

## Rags to Bags

**Objective:** 'Rags to Bags' (R2B) is a committee sponsored by Sustainable Tallahassee. Sustainable Tallahassee promotes environmental stewardship and economic vitality in our community through education and collaboration. The objective of R2B is to raise awareness of the importance of using reusable bags rather than plastic bags when shopping. To that end, they make and give away cloth bags using donated and repurposed materials.

Their suggested design below is very simple. Dimensions do not have to be exactly as specified. This is an ongoing project.

Completed bags can be turned in at guild monthly meetings.

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## Rags to Bags reusable fabric shopping bags

Materials – a wide variety of washable fabric types can be used although heavier weight cottons are ideal. Do not use very light weight or stretchy fabrics. Sizes of the fabric pieces do not have to be exactly as specified.

### Cutting

Bag Body: 18" x 36" (suggested size)

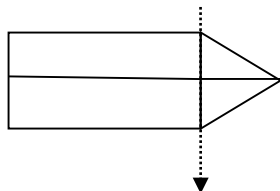
Handles: 6 strips each 2.5" x 40-45" (suggested size)

'Rags to Bags' tag (provided)

### Construction

Fold bag body fabric, right sides together, to make an 18" square. With fold side as bottom, stitch or serge sides.

Make box corners. Match each side seam with the bottom fold to form triangles. Measure 3 inches from the point and draw a line perpendicular to (across) the side seam. Stitch/serge along this line. Trim off points leaving ½" seam allowance



Finish top edge by serging or folding under ¼" and stitching.  
Fold down 1" on top edge.

Make handles by braiding 3 strips together. Baste or pin ends.

Attach handles to inside of bag, looping each 5" from side seam. Top stitch around the top of the bag and around the bottom of the 1" fold down.