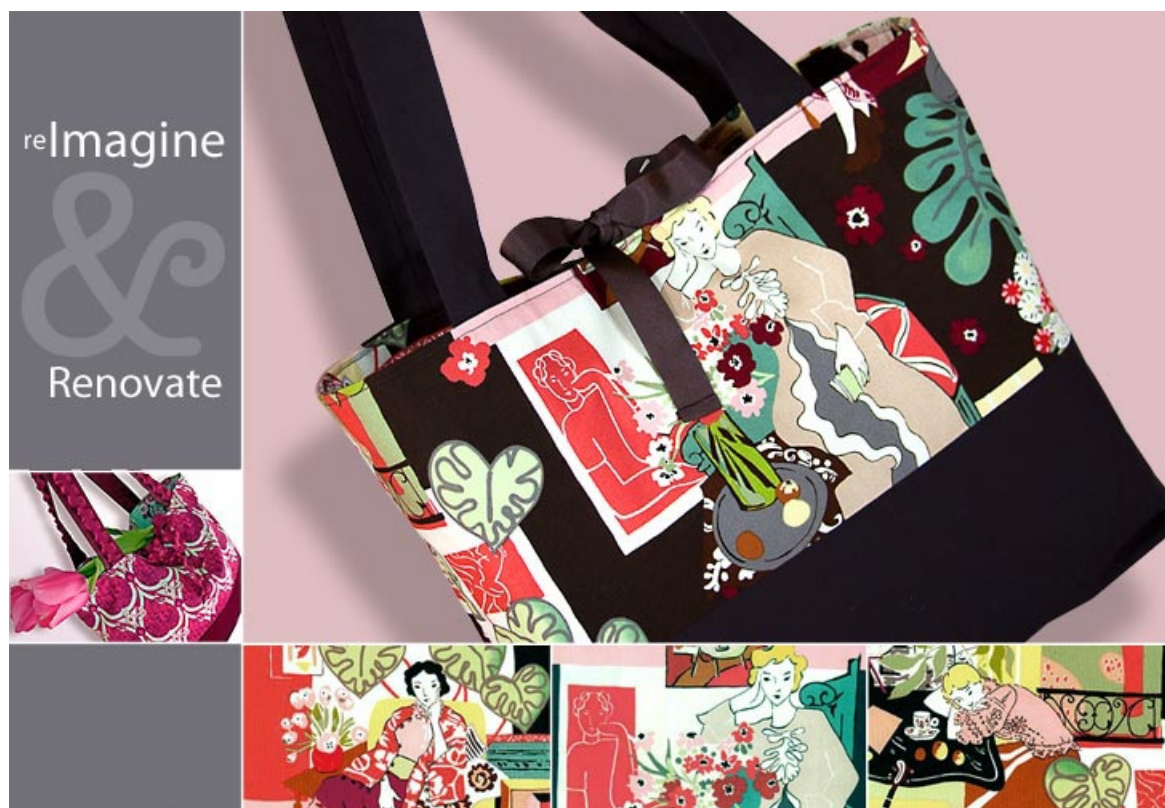


Re-imagine & Renovate: Ruffled Market Tote Becomes High Art Handbag

Editor: Liz Johnson

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Welcome to 2012! After the whirlwind of the holidays, we thought it was time for a little R&R. Not the traditional "*Rest & Relaxation*" but even better: "*Re-imagine & Renovate*." We reached back into the S4H archives and found eight popular projects, then we re-did each of them with brand new fabrics, trims and notions. It's our way to show you how easy it is to put a new spin on a fave design. We kick off the series with our original Mother's Day Market Tote from 2011, which we turned into a sleek and stylish bag that makes a dramatic fashion statement.

A big thanks to our friends, and [Shopping Directory](#) retailer, [Contemporary Cloth](#) for co-sponsoring the series and providing all the fabric for today's "*Re-imagine & Renovate*" project. [Contemporary Cloth](#) is a great place for modern, unique fabrics. Owner and working artist, Sondra Borrie reminded us the Yuwa Japanese fabrics are in stock, as well as Lotta Jansdotter's Echo.



Our bag's eye-popping main fabric is from [Alexander Henry's Matisse collection - Vie en rose floral dove in Tea](#). The base fabric is a [Kona Cotton in deep espresso](#). And, the closure is a simple 7/8" grosgrain ribbon in a matching deep brown. Lightweight batting provides the structure.



Every fabric has its own beauty and its own personality, and how you use it in a project can transform cute and quirky into sleek and stylish. It can even flip girly-girl flirty and floral into masculine bold and modern. It's why we are so in love with fabric here at Sew4Home; we know what a difference it makes to the end result of a project. Add a little *R&R* to your list of New Year's resolutions. If you are new to the world of mixing and matching, take a look at these four tutorials:

[How to Create A Fabric Palette](#)

[Tips for Mixing Prints](#)

[Mixing & Matching Colors, Patterns & Textures](#)

[Making the Right Fabric Choice](#)

And check out our monthly *Love That Fabric* features for our latest picks, such as [Kokka](#).

To "*Re-imagine & Renovate*" your own cool tote bag, go to our [original tutorial](#). The only change to these instructions was our decision to skip the ribbon trim on the handles.

[Happy Mother's Day: Market Tote With Ruffly Ribbon Handles & Ties](#)

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