

SINGER® PROJECTS

Picnic Blanket Tote Bag



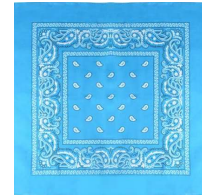
Is this quilted picnic blanket made from bandanas and denim a picnic blanket or a tote? Well it's both, it folds up into a handy tote to carry some of your picnic supplies and then unfolds to create a blanket for you to use to enjoy your picnic.

PROJECT SKILL LEVEL: ■ ■ □ □

Shopping List

Everything you need to complete this project in one place. Use this convenient checklist to ensure you have all required materials in your sewing room, or take it with you while you shop for supplies.

- o 10 Cotton Bandanas for Blanket and Tote
- o Assorted pieces of Denim for Borders
- o 2¾ yards x 60" Lightweight Denim for Backing, Tote, Handle, Ties and Binding
- o 60" x 60" Cotton Batting
- o 5¾ yard x 21" Fusible Medium Weight Interfacing
- o SINGER® Universal Sewing Machine Needle, Size 80/12
- o SINGER® Quilting Sewing Machine Needle, Size 90/14
- o SINGER® Patchwork™ 7285Q Sewing and Quilting Machine
- o Extension Table
- o SINGER® ¼" Foot
- o SINGER® Even Feed / Walking Foot
- o SINGER® Satin Stitch Foot
- o SINGER® Side Cutter Attachment
- o 50wt Cotton Sewing Thread
- o Rotary Cutter and Mat
- o 6" x 24" Ruler
- o 21½" Square Ruler
- o SINGER® SteamCraft Iron
- o SINGER® Intelligent Steam Press (optional)
- o SINGER® Ironing and Crafting Station (optional)



- o Chalk Marker
- o Screwdriver
- o Pins
- o Safety Pins
- o Scissors

Cutting Instructions

Lightweight Denim

- o 1(60" x 60") Backing
- o 1(21" x 21") Tote
- o 1(4" x 30") Handle
- o 2(4" x 15") Ties
- o 4(2¾" x 60") Binding

Fusible Medium Weight Interfacing

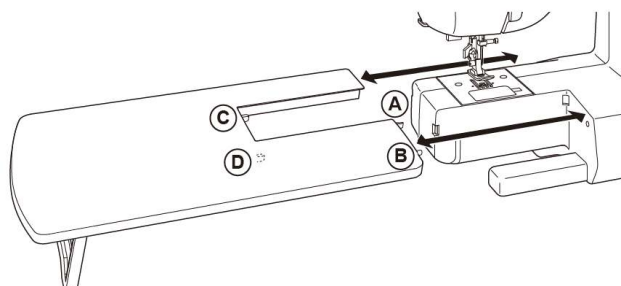
- o 10(21" x 21")

Cotton Batting

- o 1(60" x 60")

Sewing Machine Set Up

- o Insert a SINGER® Universal Needle Size 80/12 in your SINGER® sewing machine.
- o Thread with 50wt cotton sewing thread on top and on the bobbin.
- o Attach the SINGER® ¼" Piecing Foot.
- o Select a Straight Stitch with a stitch length of 2.5mm.
- o Activate Needle Up/Down.
- o Attach the extension table by removing the accessory box. Lift the supporting leg of the extension table, and slide into place while fitting the guide pins into the machine.



Project Steps

1. Fuse the Medium Weight Interfacing onto the wrong side of the 10 bandanas. There are two methods for fusing the interfacing to the bandana.

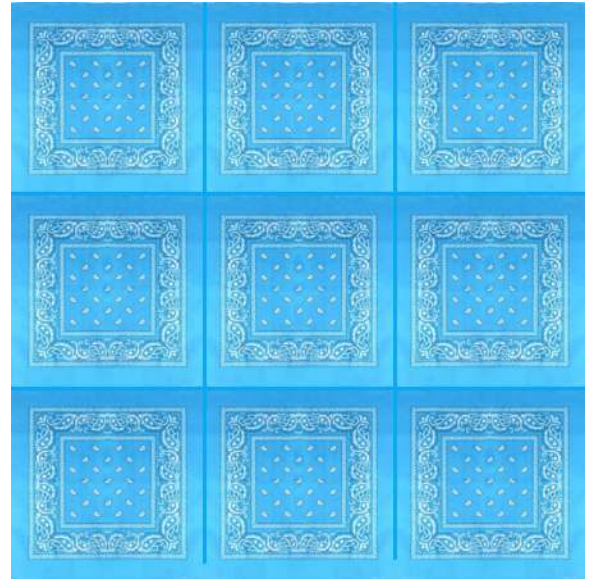
a. Fuse using the SINGER[®] Intelligent Steam Press. This gives consistent heat on the entire surface which results in a better bond between the interfacing and bandana. Set the press to the cotton setting. Place the bandana on the pressing surface and then place the interfacing with the adhesive side down on the bandana. Close the press to adhere the interfacing to the bandana.



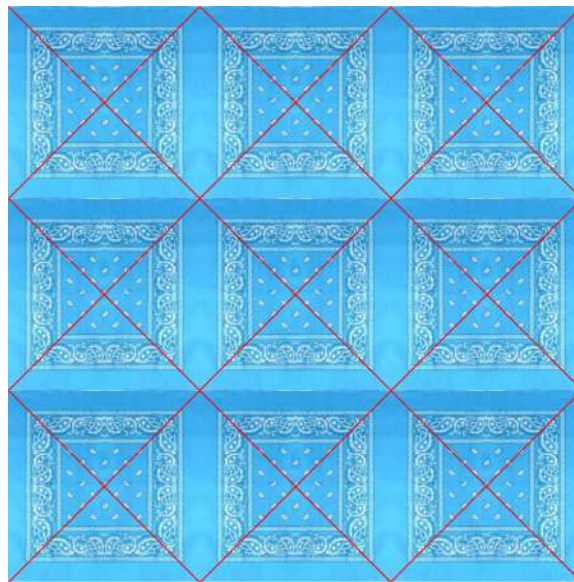
b. The other method is using the SINGER[®] SteamCraft Iron and the SINGER[®] Ironing and Crafting Station. Using the SINGER[®] Ironing and Crafting Station gives you a large flare surface to lay out your bandana and interfacing. Set the iron on cotton and you can use steam or a dry iron whatever is recommended by the interfacing fusing directions. Press on the interfacing side with the hot iron and apply firm, even pressure and keep the iron in place for 10-15 seconds. Lift the iron and place it back down in a new position, slightly overlapping the previous areas. Repeat until all the areas of interfacing have been fused to the fabric. Do not slide the iron across the fabric, as you may shift the layers of fabric and interfacing and cause distortion. Once you have pressed from the interfacing side, flip the bandana over and repeat from the right side of the bandana to ensure a good bond.



2. Cut the bandanas to the following sizes:
9(19" x 19") Blanket Blocks
1(21" x 21") Tote Front
3. Sew the (19" x 19") bandanas together to create the blanket top. Begin by sewing the bandanas in rows consisting of 3 bandanas using a ¼" seam allowance. Press.
4. Stitch the 3 rows together to create the complete blanket top. Press.

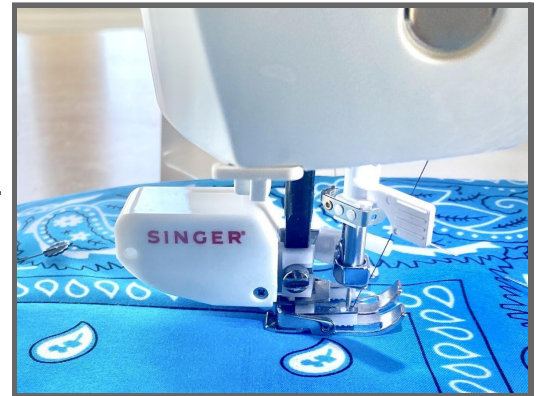


5. Sandwich the blanket layers together. Lay the (60" x 60") denim backing on a flat surface wrong side up. Place the (60" x 60") cotton batting on top. Put the pieced bandana blanket right side up on the batting.
6. Safety pin the layers together.
7. Use a chalk marker to mark diagonal lines on the bandanas to use for your quilting lines.



Sewing Machine Set Up

- o Insert a SINGER[®] Quilting Needle, Size 90/14 in your SINGER[®] sewing machine.
- o Thread with 50wt cotton sewing thread on top and on the bobbin.
- o Attach the Even Feed / Walking Foot by raising the needle, loosen the presser foot holder screw and remove the presser foot holder. Place the lever of the Walking Foot onto the needle screw and attach the foot. Lower the foot and tighten the presser foot holder screw. Note: When sewing with the Walking Foot, sew using a slow to medium speed.
- o Select a Straight Stitch with a stitch length of 3.5mm.
- o Activate Needle Up/Down button.



Project Steps - Quilting

1. Machine quilt along the marked lines.



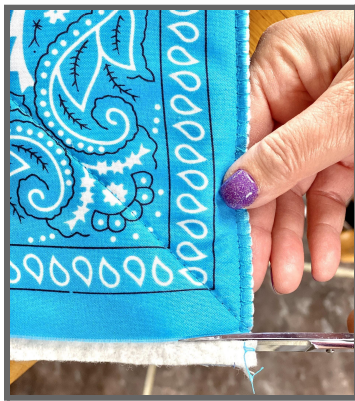
Sewing Machine Set Up

- o Remove the Even Feed / Walking Foot from your SINGER[®] Sewing Machine.
- o Attach the Side Cutter Attachment. Position the Side Cutter Attachment with the forked arm over the needle screw post and the shank on the presser foot bar. The Side Cutter Attachment will give your project a professional finish.
- o Select an Overedge stitch.



Project Steps - Finishing the Blanket Edges

1. To finish the edges of the blanket you need to trim the excess backing and batting and overcast the edge. You can use the Side Cutter Attachment to do this all in one step because it trims the fabric while you sew the edge. Similar to a serger, it has a blade to trim the fabric at the same time it sews an Overedge stitch.
2. Clip about 1" into the fabric that is to be cut off.



3. Position the fabric with the clipped edge against the blade and sew. The stitch finger keeps the stitching flat and smooth.

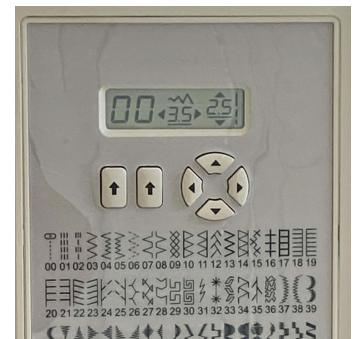


4. Stitch around the perimeter of the entire blanket.



Sewing Machine Set Up

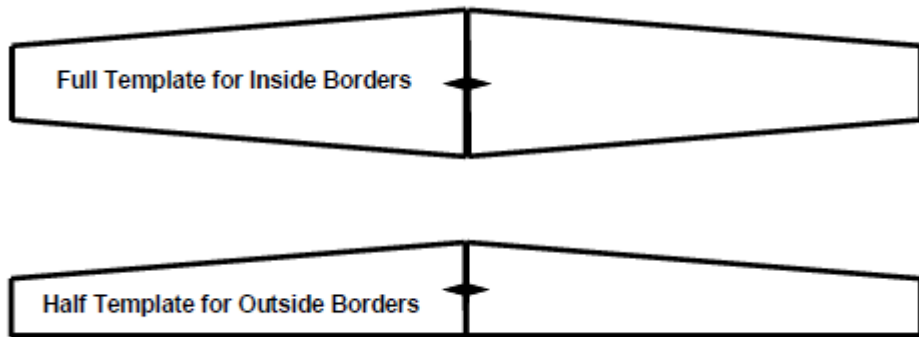
- o Thread with 50wt cotton sewing thread on top and on the bobbin.
- o Remove the Walking Foot. Attach the presser foot holder.
- o Attach the ¼" Foot.
- o Select a Straight Stitch with a stitch length of 2.5mm.



Project Steps - Denim Borders

1. The denim borders are created using assorted denims that are placed over the joining seams of the bandanas and along the perimeter of the blanket. The edges are left raw so that you can fringe them for an added dimensional effect.

- Print the full size templates: “Full Template for Inside Borders” and “Half Template for Outside Borders” on the back pages of these instructions. Note: be sure your printer is set to print “Actual size”. Cut out exactly on the lines. Tape together the two pieces for each template type matching the triangle markings.



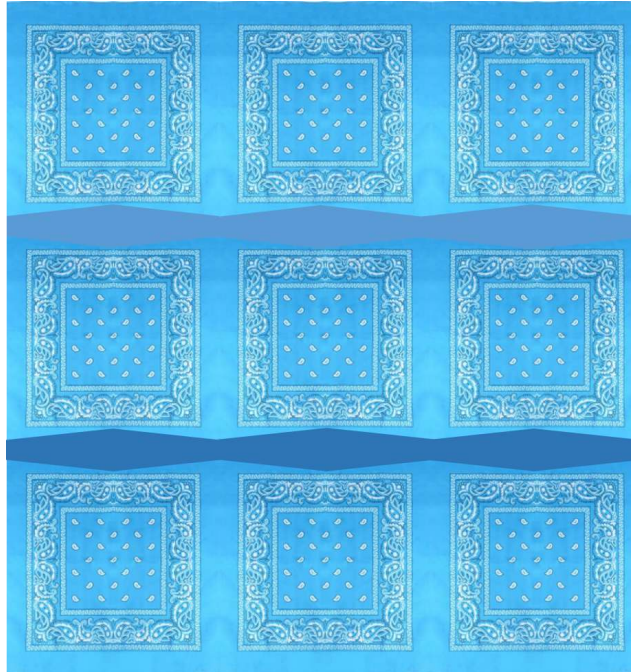
- From the assorted denim fabric cut the following:
 - 12(Full Template for Inside Borders)
 - 12(Half Template for Outside Borders)
- Stitch the Full Template pieces together in groups of 3 using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance as shown below. Press.



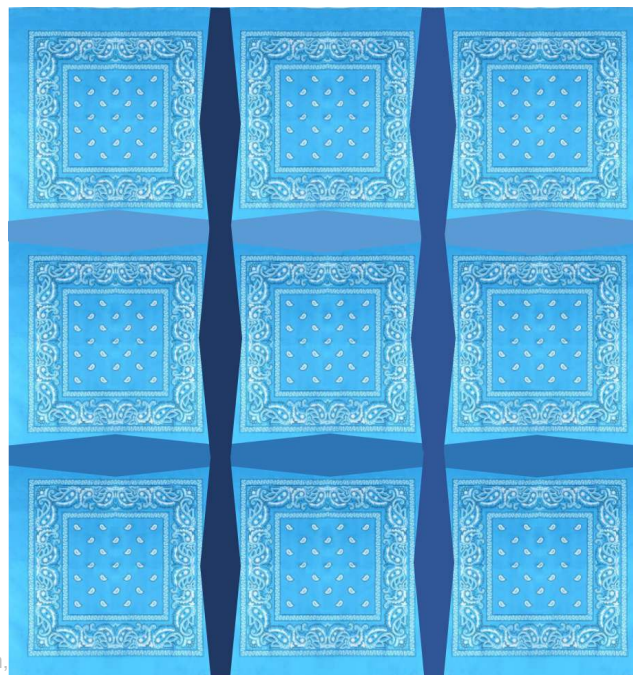
- Stitch the Half Template pieces together in groups of 3 using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance as shown below. Press.



6. Lay out and pin the horizontal inside borders. Sew along the raw edges using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



7. Lay out and pin the vertical inside borders. Sew along the raw edges using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

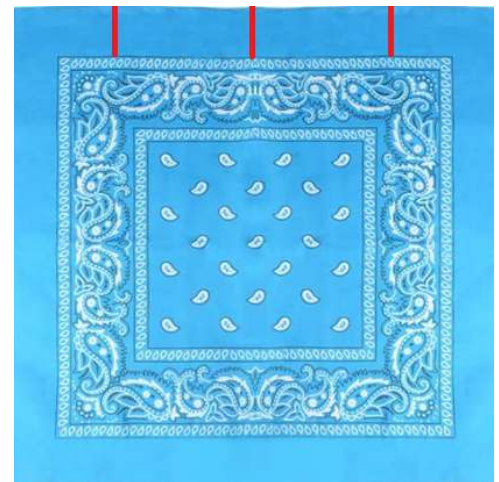


8. Lay out and pin the outside borders. Sew along the raw edges using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

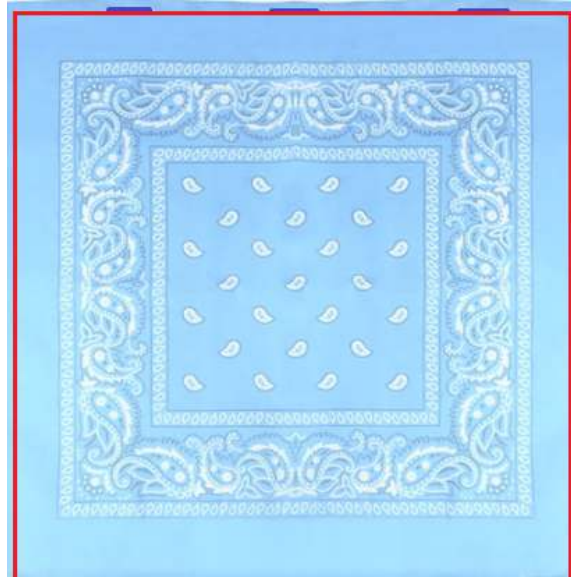


Project Steps for the Tote

1. For the handle, fold the 4" x 30" handle wrong sides together in half lengthwise and stitch along the length with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.
2. Turn right side out and press.
3. For the ties, fold the 2(4" x 15") ties wrong sides together in half lengthwise and stitch along the length and one short end with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.
4. Turn right side out and press.
5. On the 21" x 21" bandana measure $3\frac{1}{2}$ " in from the sides and mark with chalk, these will be the 2 placement marks for the handle. Also, mark the center of the bandana this will be the placement mark for the tie.



6. Pin the raw edges of the handle on the placement marks and stitch in place.
7. Pin the raw edges of the tie on the center placement mark and stitch in place.
8. Place the bandana and the 21" x 21" denim right sides together, make sure the handle and ties are facing down inside the tote. Pin together the sides and the top that has the handle and tie.
9. Stitch with a ¼" seam allowance around the 3 pinned sides leaving the bottom open.



10. Clip the corners on the diagonal to reduce the bulk and turn the right side out. Press.

Sewing Machine Set Up

- o Thread with 50wt cotton sewing thread on top and on the bobbin.
- o Attach the Even Feed / Walking Foot.
- o Select a Straight Stitch with a stitch length of 3.5mm.
- o Activate Needle Up/Down button.



Project Steps - Stitching the Tote

1. Stitch around the tote and inside the bandana decorative area to anchor the bandana and the denim together. Stitch the bottom raw edges together.



2. Find the center of the tote and the center bottom of the blanket and mark with a pin. Place the bottom raw edges of the tote bandana side facing the blanket, onto the bottom raw edge of the blanket. Pin in place.
3. Stitch along the bottom to attach the tote to the blanket.
4. Stitch along the sides of the tote through all the layers to attach it to the blanket. Be sure to back stitch at the top of the sides. Note: Do not stitch across the top that has the handle and tie.
5. Position the remaining tie on the blanket matching the location on the tote so when it changes into a tote you will be able to tie them together.



Sewing Machine Set Up

- Thread with 50wt Cotton Sewing thread on the top and bobbin to match the binding.
- Remove the Walking Foot. Attach the presser foot holder.
- Attach the ¼" Foot.
- Select a Straight Stitch with a stitch length of 2.5mm.

Project Steps - Binding

1. Sew all the 2¾" binding strips together to create a long strip using a ¼" seam allowance.
2. Press the seams open with the SINGER® SteamCraft Iron.
3. Press the strip in half lengthwise with the wrong sides together.
4. Stitch the binding to the blanket using a ¼" seam allowance.
5. Fold the binding to the back side of the blanket and pin in place.
6. Change the presser foot to the Satin Stitch Foot for better visibility when stitching. Stitch down the binding in the ditch on the top side of your blanket.
7. To fray the edges of the denim pull the threads on the raw edges to the stitching line. In the picture below the bottom section has not been frayed yet and the top has been frayed.



Steps for Folding the Blanket into the tote

1. Fold the blanket into thirds. Then flip it over so you see the tote.



2. Flip the tote so that you see the bandana side. Fold down the blanket so it meets the top of the tote. Then tuck the rest of the blanket inside the tote.
3. Fill with some of your picnic supplies and tie the ties together to close the tote.



