

Sally's Grocery Totes
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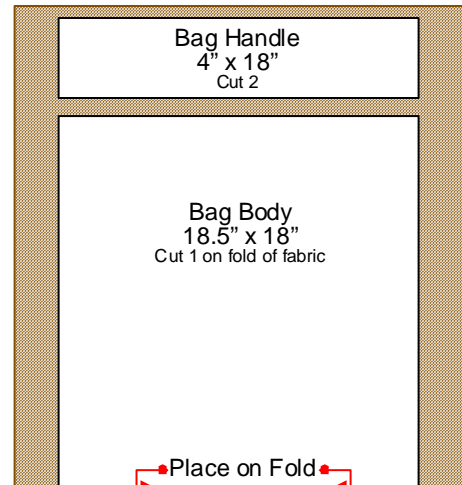
Designed from a large brown paper grocery sack, the bags are large enough to hold and carry two large boxes of cereal.

Pattern Layout

The finished bags measure:

- ✂ 14 inches tall
- ✂ 10 inches wide on front and back
- ✂ 7 inches wide on a side
- ✂ handles are 16 inches long by 1 inch wide

Fabric required: 5/8 yd. by 48" wide



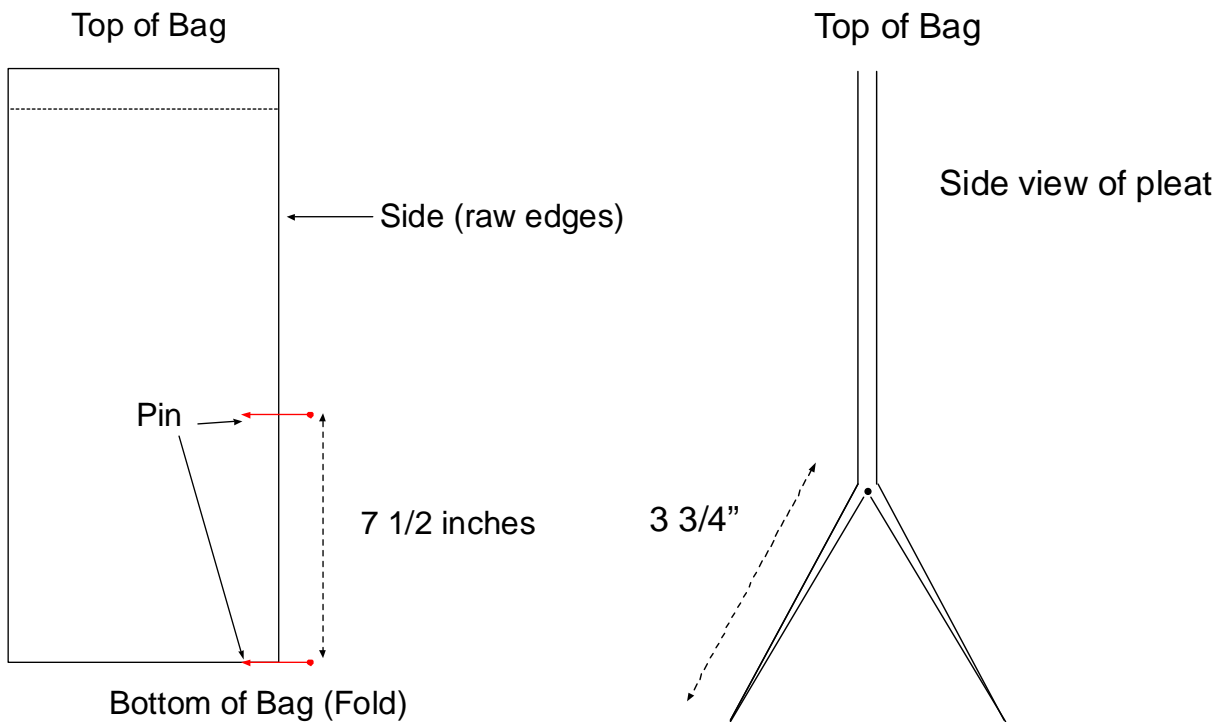
I had denim that was 48 or 52 inches wide. I cut one rectangle about 37" by 18" and each handle was cut 4" by 18". I had 1 inch hems on the top and 3/8" or 1/2" side seams.

I used the wrong side of the fabric for the handles so it appears different. The handles were folded in half, then the long sides were folded to the press line. I top-stitched each long side of the handles, 1/8 inch from the folded edges. The handles are centered on the top of each side of the bag. There is 4 inch spread between the inside edges of the handles. They were topped-stitched on when the hem was formed and then reinforced with zigzagging. I squared the bottom of the bags by forming a triangle, meeting the side seams to the fold in the bottom of the bag. The base of that triangle is 7 inches. (See alternate method to form pleated box bottom on next page.)

See the pictures below of a finished tote. Inside is a **Costco** box of oatmeal that is the size of two large **Cheerios** boxes.



To box bottom of bag by pleating, fold bag body in half, right sides together, matching hemmed edges and raw edges.



Pin raw edges together. Place a pin 7 1/2 inches from the fold (pin should hold both sides/raw edges together). Place another pin on the fold (bottom of the bag). Bring pin at bottom edge up to pin that is marking the 7 1/2 point to form a pleat. Pin the four layers of fabric in place and stitch side seam. Be sure to secure seam with backstitching.

