



## Tote bags

*Katherine Cornelius*

People of all ages use bags to carry and hold materials, but totes are more than just functional. They're fun, expressive, and easy to personalize. Keep several totes in your closet, one for each mood and activity. Before you spend all your cash on a new designer tote, think outside the bag and make your own. In addition to such methods as screen printing, embroidery, and iron-on transfers, try the one-of-a-kind ideas shown here.



### SCREAM

Take a photo or find an existing image to use on the bag. Use image-editing software such as Adobe Photoshop to change the digital image to Grayscale. Adjust Brightness/Contrast

so that there are two strong areas, one black and one white. Print to size and cut out area that will be painted. Attach stencil to bag tightly and spraypaint.

*Design: Zvezdana Rogic*

### POWER BAG

Ever wonder what to do with your colorful printed calendar when the year comes to a close? Make a cool clear tote. Buy clear vinyl at a fabric store, and sew pieces together in intervals to create pockets. Cut up old calendars or other graphic materials and slip them into the openings. If you want, add useful things like shopping lists and metro cards.

*Design: Katherine Cornelius  
Photography: Nancy Froehlich*

### ALPHABET SOUP

Buy rubber stamps at a craft store and have fun making a pattern or message. Canvas is a great material to work with, although any surface will do. Shown here are a printed tote and matching belt.

*Design: Katherine Cornelius  
Photography: Nancy Froehlich*

