

Sunset Safari Tote



Finished Size: 10" x 6" x approximately 16"



25713-B ¼ yard



25698-RB 1 yard



25712-R 1 yard



25712-S 1¼ yard



25712-G ½ yard

Name: Sunset Safari Tote

Skill Level: Easy Piecing with sewing skills

Designed by: Peggy Smith Welchert

Finished Size: 10" x 6" x approximately 16"

Seam Allowance: ¼" or as indicated

Press carefully as directed in each step.

Back stitch at the start and finish off each seam.

Fabric:

25698RB (animal border print) - 1 yard

25712R (red) - 1 yard

25712S (gold) - 1 yard

25712G (green) - ½ yard

25713B (blue) - ¼ yard

Additional supplies:

Batting (a thin stable cotton or cotton/polyester blend)

- 1 piece 7½" x 33", 1 piece 17" x 33"

1 package 54" boot strings (long sturdy shoelaces)

Cutting:

25698RB (animal border print) – cut 1 piece 7½" x 33" centering alligators and large animals

25712S (gold) - cut 1 strip 1½" x width of fabric, 1 piece 15" x 32½", 1 piece 9½" x 33",

1 piece 6½" x width of fabric.

25712R (red) - 1 piece 22" x 34", 2 pieces 1½" x width of fabric, 2 pieces 2½" x width of fabric.

25712G (green) - 3 pieces 1½" x width of fabric, 1 piece 13" x 32½"

25713B (blue) - 1 piece 6" x 32½"

Piecing Tote Front:

Checkered Panel: Sew together lengthwise 1½" piece of GREEN to a 1½" piece of RED to a 1½" piece of GREEN as in figure 1. Press seams toward the green or open. Cut into 16 red green units, 1½" wide.



Sew together lengthwise a 1½" piece of GOLD to a 1½" piece of RED to a 1½" piece of GREEN as in figure 2. Press seams toward the red or open. Cut into 16 multi-color units 1½" wide.



Sew red green units to multicolor units making a Strip Set Unit as in figure 3. Press away from the gold or open.



Sew a 6" x 32½" of BLUE to the top of the Strip Set Unit. To the bottom sew a 13" x 32½" of GREEN creating a unit that measures 21½" x 32½". Press toward the non pieced fabrics, Tote Front.

Machine Quilt the Tote Front: Layer the RED 22" x 34" fabric piece, wrong side up on the table. Place the 17" x 33" piece of batting on top, aligning the 22" edge and centering the 34" width.

Place the Tote Front, right side up on top of the batting. The BLUE fabric will be lying directly on top of the RED fabric; there will be no batting in the middle. Baste the sandwich together using pins, thread or spray adhesive. Top Stitch in a Cross Hatching Pattern, using the diagonal of the squares, as a guide from the top of the Strip Set Unit to the bottom of the GREEN fabric. Baste the raw edges of the blue fabric to the red fabric. Trim the left and right sides of the Tote Front to match the Strip Set Unit. Place a basting stitch through all three layers at the intersection of the Strip Set Unit and the GREEN fabric. This will be used to position the inside pocket.

Pockets: Inside Pocket; using the 15" x 32½" piece of GOLD fabric, fold in half lengthwise matching raw edges, sew a ¼" seam along the 32½" edge only. Press the seam toward one side then turn the tube right side out creating a 7½" x 32½" tube. Top stitch ¼" away from each long folded edge, and then place a second row of top stitching close to one of the folded edges. You will have two top stitch lines on one long edge. On the RED side of the Tote Front, pin the pocket in place, using the basting stitches as a guide line. If the Inside Pocket is wider than the Tote Front, trim the Inside Pocket to the same size as the Tote Front. Stitch close to the 3 outside edges.

Outside Pocket; using the 9½" x 33" of GOLD fabric, wrong side up on table with the remaining batting piece on top. Lay the 7½" x 33" ANIMAL PRINT, right side up on top. The bottom raw edges should be even. Baste the sandwich together. Machine quilt at water level of the print and another following the upper tree lines down the trunks of the trees and back up again. To finish the top long edge of the GOLD fabric, fold the raw edge

down ¼" and press. Turn the edge down again and press. The raw edge of the ANIMAL PRINT should be covered. Stitch close to the top edge and close to the bottom edge of the GOLD fabric. This will create a binding appearance. Trim this piece to the same size as the Tote Unit. Pin the Outside Pocket to the front of the Tote Front at the intersection of the Strip Set Unit and the GREEN fabric. Stitch close to the 3 outside raw edges.

Using the squares of the Strip Set Unit as a guide count 6 squares from one edge. Pin, checking to be sure the Inside Pocket is also caught. Stitch a line from the top of the pocket to the bottom of the pocket between the 6th and 7th square. Reinforce the upper edge with a few zigzag stitches or straight stitch a small triangle. Repeat again between the 16th and 17th square and between the 22nd and the 23rd square. You have created the 6" side pockets of the Tote.

Building Tote: Fold and pin the tote in half, with the RED side out, matching the BLUE fabric, Strip Set Unit, Pocket edges and the GREEN fabric. Fold one 2½" x width of fabric, RED fabric in half lengthwise. This will be used to bind the seam. Place raw edges of the binding strip together with raw edges of the Tote. Sew using a ¼" seam. Cut off excess binding. Fold binding over the raw edge and stitch again close to the folded edge; this will enclose the raw edges.

With the RED side out, flatten the Tote so that the 6" pocket stitching lines are on top of each other. The left side pocket of the Tote will be folded in half. The right side pocket will also be folded in half. Mark each side fold with a pin, sew across the Tote Bottom. Bind this seam using the same method as the side seam.

Open the bottom of the Tote; flatten the edge of a 6" side pocket keeping the Tote Bottom seam in the middle, matched with the side fold pin. Using the edge of the GOLD fabric as your guideline, sew a stitch line, this will form a triangle. Repeat with the opposite side pocket. Cut off the excess triangle shape fabric, leaving a ¼" seam allowance. Bind this seam using the same method as above, but leave a little bit of fabric overhang at each end. Fold this fabric overhang in towards the middle before you sew your final binding seam. This will help cover all the raw edges.

Create Top Casing: Using the 6½" x width of fabric, GOLD fabric. Subcut this piece into two pieces that are each 17" long (save the leftovers for the cushions

on the drawstrings). With right sides together, using a ½" seam allowance, sew each short end 2½", skip 1½" and start sewing again. Remember to back stitch at each start and stop. Repeat on opposite side. This will create a circle with a two slits, to feed the drawstring through. Now is the time to make sure that the circle is the same size as the top of the Tote bag. If not, make adjustments to the Top Casing. Press seams open. Fold the circle in half lengthwise with wrong sides together and press. You will have 2 slits on the folded edge of the fabric. This is where you skipped stitching for 1½". Pin the raw edge of the Top Casing to the outside, top raw edge of the Tote, arranging the slits in the center front and back of the Tote. This is where your drawstrings will be positioned. Sew. Press the seam towards the GOLD fabric. Fold 2¾" of the gold fabric to the inside of the Tote. Pin through all layers. One side of the slit fabric should touch the slit fabric next to it. Stitch close to the fold backstitching over the end of each slit. Stitch a second row of stitching at the top of the slits, backstitching over the slits. This creates a small casing hole for the drawstrings.

Take one boot string and feed it through one of the slit opening in the Top Casing. Come out in the same slit opening that you start. Repeat using the other boot string and feeding it through the opposite slit opening. You will have a string hanging out of each slit opening. Set aside.

Drawstring Cushion: Cut the leftover piece of GOLD fabric from Top Casing, in half. Fold one piece in half lengthwise, right sides together and sew the long edge as well as one short end. Turn right side out and lightly stuff with batting. On the open end, turn a ¼" of fabric to the inside and hand stitch opening closed. Repeat with the second piece of fabric. You will have 2 mini cushions.

Put one cushion on top of the other and stitch the long edges together. Feed the strings from one side of the tote through the opening of the padded tube just created. Tie strings together with a square knot to the strings from the opposite side. Now is the time to adjust the string length for your personal preference. Hide the knot inside the Drawstring cushion. By pulling on both strings you will close the Tote.

Closures such as snaps, buttons, hook and loop tape or elastic can be added to pockets if desired.

While all possible care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this pattern, we are not responsible for printing errors or the way in which an individual work varies.