

# Sea Breeze™ Tote

13" x 15"

*Designed by Michelle Pratt,  
Exclusively for McKenna Ryan*

## Materials Needed:

- One 13"x 13" Sea Breeze Art Print
- Fabric 1: Fat Eight (9"x 22") for framing Art Print
- Fabric 2: ½ yard for main body of tote
- Fabric 3: 5/8 yard for lining of tote and handles
- Fabric 4: 15"x 15" square for lining of front pocket
- Fusible Fleece ½ yard
- Woven Fusible 13 ½" x 13 ½" square
- Woven Fusible 5" strip WOF
- Optional: small pieces of fusible webbing for applique

## Before Getting Started:

- RST = Right Sides Together
- RSU = Right Side UP
- WST = Wrong Side Together
- WOF = Width of Fabric
- Use an accurate ¼" seam allowance unless otherwise directed

## Cutting:

1. Trim Sea Breeze Art Print to 11 ½" x 11 ½" square (trimming ¾" from all four sides).
2. Fabric 1: Art Print framing strips:
  - a. Cut two 1 ½" x 11 ½" strips.
  - b. Cut two 1 ½" x 13 ½" strips.
3. Fabric 2: Cut two 13 ½" x 15 ½" rectangles for main body of tote.
4. Fabric 3:
  - a. Cut two 13 ½" x 15 ½" rectangles for tote lining.
  - b. Cut one 5" strip WOF to make handles.
5. Fusible Fleece: cut two 13 ½" x 15 ½" rectangles.

❖ **Save all left over scraps for applique.**

## Assembly:

1. Front Pocket:
  - a) Take your trimmed Sea Breeze Art Print and the 4 framing strips from Fabric 1. Sew side strips on Art Print first, then top and bottom strips. You should now have a 13 ½" square. Take your 13 ½" woven fusible square and fuse it to the backside of Art Print square. This will stabilize and give body to square. (**\*Optional: At this stage, you'll want to embellish your Art Print.**)
  - b) Center the 13 ½" Art Print square on the 15" x 15" Fabric 4 lining piece, with RST matching top edges. The lining piece is slightly larger; it will be trimmed later. Sew a ¼" seam across the top edge joining the two pieces. Open and iron flat at the seam, then "wrap" the lining piece around the ¼" seam to the back side of Art Print and press. This gives the look of a small binding edge. Topstitch though all layers between the "binding" and framing piece. Stitch-in-the-ditch through all layers around the Art Print. Trim the sides and bottom of lining piece even with Art Print square. You should still have a 13 ½" square. This will become the front pocket of tote. Set aside for now.
2. Handles: Fuse the 5"x WOF woven fusible strip to the 5" x WOF strip of Fabric 3. Trim selvedge edges off and cut strip in half so you have two 20" pieces. Iron each strip in half with **WST**, open and fold raw edges "in" meeting at the center crease, give a quick press, then fold in half again encasing the raw edges. Sew a ¼" top stitch seam on both sides of the handle strip. Repeat with second handle piece.
3. Main body of Tote:
  - a) Fuse the 13 ½" x 15 ½" Fabric 2 rectangles to the two 13 ½" x 15 ½" fusible fleece rectangles. (**\*Optional: At this stage you could add applique pieces to the back of the tote.**)



- b) With **RSU**, place lined Art Print square on top of one Fabric 2 rectangle, matching up bottom edges. Place a few pins to keep pocket from shifting, sew **1/8"** around Art Print bottom and sides securing it in place. This is now the front of your tote.
  - c) With the tote front **RSU**, measure **2"** in on each side at the top and pin the ends of one handle piece in place, matching up raw edges of tote's top and strap ends. (**HINT:** Tuck handle piece in Art Print pocket to keep it out of the way.) Repeat with the tote back and second handle piece.
  - d) With **RST**, pin tote front and back pieces together around the sides and bottom, leaving the top open (Art Print square and handle straps should be sandwiched between) and sew a **1/4"** seam where pinned. Turn right side out. (**\*Optional alternate finishing step available.**)
4. Lining: With **RST**, sew the two **13 1/2" x 15 1/2"** Fabric 3 lining rectangles together using a **1/4"** seam at the sides and bottom. Be sure to leave a **5"** opening at the bottom to turn the tote right side out.
  5. With **RST**, place the main body of the tote inside the lining piece. Match up the side seams and the front and back handle pieces. Pin around the top edge of the tote and sew **1/4"** seam all the way around, back tacking at the handles to reinforce.
  6. Gently pull the tote through the hole in the bottom of the lining, turning tote and lining right side out. Stitch opening of lining closed. Tuck the lining inside the tote, iron, and top stitch around the top edge for a nice finished look.

**\*Embellishing:** Add some flair to your tote! Sew some fun beads or sequins to highlight elements on the Sea Breeze Art Print or add some decorative stem stitching. Embellishments for your Art Print are available at [www.pineneedles.com](http://www.pineneedles.com).

**\*Applique:** Using your left over scrap pieces and some fusible webbing: draw some seaweed, starfish and a shell or two onto some fusible, fuse your shapes to the leftover fabric scraps, cut out and fuse to the back piece of the tote close to the bottom. Raw edge applique each piece to finish.

**\*Alternate Finishing Step:** Another option for finishing your tote is using box pleat squares for the corners.

**Suggested Fabric:**

Fabric 1: AYP-15742-56 Pond  
 Fabric 2: AYP-15743-206 Sunset  
 Fabric 3: AYP-15739-6 Purple  
 Fabric 4: AYP-15739-59 Ocean  
 Find embellishments at [www.pineneedles.com](http://www.pineneedles.com) or scan the QR code

