

Designed by Lynn Browne  
Nicey Jane laminated fabric designed by  
Heather Bailey for FreeSpirit

# Shopping Bag Trio

### BEGINNER/INTERMEDIATE

**Finished Size:** Mini—5" wide x 6" high x 4" deep  
Medium—9" wide x 7" high x 6" deep  
Large—11" wide x 12" high x 8" deep



### MATERIALS

**Note:** Yardage is based on 54"/55" wide useable fabric from *FreeSpirit's* Nicey Jane laminated collection.

- ▶ 1/2 yd. blue leaf (#OCHB02, for mini bag)
- ▶ 5/8 yd. multi stripe (#OCHB01, for medium bag)
- ▶ 7/8 yd. cream print (#OCHB04, for large bag)
- ▶ *Coats* Dual Duty XP general purpose thread in colors to match fabrics
- ▶ One 4" x 5" piece of cardboard (for mini bag)
- ▶ One 6" x 9" piece of cardboard (for medium bag)
- ▶ One 8½" x 11½" piece of cardboard (for large bag)
- ▶ Paper clips
- ▶ Sewing machine with Teflon coated presser foot and a 12 or 14 sharp needle
- ▶ Basic sewing and rotary cutting supplies

### CUTTING

**Note:** Cut two of each body, band, and strap piece. Only one bottom insert piece is required.

Pattern Piece	Mini (blue leaf)	Medium (multi stripe)	Large (cream print)
<b>Body</b>	9" x 10"	11½" x 16"	18" x 20"
<b>Band</b>	2½" x 10"	2½" x 16"	2½" x 20"
<b>Straps</b>	3" x 10"	3" x 20"	3" x 20"
<b>Bottom insert</b>	4" x 5"	6" x 9"	8½" x 11½"

### DIRECTIONS

**Note:** Use a ½" seam allowance throughout unless otherwise indicated. Measurements are provided for the mini bag. Measurements for the medium and large bags, respectively, are provided in parentheses. Laminated fabric does not fray; therefore, it is not necessary to finish the raw edges.

**1. Body.** Following **Diagram 1**, cut a 2" (2½", 4") square from each bottom corner of the 9" x 10" pieces. Place each body piece right sides together and, referring to **Diagram 2a**, use a ½" seam allowance to stitch along the bottom. Finger press the seam open, then topstitch ¼" on each side of the seam. In the same manner, follow **Diagram 2b** and sew each side seam, finger press open, and topstitch. With right sides still together, open and match each end of the bottom seam to each side seam, then stitch closed, using a ½" seam allowance. Zigzag stitch in the seam allowance to finish the seam. (This forms a boxed bottom when turned right side out.)



Diagram 1



Diagram 2a

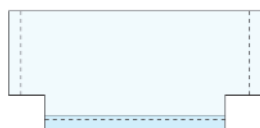


Diagram 2b

**2. Straps.** Fold one side of a 3" x 10" (3" x 20") piece over 1" with wrong sides together along the length of the strap as shown in **Diagram 3**. Fold the other long side up over the first so that it overlaps, making a 1" wide strap. Hold in place with paper clips (pins will leave holes) and topstitch ¼" in from the raw edge. Repeat for the other strap.

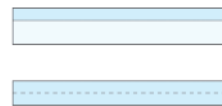


Diagram 3

**3.** Referring to **Diagram 4**, measure and mark 3" (5", 6") away from each side of the side seam along the top of the bag (there should be 4 marks). Position the ends of the straps on the marks with ½" extending beyond the top raw edge on the right side of the bag. Baste in place.

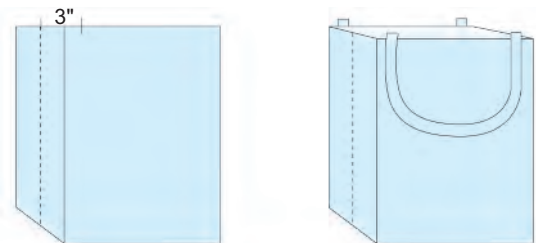


Diagram 4

**4. Band.** With right sides together, use a ½" seam allowance to sew the short ends of both 2½" x 10" (2½" x 16", 2½" x 20") pieces together to make a loop. Finger press the seams open. Again with right sides together and side seams matching, align the raw edge of the loop with the raw edge of the top of the bag as shown in **Diagram 5**. Stitch all the way around the top edge, using a ½" seam allowance. Turn the band to the inside of the

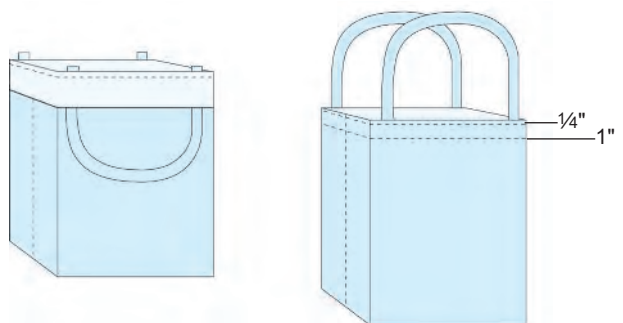
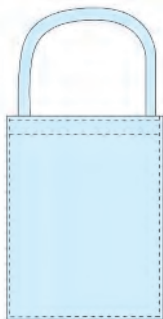


Diagram 5

bag and topstitch  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the top edge of the bag all the way around, then sew again, 1" away from the top of the bag all the way around.

**5.** To create an edge and give definition to the bag, measure and mark 2" away from one side of a side seam at two different spots. Finger press, wrong sides together, the length of the bag as shown in the photo. Stitch  $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from the folded edge, starting at the top of the bag to the bottom. Repeat on each of the other three sides, then along the bottom edges as shown in **Diagram 6**.



**Diagram 6**



**6.** *Bottom insert.* Place the 4" x 5" (6" x 9", 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") piece wrong side down on the 4" x 5" (6" x 9", 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") cardboard piece and, using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " allowance, sew around all four sides through the cardboard. Place cardboard side down in the bottom of the bag.