



<b>Technique:</b>	Sewing
<b>Designed By:</b>	Linda Turner Griepentrog
<b>Skill Level:</b>	Intermediate
<b>Crafting Time:</b>	Weekend

With homage to the East, this multi-color linen tote is roomy enough for a laptop or tablet and the foam stabilizer helps protect any contents as well. Hand stitching with bold thread accents the appliquéd design motifs and creates a secondary patterning on its own.

**Finished Size of Project:** 12½" x 15½" (31.75 cm x 39.4 cm), excluding handles

### Supplies

- ½ yd (.46 m) ecru linen for tote body
- ½ yd (.46 m) cotton lining
- ¼ yd (.23 m) caramel linen for accent
- ¼ yd (.23 m) cinnamon linen for accent
- ¼ yd (.23 m) chocolate stripe linen for accent
- ¾ yd (.69 m) foam stabilizer, 20" wide
- 1 pair 16" (40.6 cm) faux leather rolled handles
- Coordinating colors of Dual Duty XP® All-purpose, Bold Hand Quilting
- 1 old Chinese coin (or replica)

## Cutting

### From the ecru linen, cut:

2 rectangles, 13" x 16" (33 cm x 40.6 cm)

### From the cotton lining, cut:

2 rectangles, 13" x 16" (33 cm x 40.6 cm)

### From the caramel linen, cut:

1 rectangle, 7" x 3½" (17.8 cm x 8.9 cm)

### From the cinnamon linen, cut:

1 rectangle, 7" x 3½" (17.8 cm x 8.9 cm)

### From the chocolate stripe linen, cut:

1 triangle appliqué using pattern provided

### From the foam stabilizer, cut:

2 rectangles, 13" x 16" (33 cm x 40.6 cm)

**TIP:** Linen is naturally wrinkly, so if you prefer a flatter finish, fuse lightweight interfacing to the underside of the pieces before construction.

## Preparing the Tote Front

1. Baste one foam rectangle to the wrong side of each ecru linen rectangle around all edges.
2. Position the chocolate stripe linen rectangle over one ecru rectangle, matching lower and side edges. Carefully turn under ¼" (.6 cm) along the slanted edge. Hand stitch the turned edge in place and baste the remaining edges to the ecru linen.

3. Press under all edges ¼" (.6 cm) on the caramel and cinnamon linen rectangles. Following the tote photo, position them on the tote front. The long edge of the caramel rectangle is 2" (5.1 cm) from the left side and ¾" (8.3 cm) from the lower tote edge. The cinnamon rectangle long edge is 2 ½" (6.4 cm) from the lower tote edge. Hand stitch all the edges in place.
4. Using a double strand of contrasting Bold Quilting thread, hand sew areas of big stitches as shown in the photo. Don't worry about exact spacing as the look should be primitive. Embellish the lower corner of the caramel and cinnamon rectangles, and overlay the cinnamon rectangle with big stitching extending onto the ecru linen.
5. Stitch the Chinese coin above the large patch of big stitches.

## Preparing the Tote Back

1. Mark three diagonal lines 2" (5.1 cm) apart across the remaining ecru linen rectangle. Using a double strand of contrasting Bold Quilting, big stitch along the lines to secure the linen to the foam.

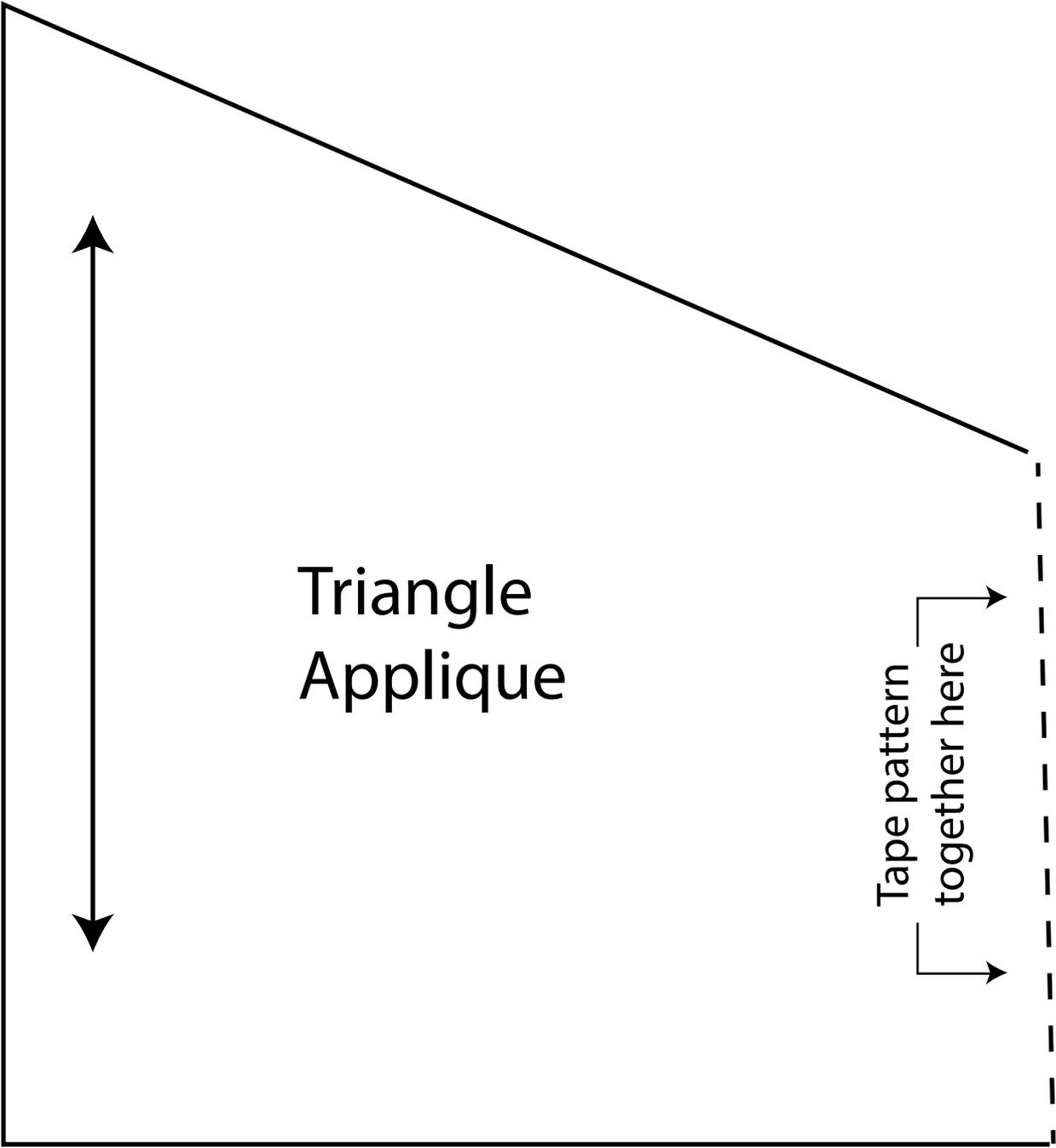
## Assembling the Tote

**Note:** Seam allowance is ¼ (.6 cm).

1. Place the tote front and back right sides together. Sew the side and lower seams. Press seams open.
2. Turn the tote right side out and gently poke out the lower corners.
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 for the lining rectangles, leaving a 4" (10.2 cm) opening in the lower edge for turning. Do not turn the lining right side out.
4. Pin the tote and lining right sides together. Sew around the upper edge. Turn the tote right side out through the lining opening. Stitch the opening closed.
5. Press the upper edge seam, rolling the lining slightly to the inside. Topstitch ¼ (.6 cm) from the edge.

## Finishing the Tote

1. Following the manufacturer's instructions, hand stitch the handles in place using a double strand of Bold Quilting thread.  
**Note:** Most handles have pre-punched holes for stitch spacing.  
**TIP:** Double stitch the handles for a stronger attachment.



Triangle  
Applique

Tape pattern  
together here

