Upcycled Denim Tote Bag

Class Requirements



Instructor: Kris Curtis 616-212-7977

Date: December 12, 2026
Time: 9 am – 3 pm

We will make a tote bag approximately 15" w x 20" high, 4" deep, with two handles. The basic bag is straightforward; the fun part comes when you add your personalizing ideas.

Skill Level Needed: Confident Beginner

Materials:

- Old denim, corduroy or twill jeans of various colors and shades: one or two pairs should do it. If you have some to share, please bring them. I will have lots and lots of denim for you to use for variety and embellishment.
- Any other fabric for designing, mixing and matching, embellishing
- 1 yard of fabric for lining
- Size 14 or 16 (jeans) needle
- Thread to match or contrast
- Fusible stabilizer is optional: heavy or medium weight
- Sewing machine in good working order & manual
- Usual sewing equipment: pins, scissors, clips, rotary cutter, etc.

Embellishments:

I'll have some samples of fabric flowers and appliques and instructions for making.

- Orphan quilt blocks
- Buttons, beads, bling
- Ribbon, braid, cording
- Lace and ruffles
- Hand or machine embroidered patches

Homework:
Get some ideas for what you want to do with your bag so you can narrow down your project and bring supplies for embellishing and personalizing. We can figure out just

about anything so don't be afraid to think outside the box. Feel free to talk with me before class so I can make suggestions.

Google search for: “upcycled denim tote bag” and look under images
Pinterest: Type “denim tote bag”





