

Fabric Basket with Handles

Step-by-Step Tutorial

Cute • Useful • Easy to Make • Perfect for Gifts! ♥



Sew
Create
Organize
Enjoy!

Finished Size



This basket is perfect for organizing your sewing space, home decor, or as a handmade gift! The measurements can be easily adjusted to make a larger or smaller version. ♥

Materials (U.S. Fabrics)



- 100% cotton fabric (quilting weight)
- 6 different prints for the outer panels (10 cm x 18 cm each)
- 1 fabric for the top binding and handles (25 cm x 10 cm)
- 1 fabric for the lining (40 cm x 25 cm)
- Fusible interfacing or medium stabilizer
- 2 buttons (about 2 cm diameter)
- Coordinating thread
- Basic sewing supplies

Main Sewing Methods

- Straight stitch
- Backstitch (secure seams)
- Topstitch
- Sewing curves
- Turning and pressing
- Quilting/edge stitching
- Attaching buttons
- Working with interfacing

Step-by-Step Instructions

1 Cut the Pieces



Cut 6 outer panels: 10 cm x 18 cm
Cut 1 lining piece: 40 cm x 25 cm
Cut 2 handle strips: 25 cm x 10 cm
Cut 1 top binding strip: 50 cm x 6 cm
Cut 1 bottom circle: 22 cm diameter
Cut 1 lining circle: 22 cm diameter

2 Prepare the Panels



Arrange the 6 panels in your preferred order. Sew the short sides together, using a 0.7 cm seam allowance, to form a ring.

3 Make the Bottom



Cut a 22 cm diameter circle from exterior fabric and another from interfacing. Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the fabric.

4 Attach the Bottom



Pin the panel ring to the bottom circle, right sides together. Ease the fabric if needed and sew with 0.7 cm seam allowance. Press.

5 Make the Lining



Sew the lining panels (same size as outer panels) and attach to the lining bottom circle. Leave a small opening (5 cm) for turning later.

6 Join Outer and Lining



Place the lining inside the outer basket, right sides together. Pin the top edges and sew around with 0.7 cm seam allowance.

7 Turn and Topstitch



Turn the basket right side out through the opening in the lining. Push the lining inside and press. Topstitch around the top edge.

8 Make the Handles



Fold in half and sew. Turn right side out and press. Topstitch both edges.

9 Attach the Handles



Position the handles on opposite sides, 3 cm from the top edge. Baste in place and sew securely. Add a button for decoration and extra strength.

10 Finish the Lining



Fold the seam allowance of the lining opening inward and hand stitch closed (ladder stitch). Press again and topstitch if desired.

11 Final Touches

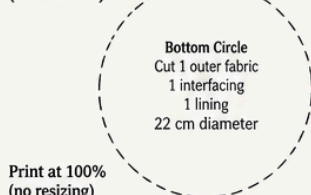


Check all seams, press well, and your beautiful fabric basket with handles is ready!

Handmade baskets make everyday life more beautiful! ♥



Template - Bottom Circle (Actual Size)



Print at 100% (no resizing)

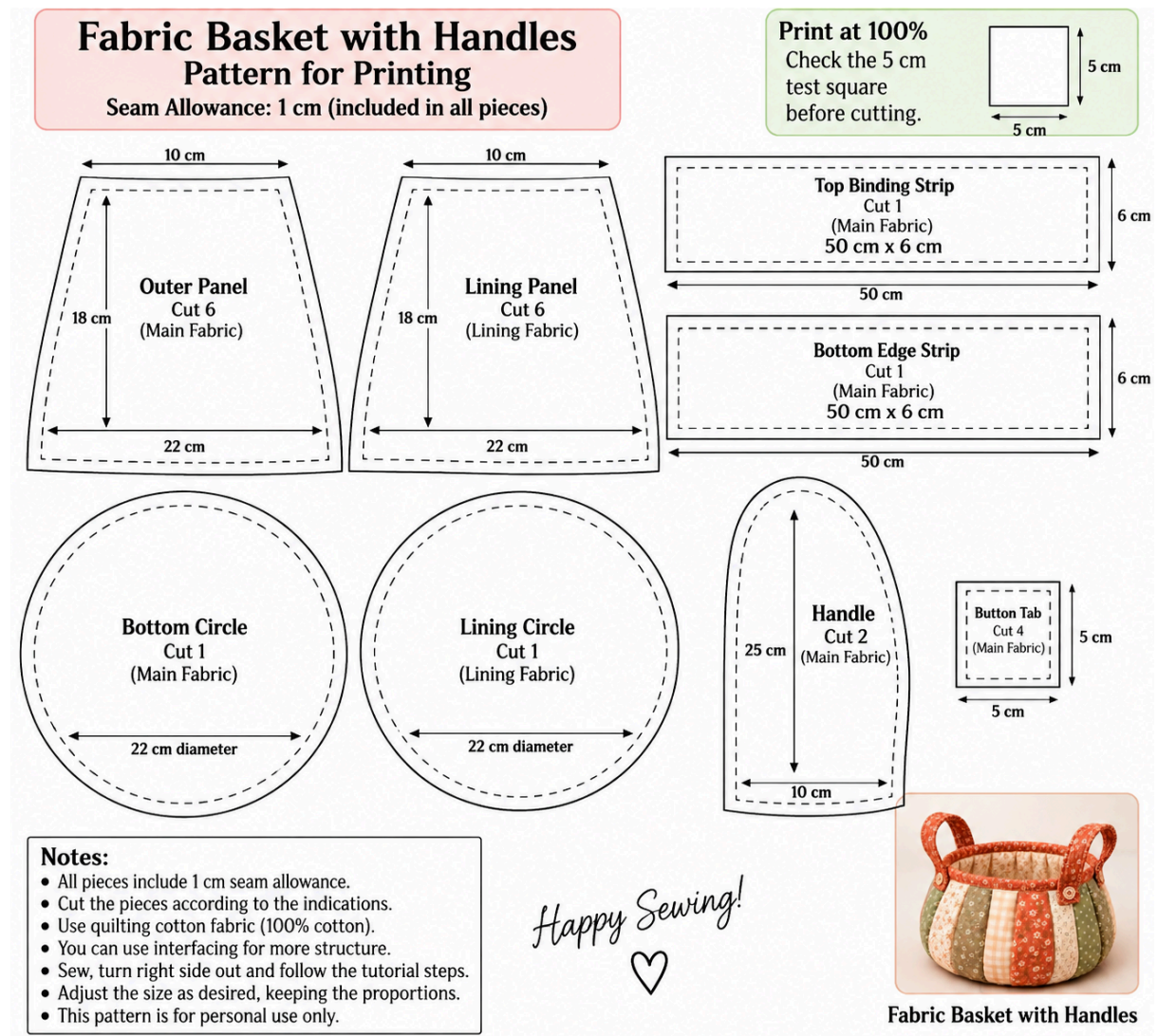
Handle Template (Actual Size)



♥ Tips for Success

- ✓ Use 100% cotton quilting fabric (U.S. brands: Moda, Riley Blake, Robert Kaufman, FreeSpirit).
- ✓ Press your seams at every step.
- ✓ Use interfacing for more structure.
- ✓ Choose coordinating prints for a beautiful look.
- ✓ You can adjust the size by scaling the circle and panel heights.
- ✓ This project is beginner-friendly and makes a wonderful gift!

Happy Sewing! ♥



Fabric Basket with Handles – Complete Step-by-Step Sewing Tutorial

This Fabric Basket with Handles is a practical sewing project that combines patchwork-style cotton prints, a soft structured shape, a coordinating lining, and sturdy fabric handles. Based on the tutorial graphic, the finished basket is approximately 22 cm wide × 12 cm high, with the upper opening measuring about 18 cm across.

The project works especially well with 100% quilting-weight cotton, a fabric widely available in U.S. quilt and sewing shops.

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The different floral, gingham, and small-print fabrics give the basket its charming patchwork appearance, while fusible interfacing or medium stabilizer helps it maintain its rounded shape.

This tutorial follows the construction shown in the graphic from beginning to end. Measurements are kept in centimeters (cm) for consistency with the pattern. Read through the entire tutorial before cutting your fabric, especially because curved construction can require small adjustments while pinning.

Step 1 – Gather the Materials and Cut the Fabric

Start by choosing six coordinating 100% cotton quilting fabrics for the outside of the basket. Small florals, gingham, dots, and subtle country-style prints work especially well because each print will be visible in a relatively narrow panel.

For the basic project shown in the graphic, prepare:

- 6 outer fabric panels: approximately 10 cm × 18 cm each
- Lining fabric: approximately 40 cm × 25 cm
- 2 handle strips: approximately 25 cm × 10 cm each
- 1 top binding strip: approximately 50 cm × 6 cm
- 1 outer bottom circle: approximately 22 cm diameter
- 1 lining bottom circle: approximately 22 cm diameter
- Fusible interfacing or medium stabilizer
- 2 decorative buttons: approximately 2 cm diameter
- Coordinating all-purpose sewing thread
- Sewing machine
- Fabric scissors or rotary cutter
- Cutting mat
- Quilting ruler
- Straight pins or sewing clips
- Iron and ironing board
- Hand-sewing needle

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For a result closest to the photograph, select fabrics in rust, sage green, cream, beige, and muted floral tones. Alternate the prints around the basket rather than placing two similar fabrics next to one another.

Before cutting, pre-press all fabrics. Remove wrinkles without stretching the cotton. Accurate cutting is especially important because the six outer sections need to join evenly around the circumference of the basket.

If you are using interfacing, cut corresponding pieces according to the areas where you want additional structure. A medium-weight fusible interfacing is a good starting point for a basket that needs to remain soft enough to curve but firm enough to stand upright.

Step 2 – Prepare and Sew the Six Outer Panels

Arrange the six exterior panels on your work surface in the order you want them to appear around the basket. This is the best time to experiment with the color sequence.

The tutorial graphic uses approximately 10 cm × 18 cm pieces as the starting point. The finished basket, however, has a rounded body, so the panels should form the gently shaped sections shown in the pattern rather than remaining simple rectangles.

Place the first two panels right sides together. Align the corresponding side edges and pin or clip them carefully.

Sew the seam using approximately a 0.7 cm seam allowance, as indicated in the tutorial graphic. Backstitch at the beginning and end of the seam to prevent it from opening.

Add the remaining panels one at a time. Continue until all six sections form one continuous outer panel. Press each seam

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carefully as you work. Depending on the thickness of your interfacing, the seams may be pressed open or consistently toward one side.

Finally, bring the two free ends of the assembled panel together, right sides facing, and sew them to create a complete fabric ring. Check that the prints are evenly distributed before making this final seam.

Step 3 – Create the Structured Bottom

The graphic uses a 22 cm diameter circle for the bottom. Cut one circle from the exterior fabric and another corresponding piece of interfacing.

If you want the basket to hold heavier sewing supplies, consider using a slightly firmer stabilizer on the bottom than on the side panels. Avoid making it excessively rigid, however, because the bottom still needs to be sewn comfortably around a curved seam.

Following the manufacturer's directions, fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the exterior bottom circle. Usually this involves positioning the adhesive side against the fabric and pressing rather than sliding the iron.

Mark the circle into quarters. Fold it in half and lightly mark the two opposite points, then fold it in the other direction and mark the remaining two quarter points.

Do the same with the bottom edge of the exterior basket ring. These matching quarter marks make attaching a circular base considerably easier.

Before sewing, check that the bottom circumference and the lower edge of the basket body can be distributed evenly. Slight easing is normal when sewing curved pieces.

Step 4 – Attach the Bottom to the Outer Basket

Turn the outer basket body wrong side out. Position the exterior bottom circle against the lower opening with right sides together.

Match the quarter marks first. Pin or clip those four positions, then gradually distribute the remaining fabric between them.

Use plenty of clips or pins around the curve. Avoid pulling the fabric aggressively because stretching one area can create puckers elsewhere.

Sew slowly around the circle with approximately a 0.7 cm seam allowance, following the construction shown in the graphic. Keep the raw edges aligned as you sew.

When working around the curve, stop periodically with the needle down, lift the presser foot if necessary, and gently reposition the fabric. This gives you better control than trying to force the circle through the machine continuously.

After sewing, inspect the entire seam. If you see a tuck or fold caught in the stitching, correct it now. Once satisfied, press the seam carefully to establish the rounded base.

Step 5 – Construct the Fabric Lining

The lining is made using the same general construction principle as the exterior. Prepare the lining panels in the same size and shape as the corresponding outer pieces.

Place two lining panels right sides together and sew along the side seam. Continue joining the sections until the lining body is complete.

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Press the lining seams neatly. Because the inside of the basket remains visible, careful pressing makes a significant difference to the finished appearance.

Cut the 22 cm lining bottom circle and mark it into quarters just as you did with the exterior circle.

Attach the lining circle to the lower edge of the lining body, matching the quarter points and easing the fabric evenly around the curve.

The graphic specifies leaving an approximately 5 cm opening in the lining. This opening is important because the basket will later be turned right side out through it. Backstitch securely on both sides of the opening.

Step 6 – Join the Outer Basket and Lining

Turn the outer basket so that its right side faces outward. Keep the lining positioned so that the correct sides will face each other when the pieces are nested.

Place the lining and exterior together according to the graphic, matching their upper edges.

Align the important seam positions around the opening. Pin or clip the layers together carefully so the lining does not twist inside the exterior shell.

Sew around the upper edge with approximately a 0.7 cm seam allowance. Maintain an even seam around the entire circumference.

Before turning, inspect the seam and make sure no unwanted folds have been caught in the stitching.

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The basket will initially look somewhat compressed or inside out. This is expected—the next step transforms the sewn layers into the finished form.

Step 7 – Turn, Shape, and Topstitch the Basket

Locate the 5 cm opening left in the lining.

Carefully pull the exterior basket through this opening. Work gradually rather than forcing the entire basket through at once.

Once the basket is right side out, push the lining into the interior and gently shape the bottom and curved side panels with your fingers.

Press the top edge carefully. A good pressing creates a crisp opening and helps the lining sit slightly inside the exterior rather than rolling outward.

The original design features a contrasting rust-colored upper edge. Position and finish the top binding strip so that the raw upper edge is neatly enclosed, following the appearance of the reference basket.

Topstitch around the upper edge. Keep the stitching consistent and close to the finished edge. This provides both decoration and additional stability.

Step 8 – Sew the Two Fabric Handles

Cut two handle strips measuring approximately 25 cm × 10 cm from the coordinating fabric.

For handles that retain their shape, apply lightweight or medium interfacing to the wrong side before construction.

Fold each strip lengthwise in half, right sides together, and press lightly to establish the center.

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Sew along the required long edge to create the handle tube. Turn the handle right side out. A loop turner, safety pin, or blunt turning tool can make this easier.

Roll the seam toward the underside and press the handle flat. Make sure both handles finish at the same width and length.

Topstitch along both long edges. Besides creating a professional finish, edge topstitching helps prevent the handles from twisting during use.

Step 9 – Position and Attach the Handles

Position the handles on opposite sides of the basket. According to the graphic, their attachment points should sit approximately 3 cm below the upper edge.

Before sewing, check the basket from the front and sides. Both handles should have approximately the same height, angle, and distance from the neighboring panel seams.

Pin or baste the handle ends in position.

Sew the handles securely to the basket. Because these areas receive repeated pulling, reinforce the attachment with additional stitching where appropriate.

The reference design includes a small fabric extension or tab at each attachment point. Recreating this detail gives the handles a polished, handcrafted appearance.

Finally, sew a decorative button over the attachment area. The buttons in the original design are approximately 2 cm in diameter and coordinate with the warm country-style fabrics.

Step 10 – Close and Finish the Lining

Return to the 5 cm turning opening in the lining.

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Fold the raw seam allowances inward so that the folded edges align with the original seam line. Press them flat.

Close the opening using a ladder stitch for a nearly invisible hand-sewn finish. Small, evenly spaced stitches will produce the cleanest result.

Alternatively, the opening can be closed with a narrow machine edge stitch if appearance is less important than speed.

Push the lining fully into the basket and smooth it against the interior walls and bottom.

Press the basket again, paying special attention to the lining and upper rim. The lining should fit naturally inside without excessive bunching.

Step 11 – Final Pressing and Finishing Touches ✨

Inspect every seam before considering the project finished. Look at the exterior panel seams, bottom attachment, upper binding, handles, buttons, and lining.

Trim any visible loose threads.

Shape the basket by hand, encouraging the six exterior panels to form the soft, rounded silhouette seen in the tutorial graphic.

Give the basket a final careful pressing. Use a pressing cloth if necessary, particularly when working over interfacing or stabilizer.

Check that both handles stand evenly. If one leans differently, gently reshape and press it.

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Your Fabric Basket with Handles is now complete. The finished project should measure approximately 22 cm across the widest portion, 12 cm high at the body, and around 18 cm across the upper opening, although small variations are normal in handmade sewing.

Main Sewing Methods Used in This Project

Several basic sewing techniques are combined in this basket. Straight stitching is used for most construction seams, while backstitching secures important seam beginnings and endings.

Topstitching appears around the upper edge and handles. Keep your topstitching distance consistent because these stitches remain visible.

The circular base requires curved sewing. The key is accurate quarter-marking, generous pinning or clipping, and slow machine stitching.

Turning and pressing are equally important. Pressing is not merely a finishing step; it should be performed throughout construction to establish seams and improve accuracy.

Interfacing provides structure without eliminating the soft fabric appearance. Choose a stabilizer appropriate for the weight of your quilting cotton.

Finally, securely attaching the decorative buttons creates the characteristic finishing detail shown in the original basket.

Tips for the Best Results

Use 100% quilting-weight cotton for predictable cutting, pressing, and sewing. Fabrics commonly sold for patchwork and quilting in the U.S. are ideal for this project.

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Press every seam as you complete it rather than waiting until the end. Accurate pressing helps the individual panels form the basket's rounded profile.

If you want a more structured basket, increase the stabilizer slightly rather than simply using very heavy exterior fabric.

Choose coordinating prints with enough contrast that the individual panels remain visible. Combining small florals, checks, dots, and subtle botanical prints gives the basket its distinctive patchwork appearance.

When attaching the circular bottom, do not stretch the fabric to make it fit. Match quarter points and distribute any fullness gradually.

The dimensions can also be adjusted to create a larger or smaller basket, but keep the proportions of the panels, base, lining, binding, and handles consistent.

This finished Fabric Basket with Handles can be used for sewing notions, fabric scraps, yarn, craft supplies, small household items, or handmade gifts. The same construction can also be repeated in seasonal fabrics to create baskets for different occasions throughout the year.