

## Clothing the Loop: Tea Towels to Shopping Bags

### Step 1.

*Iron your tea towel and cut off any tags*



### Step 2.

*Cut the folded seam from one of the LONG sides. Over sew the cut edge of the strip. (This becomes the handles)*



### Step 3.

*Cut the strip in half.*



### Step 4

*Cut off the 'double seam' at the ends of the strip.*



### Step 5. Placement of the handles:

On the tea towel, measure the length of the longer side containing the intact seam. From both ends place a pin at  $1/8^{\text{th}}$  the total length, then a pin at  $3/8^{\text{th}}$  from the edges. This should then give you an even placement for the handles.



**Step 6.**

*Pin a 2cm length of a handle strip to the wrong side of the seam marked by the pins.*



**Step 7.**

*Sew the handles to the tea towel. Sew around the edge of the overhang and then a criss- cross in the middle to give a firm hold*



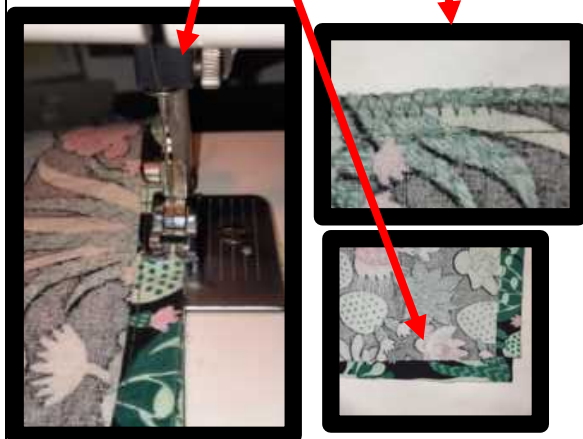
**Step 8.**

*Fold tea towel in half along the short edge with right side touching on the inside.*



**Step 9.**

*Sew along the 2 edges and oversew the raw edge at the bottom. (Some tea towels might need trimming at the bottom as they are not all perfect rectangles)*



**Step 10.**

*Turn your bag inside out and  
**Congratulations!!**  
**Your completed recycled bag***



## Making a Gusset Bag

### Step 11.

*With the bag turned so the right side is inside, fold the bottom corners into a triangle.*



### Step 12.

*Measure 3 cm from the point along the seam. Draw a line perpendicular to the seam.*



### Step 13.

*Sew along the marked line. Trim of the corner and oversew the cut edge. Repeat on other side of the bag.*



### Step 14

**Congratulations: a recycled tea towel bag with Gusset.**

