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# On The Go Bags - 15 Handmade Purses, Totes & Organizers: Unique Projects To Sew From Today's Modern Designers



## Synopsis

Sew that just-right bag for the job! Top sewing designers and bloggers share 15 unique organizers for everyday life. From a laptop folio or a gym bag to an airport sling or a trunk organizer, every tote has distinctive features to keep your essentials within easy reach. Practical, stylish, and versatile by design, each multiuse project is organized by skill level, from confident beginner to more advanced. Includes an overview of bag-making basics.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

You can never have too many bags...or bag patterns. Authors Lindsay Conner and Janelle MacKay have assembled an awesome collection of 15 bags, totes and organizers from some of the brightest names in sewing. The book features bags for a variety of skill levels, from beginner to advanced, and includes a section on bag-making basics, just in case you need a review. (Sew News, December/January 2016) 15 great ideas for keeping everything stored and in its place whilst you travel around. Projects are organized by skill level and there is a good basic techniques section. The book includes a laptop cover, bag insert, stroller caddy, organizers, totes, bags, sling, art case and more, even an unusual scarf with a zipper pocket. I would make that so that the zipper is concealed and on the inside for safety. Learn how to cut, pattern piece, do curved corners, use interfacings, make straps and closures, do piping and more. This book has great designs, tips and

techniques as well as clear instructions, photographs and patterns. I like the tablet shoulder bag, art case and airport sling and the cover backpack pattern is my favourite. (Karen Platt [yarnsandfabrics.co.uk](http://yarnsandfabrics.co.uk), 12/18/15) While most bag-sewing books focus on traditional handbags and purses, this collection curated by Conner (Modern Bee) and MacKay features totes and organizers suitable for a variety of purposes. With designs ranging from an infinity-style scarf with a zipped pocket to a wine bottle tote to a single-strap backpack, there's a bag to suit most styles and needs. The authors organize the bags into easy, intermediate, and advanced projects based on the skills required, and tutorials on basics such as making straps and adding closures are included. Sewists interested in refining their bag-making skills can work through the book in order, learning along the way. The directions are straightforward, and the work is divided into components, making the process user-friendly. Pattern pieces are included on a pull-out sheet. VERDICT Crafters who enjoy books by Sara Lawson (Big-City Bags) and Anna Graham (Handmade Style) will appreciate this eclectic collection. (Library Journal, January 2016) Top sewing designers and bloggers share 15 unique organizers for everyday life. From a laptop folio or a gym bag to an airport sling or a trunk organizer, every tote has distinctive features to keep your essentials in easy reach. Each multi-use project is organized by skill level, from confident beginner to more advanced sewer. Also included are an overview of bag-making basics and pull-out patterns. (Notions, Winter 2016) This book has three sections. In the first one, easy projects, you will find five simple designs, including a pocket scarf, laptop keeper and padded bag insert to turn a regular bag into a camera bag. The second section contains six intermediate projects such as a picnic blanket that folds into a tote bag, a travel toiletry organiser and a two-bottle gift bag. The last section has four advanced projects, including a snap-and-go sewing case, minivan organiser and a gym bag made with mesh fabric. The book has clear instructions and an extensive techniques section, making it very suitable to beginning sewers who lead a busy life and need many different bags! (Down Under Quilts, Issue 174) Do you want a new handbag? In this case, this book is appropriate. The different projects - all original - are presented and detailed complete with various sketches. With these step-by-step explanations, you can create these projects in a simple and effective way. This extraordinary book takes you by its refined details to the realization of all sorts of bags: totes, backpacks, and even a bag for men. The fabric combinations are colorful and fun; they can obviously rely on your own tastes. This book is also available in electronic format. (patCHquilt, Winter 2016)

Lindsay Conner is a freelance writer, editor, and sewist. A Craftsy blogger and Baby Lock designer, she designs patterns for books and magazines. The author of Modern Bee, Lindsay lives in

Nashville, Tennessee with her husband and baby boy. [lindsaysews.com](http://lindsaysews.com), [craftbuds.com](http://craftbuds.com) Janelle MacKay designs her own line of metal bag hardware and sewing patterns. When not filling bag-bling orders or shoveling snow, she's dreaming of warm places. Janelle lives in Spruce Grove, Alberta, Canada with her husband, 2 daughters, and son. [emmalinebags.com](http://emmalinebags.com)

I love this book! I have been waiting for months for it to come out! I have other patterns from almost all of the designers in the book, and am looking forward to making almost everything in this book! I love that it has different bags, totes and even things to make for men, which is not easy to find! This is a great resource for making many different kinds of bags, and each and every one can be adapted in one way or another, which is always so fun to do!

Just finished perusing this book and am very happy to see the array of diverse projects! Directions look fairly comprehensive, especially for anyone with sewing experience. While one author lives in the US and the other lives in Canada, a variety of designers contributed these designs. Although one (negative) review claimed that hardware had to be ordered from the Canadian author, that is absolutely not true. I've seen most of the required hardware in my local big box stores and even some local quilt shops. I'm looking forward to making several of these projects and will update my rating and review after I've had the time to sew something!

The book is well written with lots of clear diagrams. Although the book is broken up by experience; easy, intermediate, and advanced, the projects are easy enough for all skill levels. I appreciate the intro includes various tips and that each project materials list is detailed and specific to include the types of interfacing and hardware that can sometimes be tricky to find. For example, listing an "all purpose" vs heavy duty vs #5 zipper. I am excited to get started. The airport sling will be my first project! My MIL wants to borrow the book to make the gym tote. I may have to get her a book of her own, her birthday is next week.

I should write down the names of books and have a look at them in a store before I buy them. This book was light on pattern, different styles of bags and a bit too long on technique. If you are a decent sewer, but need a bit more help, it is good. If you have mastered the techniques offered, it is less useful. Even for a newbie, there should be more pictures of the bags and of some of the techniques used to make them, to make the directions more understandable. If I had bought this book 25 years ago, I would have needed a more experienced sewer to translate for me.

After using the preview feature here on to verify this book would have the amount of variety I desire, I am happy with my purchase and am already mentally choosing stash fabrics to use.

Am just beginning the hobo sling bag. I have read the instructions several times, so to be familiar with the steps. It is great to have the pullout patterns. The pockets, flaps and straps were easy to cut out of copy paper. I am looking forward to finishing this bag for a Christmas gift.

I'm a bag addict. I am not ashamed to say. This has some great bags I can't wait to make. (Injury preventing my sewing). I bought it for the bag on the cover and some of the contributors I purchase their patterns and hardware from them directly. It's really an amazing book.

Didn't find as many up-to-date purse patterns as I would have liked!

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