

Coming Up Roses Tote

What a great sling-over-your-shoulder everyday bag! Featuring a stylish curved top, a touch of bling on the handles, and plenty of inner pockets, this roomy two-tone bag is quick and fairly easy to make, and is guaranteed to become a firm favourite.



Bag Dimensions are 13 inches wide at the base x 11½ inches high (to the curve of the top) and 4½ inches deep.

You Will Need:

¾ metre (1 yard) fabric for bag outer 1 (We found a great leather look synthetic fabric)

½ metre (½ yard) fabric for bag outer 2 (We used denim)

1 metre (1 yard) fabric for bag lining

1½ metres (1½ yards) medium-weight fusible interfacing



1 metre (1 yard) light-weight fusible pellon

4 x rectangular rings with 1½ inch inner diameter

1 x 6 inch length zip for inner pocket

1 x magnetic clasp

Piece template plastic measuring 4½ inches x 13 inches

Scraps of heavy-weight fusible interfacing for inserting magnetic clasps (Medium-weight will be fine if you don't have any heavy-weight.)

Bag Construction:

Please read all instructions fully before beginning. All measurements are in inches, and unless stated otherwise, a ¼ inch seam allowance has been used.

Referring to the attached Cutting Guide, carefully cut the required bag pieces from the bag fabrics, interfacing and pellon as required. Fuse the interfacing and pellon to the wrong side of the pieces as indicated in the Cutting Guide. The bag outer pieces usually have both interfacing and pellon; the lining is just interfaced.

Handles:

Iron the strip of pellon down the centre of each outer fabric handle, on the interfacing. Centre it on the two long strips, as it will not reach the ends.

Fold up and press the long side seam allowances to meet the edge of the pellon down each side. There is a half inch seam allowance on the handles.

The short strips are on the underside of each handle, with the longer strips on top. Lay a longer strip face down on a flat surface and position the shorter strip on top. Tuck under a ¼ inch seam allowance at each of the top strip shorter ends and pin it to the longer strip down the long sides. It will start and finish about 1½ inches in from the ends of the longer strip.

Pin and topstitch down each side.



As pictured, thread the top end of the long side of the strip through one of the rectangular rings, then fold it over the ring and tuck the raw edged end into the end of your handle.



Topstitch along the edge to secure the ring in place and finish the handle.

Repeat for the remaining three ends of the handles and put aside for now.

Assembly:

With right sides together, sew the side panels to the bag outer front panel. Start from the bottom edges – match the edges and the angle of the pieces and sew together.

Sew the bag back panel to the other side of the side strips so you have a tube of fabric for the bag outer.

Lay the un-interfaced base piece on the wrong side of the base piece with pellon, and sew down each side with a scant seam. Make sure to keep one end open as this forms the ‘pocket ‘ for your template plastic base stiffener.

Fold the base and the lower end of the bag sides in half to find the centre points and mark with pins. Then pin the base in place at the bottom of your bag with right sides together, and sew.



Trim the template plastic to fit, before inserting it into the base pocket and turning bag right sides out. (Round the corners of the plastic slightly too, to take off the sharp points before inserting it.)

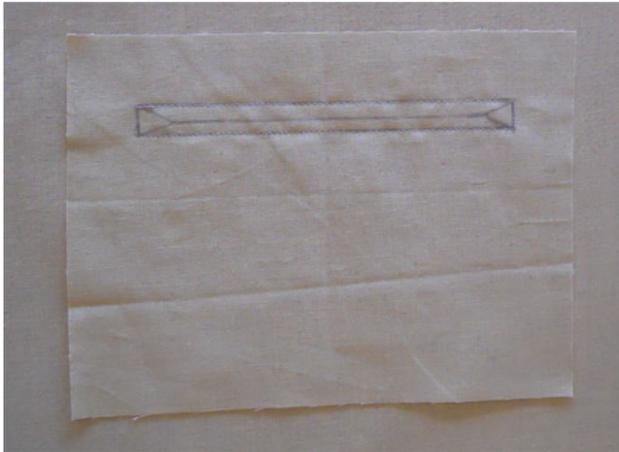
Lining:

Start with the cell phone pocket. With right sides together, sew up the sides and across the top of the pocket pieces. Clip corners and turn right sides out.

Press, and fold up the bottom seam allowances and press them also. Topstitch along the top of the pocket, and position it on one lining side panel centred and about 2½ inches down from the centre of the curved top.

Pin and topstitch down the sides and across the bottom to secure. Sew a vertical line halfway along the pocket to divide it into two.

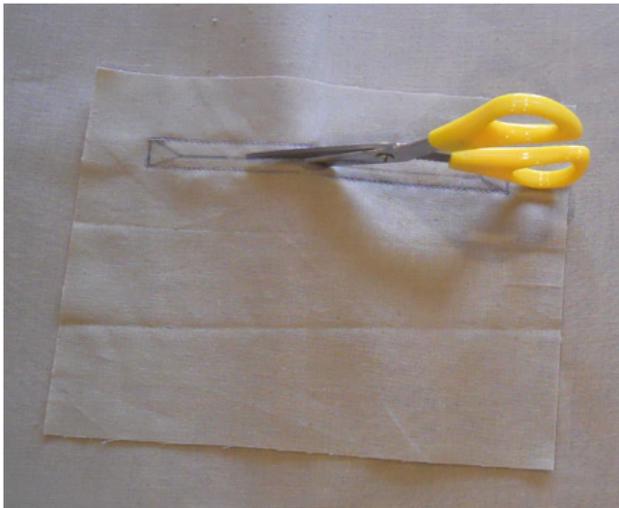
The other side of the bag lining has an inset zippered pocket.



To start, mark and make a hole for the zip. To do this, use a fabric marking pen or lead pencil on the wrong side of one pocket piece and draw a rectangle 4½ inches long and 3/8 inch (1cm) high as shown. This rectangle needs to be drawn at least 1 - 1½ inches (2.5 -4cm) down from the top of your pocket piece.

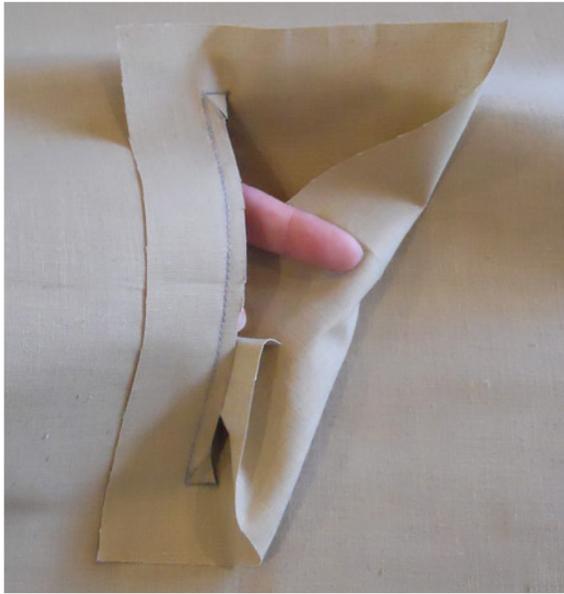
Then draw a centre line along the rectangle, with a 'V' shape at each end as shown.

Position the pocket piece on the remaining lining panel with right sides together, centred and approximately 2 ½ inches down from the centre of the top curved edge.



Sew the pocket to the side panel along the marked outside lines of the rectangle.

Taking care not to cut the stitching, then cut along the marked centre line and along the 'V' shapes to the corners of the rectangle.



Pull the pocket piece through the hole to the wrong side of the bag panel and carefully press seams on both sides to flatten.

With right sides up, then position the zip carefully under the hole, (so that the zip is also facing up), and pin in place. Using your zipper foot, topstitch around all four edges of the rectangular hole to secure the zip in position.

(Note – the zip is slightly longer than the hole, so you will need to centre the zip and trim the ends after sewing in place.)



To finish the pocket, turn the panel over so that the wrong sides are facing up, and lay the remaining pocket piece face down on top of the first. Pin all edges together and carefully sew all sides of the pocket together, taking care not to catch the bag panel as you go.



Magnetic Clasp:

Fold both lining front/back panels in half vertically to make a crease up the centre. From the top of the curve, measure down 1¼ inches on that line and mark that point on each with a lead pencil.

Cut a square of heavy interfacing approximately 1½ inches square and iron it to the back of the pocket on centred over the marked dot.

This will help protect the fabric in your bag and stop the clasp from wearing through with repeated use. (You can use the medium weight interfacing here if you do not have any heavy weight, although the heavier weight gives better protection.)

Push the two prongs of the bottom half of the clasp (with the centre part missing) into the right side of the fabric to create indents, then use your unpicker tool to make two tiny slits in the fabric there, to push the clasp through. Make the slits smaller than the width of the prongs.

Push the clasp prongs through to the back, turn the pocket over, slip on the 'washer' provided with the clasp and fold the prongs over onto themselves, over the back of the clasp if you can. (If you splay them out, you run the risk of them eventually piercing through the bag fabric.)

Insert the remaining half of the magnetic clasp.

Put the lining together in exactly the same way as you did the bag outer. Join the side strips to the lining front and back. Make sure to leave most of the middle of one side unsewn, to turn the bag through later. Then pin and insert the base.

Put the bag outer into the lining bag and pin the top edges together. You will need to sew the top in four parts, to leave the very top of each handle open. As shown below, fold back the top 1½ inches of each lining handle top, so you can sew up the sides to secure it.



Sew the top seams, and carefully clip the seams along the curved sides, taking care not to cut through your sewn line. Turn bag right sides out through the gap left in the lining side seam.

Tuck in the seam allowances and topstitch that gap closed, before pushing the lining into the bag outer.

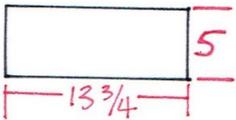


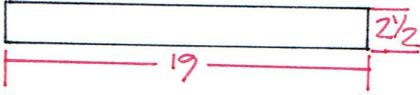
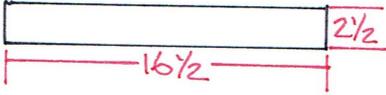
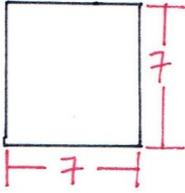
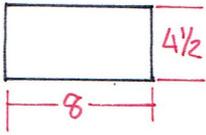
Finally, add the handles in exactly the same way as you did before.

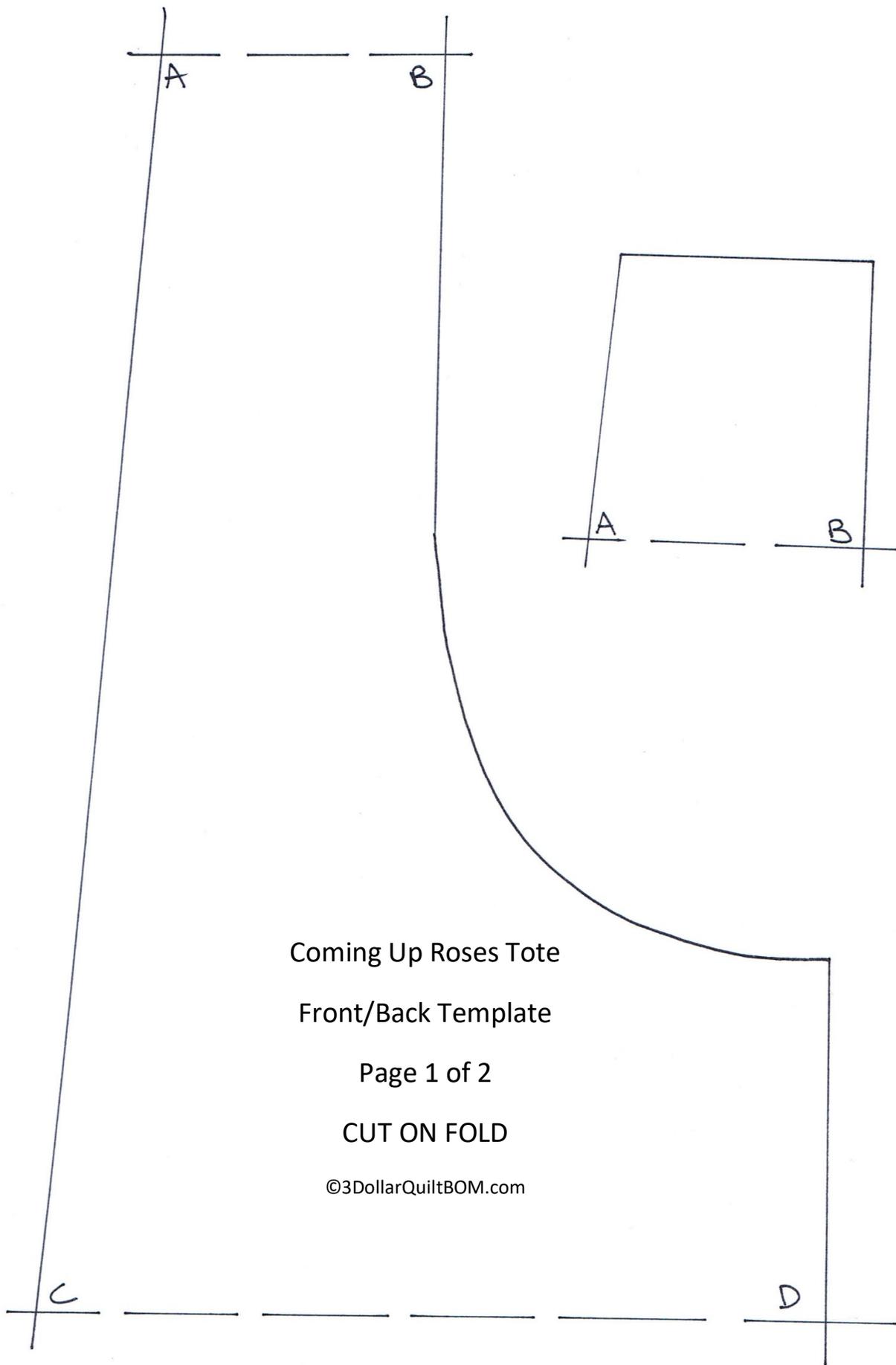
Thread the bag outer tab through the remaining side of each handle ring and tuck the end into the top of the bag.

Topstitch to secure the handles and finish.

Coming Up Roses Tote Cutting Guide

	<p>Cut the required number of each piece according to the measurements on each diagram.</p> <p>* Please note – all measurements are in inches.</p>
 <p>Front/Back Template</p>	<p>Cut 2 outer fabric 1 Cut 2 lining fabric Cut 2 pellon Cut 4 medium-weight interfacing</p> <p>NOTE – CUT ON FOLD</p>
 <p>Sides Template</p>	<p>Cut 2 outer fabric 2 Cut 2 lining fabric Cut 2 pellon Cut 4 medium-weight interfacing</p> <p>NOTE – CUT ON FOLD</p>
 <p>Base</p>	<p>Cut 1 outer fabric 2 Cut 2 lining fabric Cut 1 pellon Cut 2 medium-weight interfacing</p>

 <p>Outer Handles</p>	<p>Cut 2 outer fabric 1 Cut 2 medium-weight interfacing</p>
 <p>Inner Handles</p>	<p>Cut 2 outer fabric 1 Cut 4 pellon (1 1/2 inches wide) Cut 2 medium-weight interfacing</p>
 <p>Zip Pocket</p>	<p>Cut 2 lining fabric</p>
 <p>Cell Phone Pocket</p>	<p>Cut 2 lining fabric Cut 1 medium-weight interfacing</p>



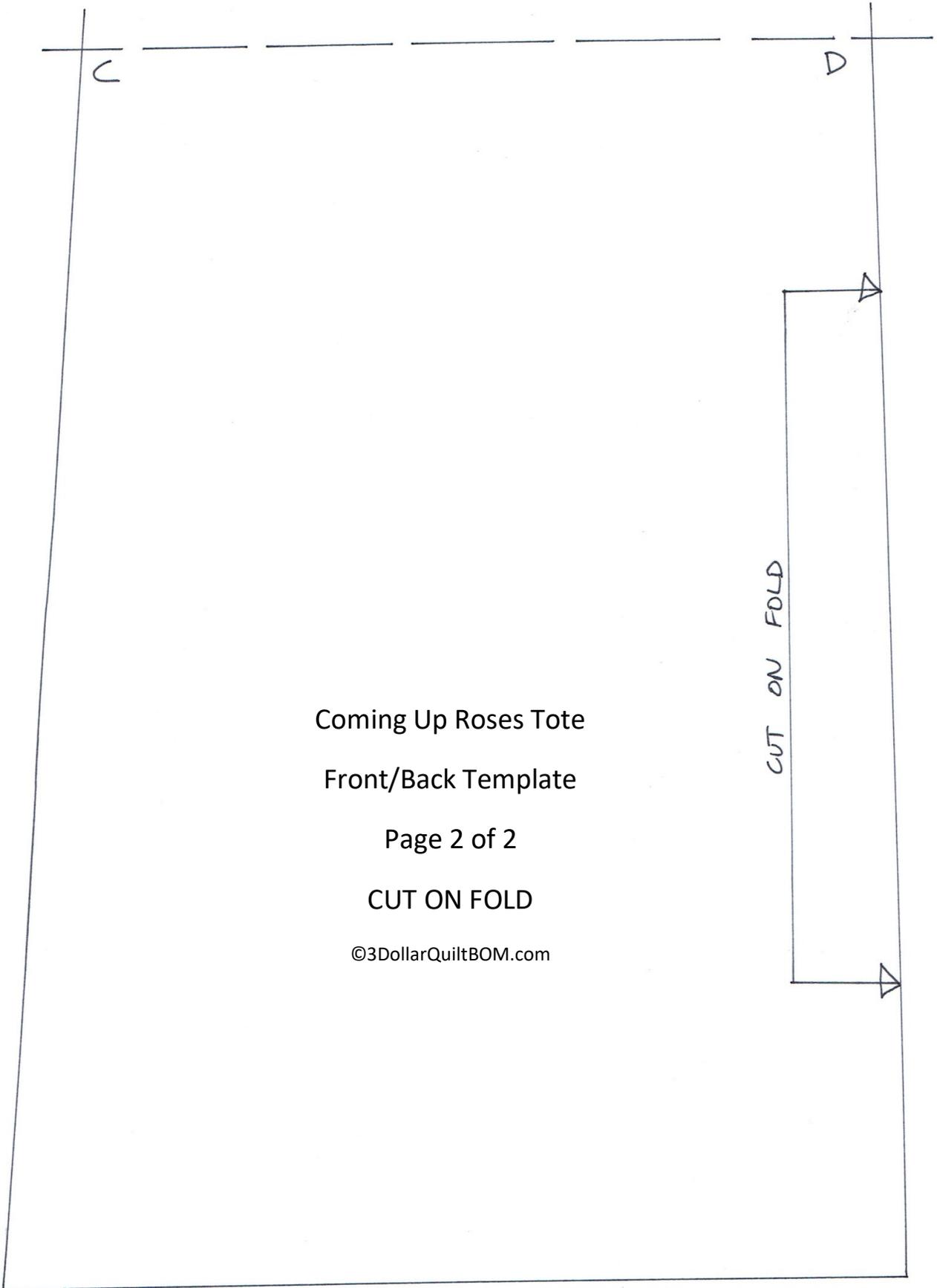
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Front/Back Template

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