

Reach To Recovery Tote Bags

For more than 30 years, the American Cancer Society Reach to Recovery program has helped people cope with their breast cancer experience. This experience begins when someone is faced with the possibility of a breast cancer diagnosis and continues throughout the entire period that breast cancer remains a personal concern.

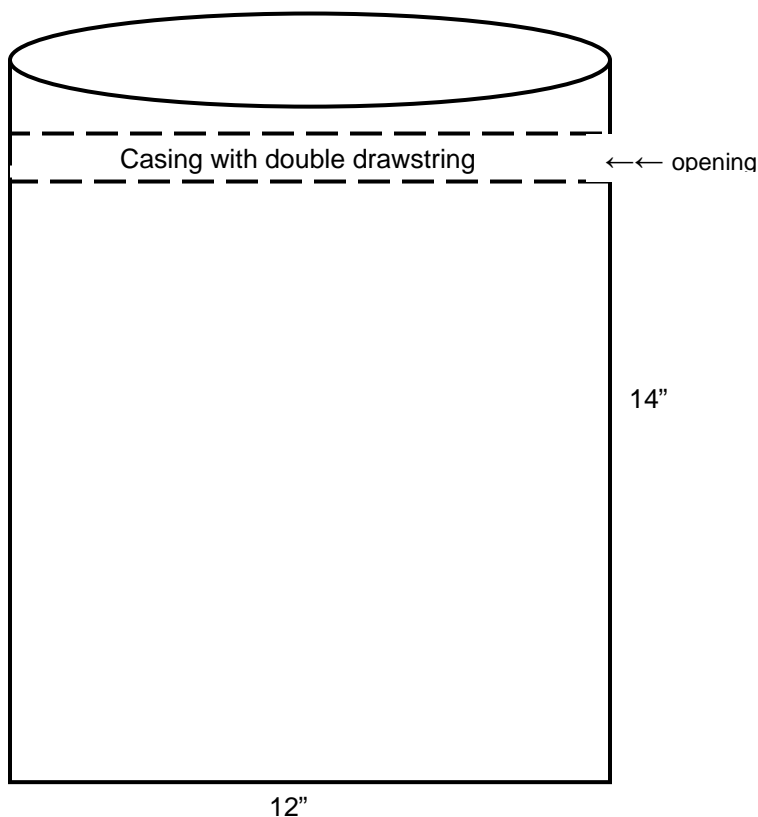
The purpose of the Reach to Recovery Tote Bag is to present the patient with an attractive and useful tote bag that will be used to hold items, such as an underarm pillow, exercise instructions, and other helpful literature. Reach to Recovery volunteers fill the bags before visiting patients, giving them support and care they need in a difficult time.

Making these tote bags can become a meaningful service project for a group of Girl Scouts.

Instructions/Materials to make tote bag:

The finished tote bag should be 12" wide by 14" high. Cut two pieces of soft fabric = 12 ½ inches x 15½ inches. Use bright and cheerful prints (remnants may be pieced together). With right sides together, using a ½ inch seam allowance, sew down one side, across the bottom, and up the other side. Fold back the top ½ inch to hide raw edge. Next, fold again, to make one inch hem. Press. Carefully stitch around the top edge - twice, leaving an opening on the right side for a cord (see diagram). Turn right-side out. Snip threads at right side for cord opening.

Draw string: Cut colored twine or a single-crocheted yarn tie (it needs to be strong enough to withstand pulling), approximately 30 inches long. Feed the string through the casing (see diagram). Tie ends together.



Delivery:

Mail or deliver completed Reach to Recovery Tote Bags to:
American Cancer Society
Attn: Donna Pressley
1114 N. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Please contact Donna at 847-368-1166 or donna.pressley@cancer.org for additional information.