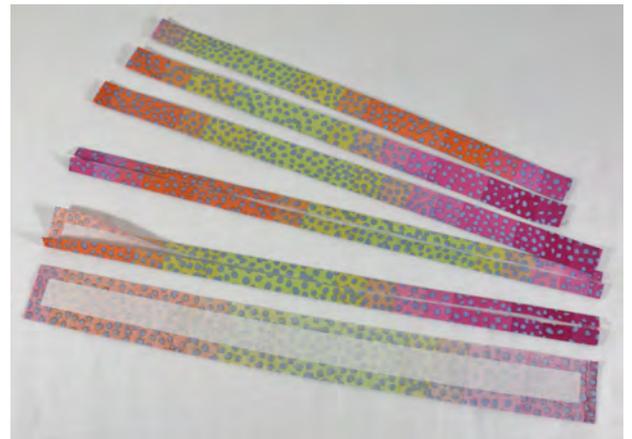
Center the 16" x 18" rectangle of Thermolam® Plus, fusible side down, on the wrong side of the 17" x 19" tote body rectangle. Pin in place to hold. Flip so that the fabric is on top and fuse according to the manufacturer's instructions. Repeat with the remaining tote piece, bag lining pieces, straps and strap linings. Do not fuse the Thermolam® Plus motif rectangle until a later step.

Center the 1" x 16" Shape-Flex® on the wrong side of one 2" x 17" accent strip. Fuse according to the manufacturer's instructions. Repeat with the remaining 2" x 17" accent strip. Repeat this step using the 1" x 18" Shape-Flex® strips and the 2" x 19" accent strips.

Fold the long edges of the accent strips to the wrong side and press creating 1" wide accent strips. Set aside.



Pieces fused with Thermolam® Plus



Place the 1" X 12-1/2" motif frame strips right sides together on the 12-1/2" sides of the center motif. Stitch using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press seams toward the frame strips.

Repeat this step with the two 1" x 10-1/2" motif frame strips and the top and bottom of the center motif.

Fuse the 8-3/4" x 11-3/4" rectangle of Thermolam® Plus to the wrong side of the motif, within the frame seam line following manufacturer's instructions. This step will reduce the possibility of the tote fabric shadowing through the motif fabric.

Position the outer edge of the motif 2" down from the top edge of the tote front and 3-1/4" in from the side edges. Pin in place and 'stitch in the ditch' on motif, just inside the frame around all edges. Motif can be quilted at this point if desired. Light quilting is recommended as heavier quilting will shrink the size of the motif. Sample motif was outline quilted with transparent thread.

Draw a faint pencil line a fat 1/4" away from motif edge on the frame on all four sides of the motif, extending the line to the raw edges of the tote. Place the accent strip vertically against the pencil line, just covering it and pin in place.



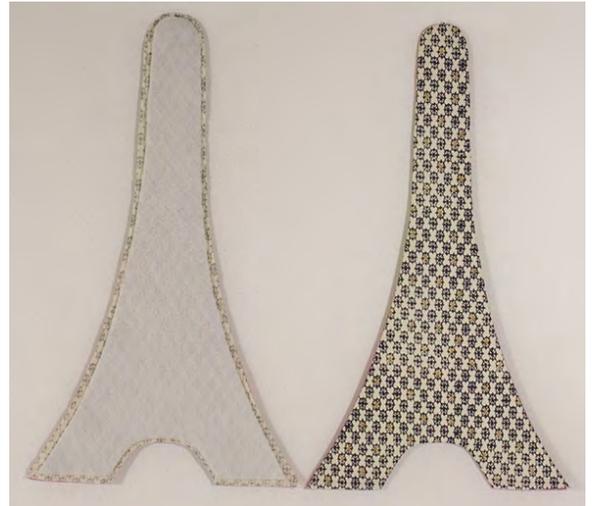
Topstitch both sides of the strip from top edge to bottom edge. Repeat with remaining vertical accent strip, then apply the top and bottom accent strips in the same manner.

For the tote back, draw a pencil line 2-3/4" from the side edges and position an accent strip outer edge against the pencil line, just covering the line. Vertical accent strips will be in the same position on the tote front and back. Topstitch in the same manner as for front of the tote.



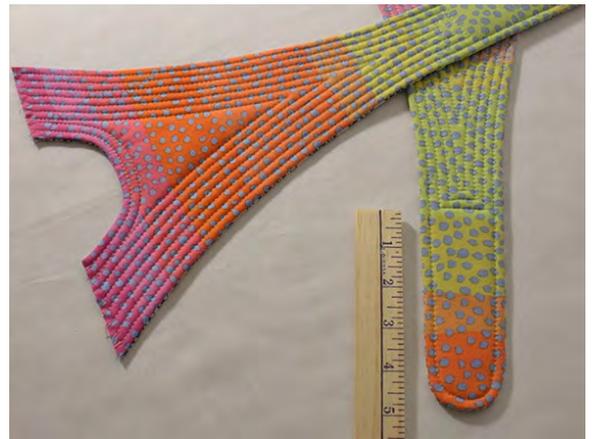
Pin strap lining to strap fabric, right sides together, with the raw edges aligned. Stitch using a 1/4" seam allowance. Leave the bottom edges of the strap open (marked on template). Trim seam allowance to a fat 1/8". Clip the inner curve at the bottom avoiding clipping into the seam line.

Turn strap right side out and press edges flat.



Topstitch 1/4" from strap outer edge around all finished edges. It is helpful to shorten stitch a bit when approaching the curved ends to smoothly stitch line.

Mark a faint pencil line 5" from the curved end on the right side, perpendicular to the base. Topstitch a second line 1/4" from the first line of topstitching, pivoting at the pencil line. Stitch across the pencil line and then pivot again 1/4" from sewing line on opposite side of the strap. Continue stitching down the other side of the strap to the end. Stitch a total of seven rows in this manner from the outside edge and stitch two rows on the bottom arc.



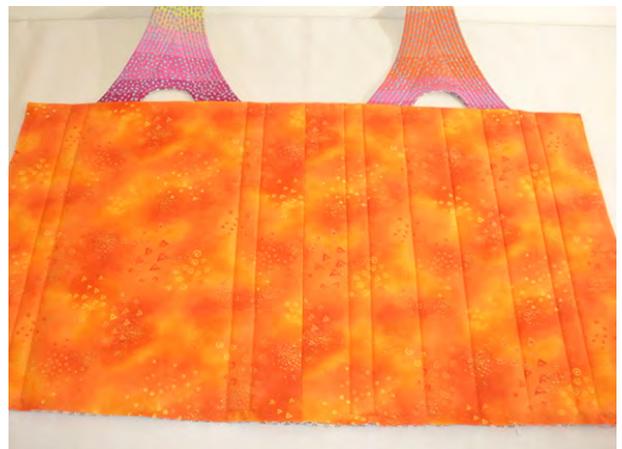
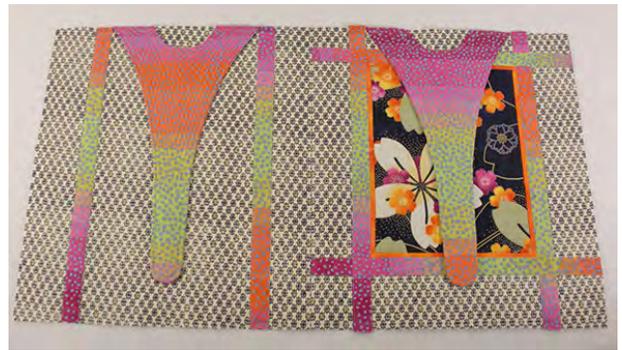
Sew one side seam of tote and tote lining using a 1/2" seam allowance. Press seam allowances in the same direction.

Pin the straps to the top edge of the tote, right sides of fabric together, edges aligned, using accent strips to position in the center of the tote top edge. Baste strap edges using a 3/8" seam allowance.

Pin lining to tote top edge, right sides together, matching side seams (so the side seams lay in opposite directions), with edges aligned. Sew using a 1/2" seam allowance from edge to edge. Sew seam again to strengthen top edge using a 3/8" seam allowance. Turn right sides out and press top edge flat.

Place tote out flat, right side up. Align the edges of the tote and lining, matching the side seams at the bottom of the tote. Pin through all layers on each side of the accent strip on the tote back. Topstitch in-the-ditch (next to fold of accent strip) the entire length of the accent strip on both sides of the strip. Repeat this procedure with the vertical accent strips on tote front. See photo of tote from the lining side to show the lines of quilting.

NOTE: Additional lines of quilting may be sewn on tote back as shown in photo.



Tote Front

Tote Back

Pin the remaining side seam of the tote right sides together. Leave the lining loose. Stitch using a 1/2" seam allowance from the bottom edge to 1" beyond the top edge seam line. Backstitch at start and stop to lock stitches.



Pin one side seam of lining to the seam sewn in the previous step with wrong sides of the fabric together. Sew along the same seam line to attach the lining to the bag side seam. Sew from the bottom to within two inches of the tote top edge. Press under a 1/2" on the remaining lining edge.



Tear a strip of Wonder-Web® Tape the length of the side seam. Place the strip of Wonder-Web® Tape between the layers of the seam allowance. Cover with a pressing cloth and fuse according to manufacturer's instructions.



With the tote inside out, pin the bottom edge together, aligning the accent strips. Sew using a 1/2" seam allowance, beginning stitching at the outer edge of accent strip and ending stitching at opposite outer edge of accent strip. Sew a second row of stitching using a 3/8" seam allowance to reinforce the bottom. Trim loose threads from fabric in seam allowance and zigzag to finish.



Push the lining side seam line to the end of the seam just completed, forming a 'T'. Pin and sew 1/2" seam allowance on each side of the 'T'. Repeat with the remaining side. Stitch with a zigzag to finish.



Turn tote right side out. Topstitch opening 3/8" from the edge.

Measure 5" from the rounded end on one strap and place a mark. Overlap the rounded end of the other strap to that mark. Pin in two or three places. Topstitch just inside the edge of the strap from the midpoint of the overlap, along the rounded end, and back to the midpoint of the overlap. Flip the strap over and repeat. From the top side of the strap layers, topstitch 1/2" from the edge around the entire double overlap to secure.

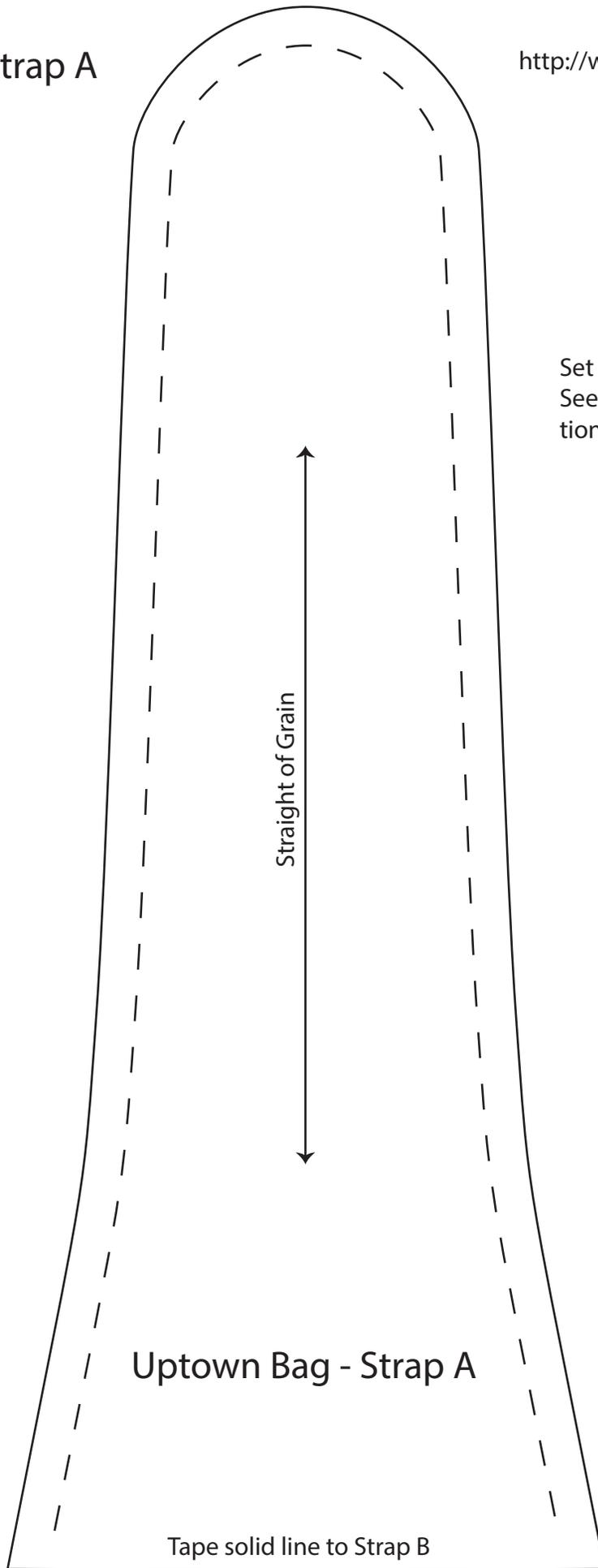
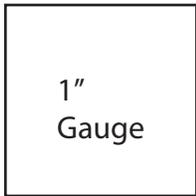


NOTE: Adjust the length of the overlap to your preference before stitching.

Uptown Bag - Strap A

<http://www.pellonprojects.com>

Set printer to 100%. Check gauge.
See instructions for printing directions.



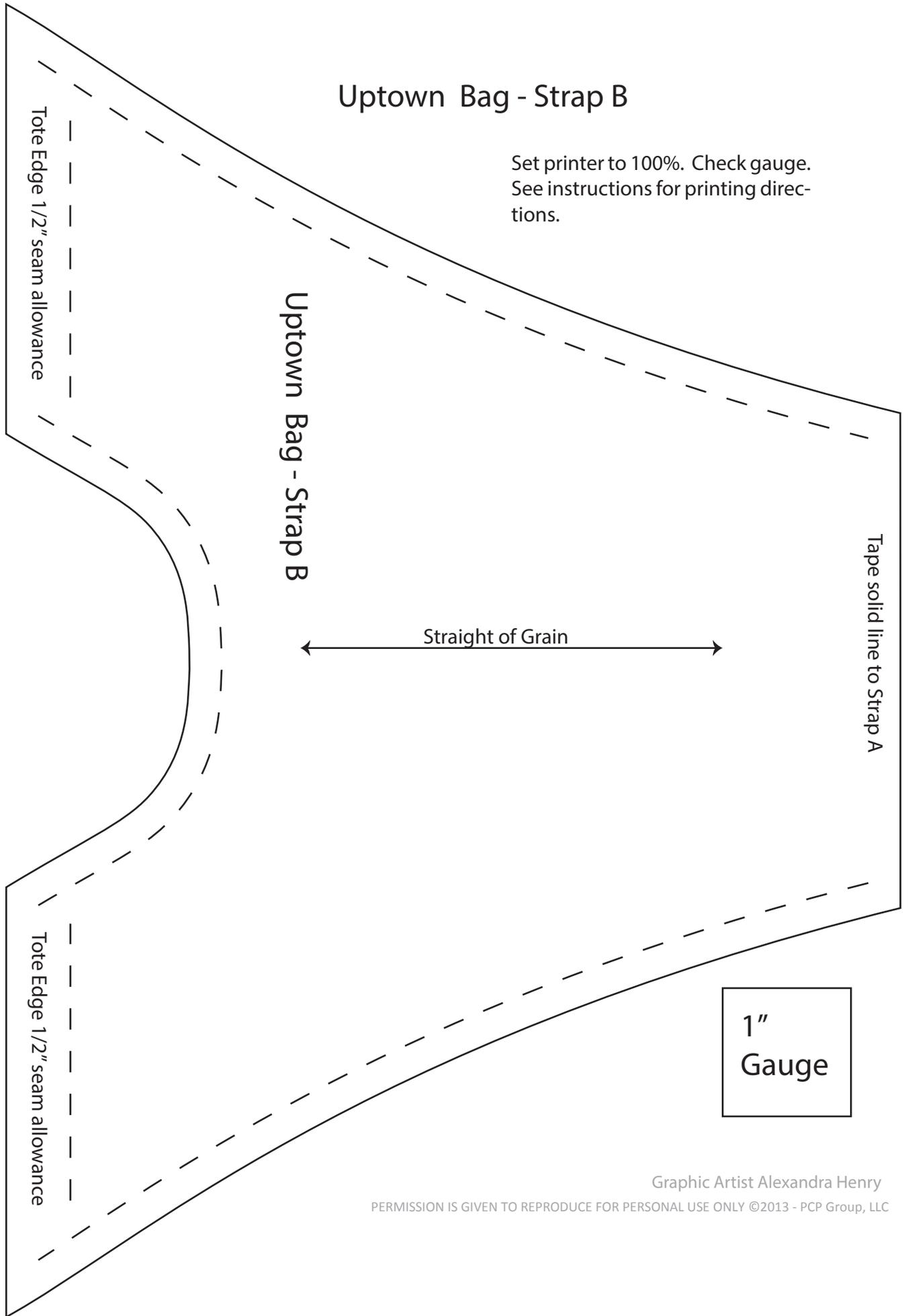
Uptown Bag - Strap A

Tape solid line to Strap B

Graphic Artist Alexandra Henry

Uptown Bag - Strap B

Set printer to 100%. Check gauge.
See instructions for printing directions.



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