

Hope Market Tote Pattern

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Figure A

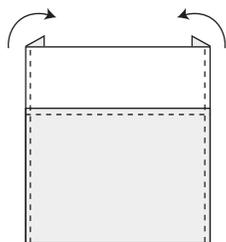


Figure B

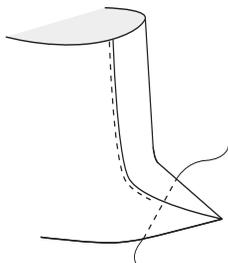
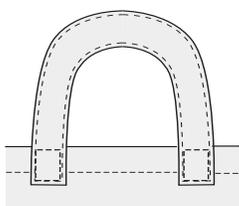


Figure C



Snowdrops from Denyse's garden, those earliest harbingers of spring, pair perfectly with our Hope Market Tote. The project, which originally appeared in British *Sew Hip* magazine, features Denyse's **Hope Valley** fabrics and letters from **The Proverbial Quilt** pattern. We think it's a meaningful – and beautiful – way to take better care of our planet.

Made as instructed, **The Proverbial Quilt** pattern yields a queen-size quilt that reads: *When we are flat on our backs, the only way to look is up. Find release from your cares, tomorrow is another day.* The text is a fitting amalgamation of cookie fortunes and proverbs that Denyse cooked up, but the pattern (which includes all the letters in the alphabet) can be used to create any saying or word you wish – on a quilt, pillow, chair seat, or tote! So go ahead and customize, personalize, editorialize, or memorialize!



What You Need:

For the bag and letter backgrounds you'll need 1 yard cotton canvas. For the letters, you'll need 4 different patterned fabrics, approximately 8" x 7" each, for the letters. We used fabrics from Denyse's Hope Valley collection.

How to Sew the Hope Patchwork:

Trace and Cut the Pattern Pieces

All pattern pieces are shown at full size, and include 1/4" seam allowance. Pin all Pattern Pieces to the right side of your fabric. Use the Hope Valley fabric for the Letters and the canvas for the Letter Background Pieces. Cut out the fabric pieces, then set aside with the corresponding Patterns, so you don't lose track of which piece is which.

Sew the Letters

The templates are labeled with a letter (H, O, P, and E) and a number. Arrange the pieces for each letter according to figure D on page 2. The text on each Pattern Piece should be in "right reading" position. With fabric right sides together, and using a 1/4" seam allowance, assemble each letter in number order. For example, sew piece H1 to piece H2, then sew piece H3 to H2, and so on until you've completed all four letters. Using an iron, press the seam allowances toward the Hope Valley fabric as you sew. Next, sew the letters together to form HOPE as shown, using Figure D on page 2 as a guide.

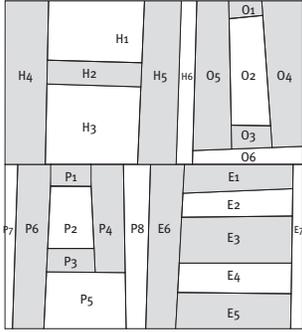
Using a rotary cutter and ruler, and gridded cutting mat, square up the edges of the Hope Patchwork. Stitch around the square, 1/4" in from the edge. Use this stitched line as a guide to turn under the sides of the HOPE square 1/4". Press and set aside.



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Figure D



How to Sew a Market Tote:

Cut the Fabric

Cut a 17" x 36" rectangle of canvas fabric. The finished bag will be 12" wide x 14" tall x 4" deep. From the remaining fabric, cut two pieces 17" x 4" for the handles, and one piece 7" x 17" for an inside pocket (optional).

Sew the Pocket

Pink or zig zag all four raw edges of the pocket. Turn under one short end edge 1/2" and stitch. Fold up hemmed side, with wrong sides together, so rectangle measures 9" x 7". Stitch along pocket sides, 1/2" from raw edge. Finish long sides by turning the raw edges of both sides toward the back of the pocket, and stitch close to the fold to hold. Set aside.

Attach the Hope Patchwork

Center the Hope Patchwork on one end of the canvas rectangle, 3" down from the raw edge, and pin. Topstitching close to the edge, sew the Hope Patchwork to the canvas. Topstitch to outline the letters, or create a quilted look.

Sew the Tote

Fold tote fabric in half, with right sides together, so fabric measures 18" x 17". The fold will become the bottom of the bag. Using a 1/2" SA, sew both sides. With bag wrong side out, sew a line of topstitching, 1/4" from the side seam. You'll be sewing on the right side of the bag, from the inside. Don't worry if your machine can't reach the corner, just get as close as you can.

Lay bag flat on a table and finger press the bottom fold as a guide for the next step. Wrong side out, stand bag upright and flatten the bottom corners, being careful to line up the side seams with the bottom center of the bag. Sew a 4" line of stitching across the triangle, 2" in from the corner of the bag (figure B). Repeat on other side. This creates the bottom of the bag. Press triangle to the bottom of the bag, and stitch in place, across the point.

Turn bag right side out. Fold top of bag to inside 1/2", then another 1". Press. On the side of the bag without the Hope Patchwork, pin prepared pocket in place underneath the fold, lining up the center of the side of the bag with the center of the pocket. Finish the top of the bag by stitching along the folded edge, attaching the pocket as you sew.

Attach the Handles

Fold under short sides 1/2" each. Press. Fold in long edges so they meet in the center, then fold strap in half. Press. Edgestitch around the strap, about 1/8" from the edge. Repeat for second strap. Pin the ends of each strap to the outside of the bag, 2" from the center and 1-1/2" down, and sew in a box shape to attach (figure C).

You're ready to share your message of HOPE as you shop!

Glossary

Edgestitch: Stitch about 1/8" or closer from the finished edge.

Topstitch: The topstitch is used to secure seams and add a decorative finish. This stitch is worked on the right side, about 1/4" away from an edge or seam, though all the layers.

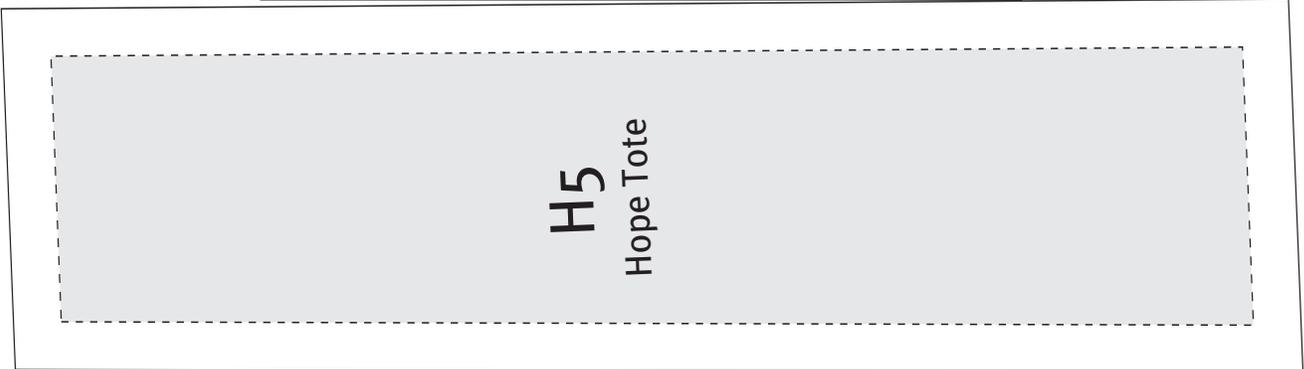
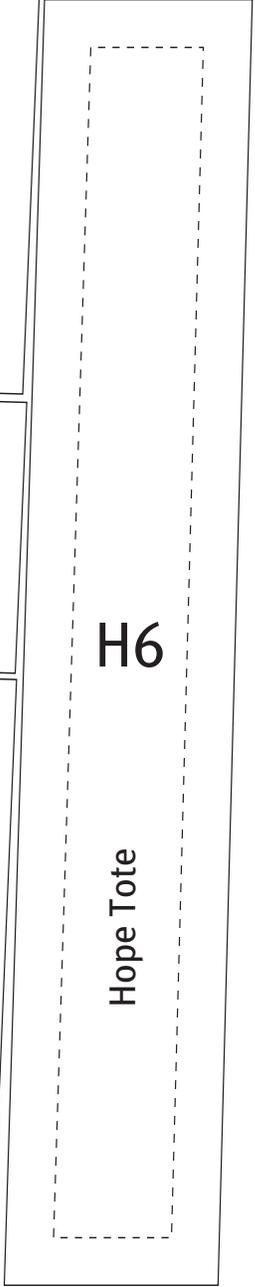
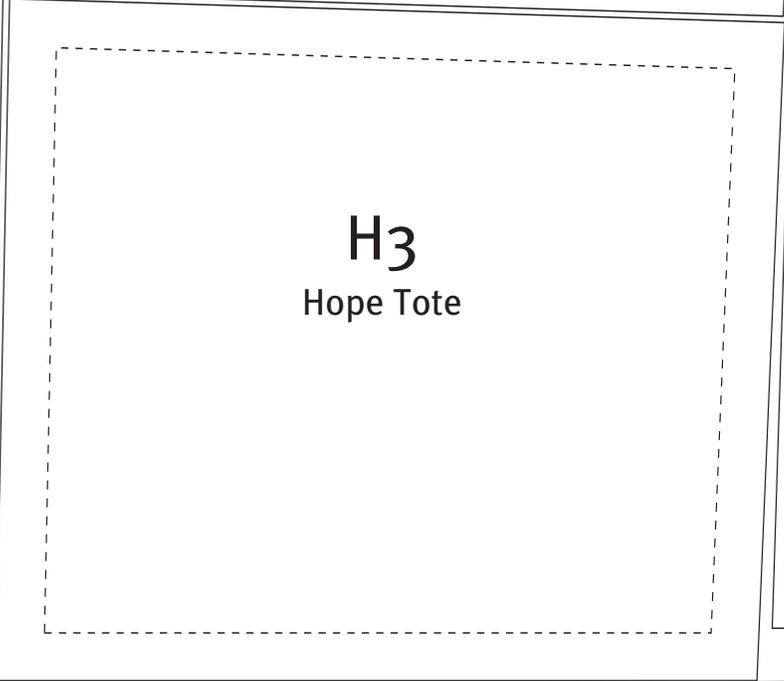
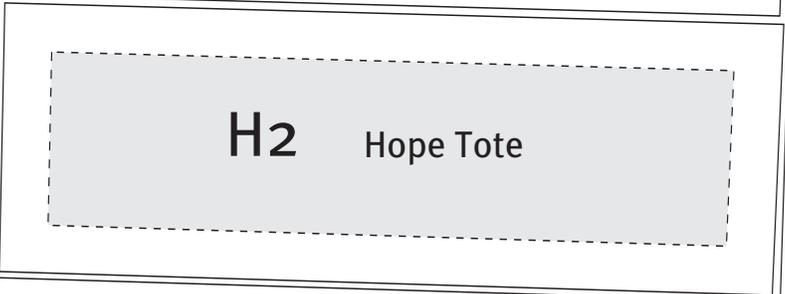
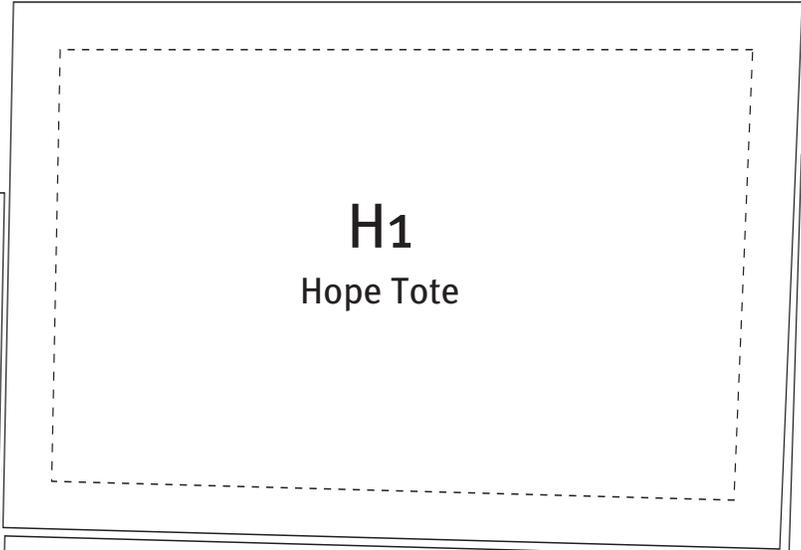
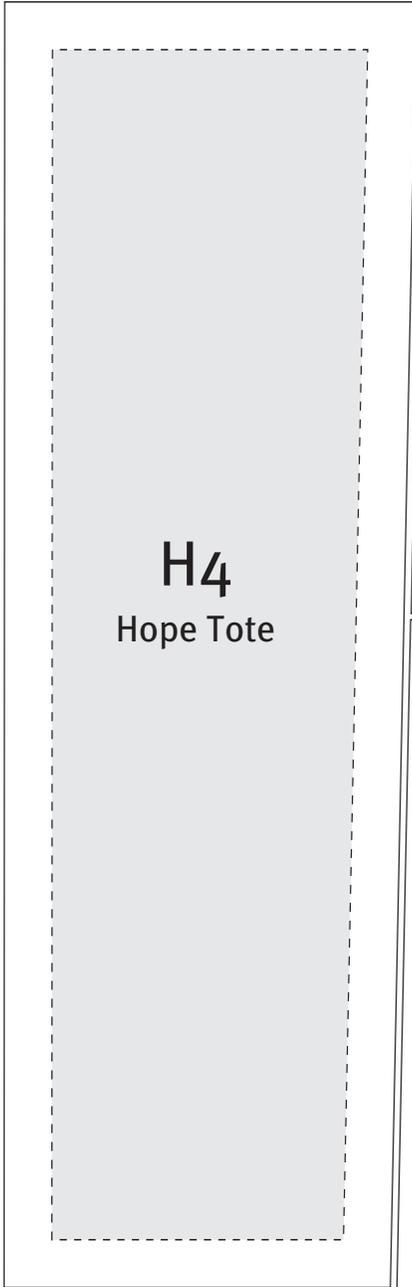
SA = Seam allowance

 = Wrong side of fabric

 = Right side of fabric

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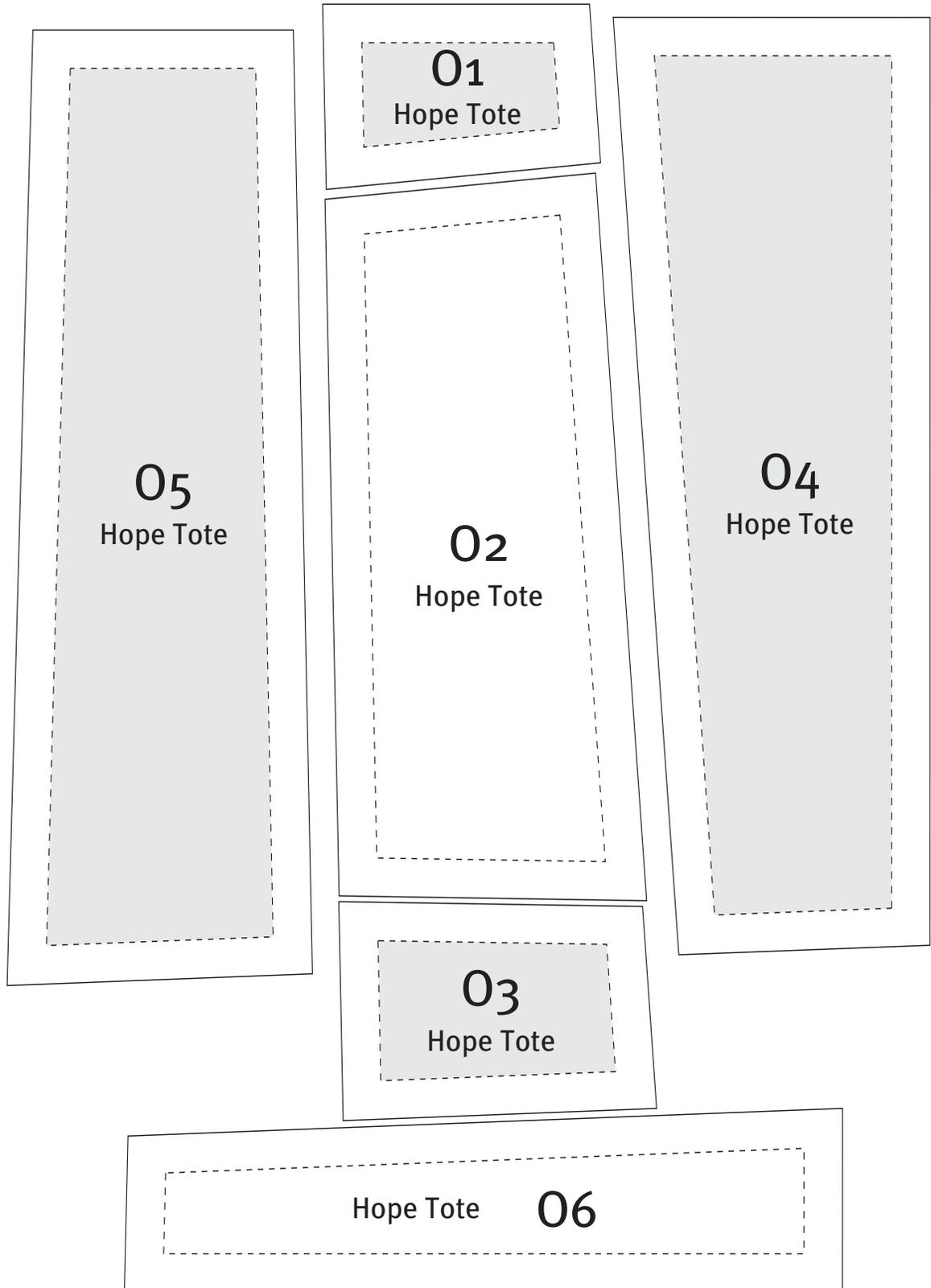
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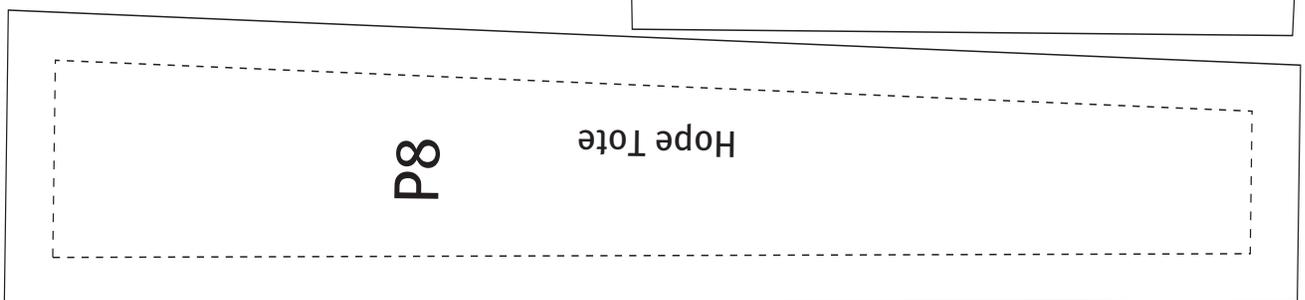
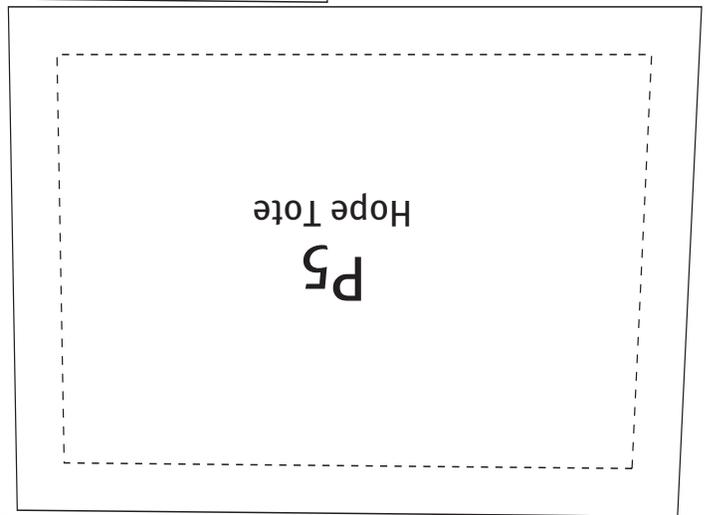
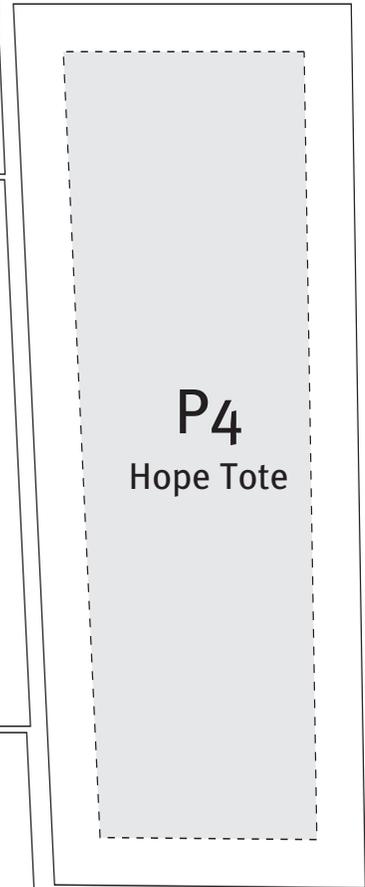
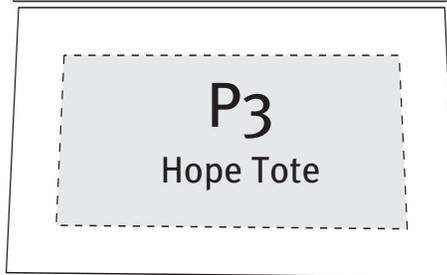
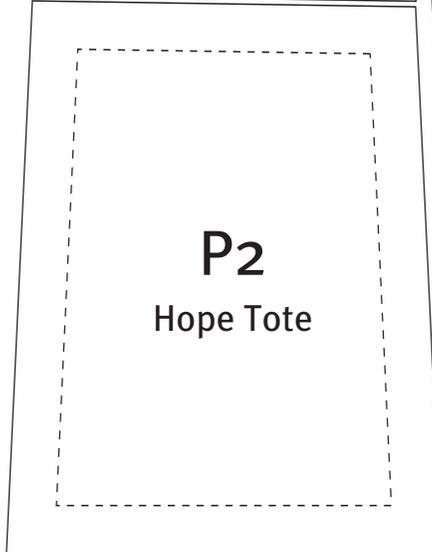
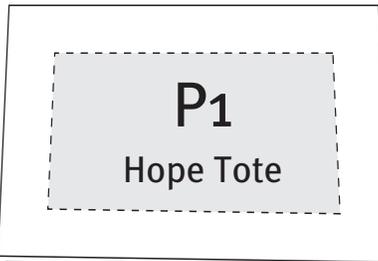
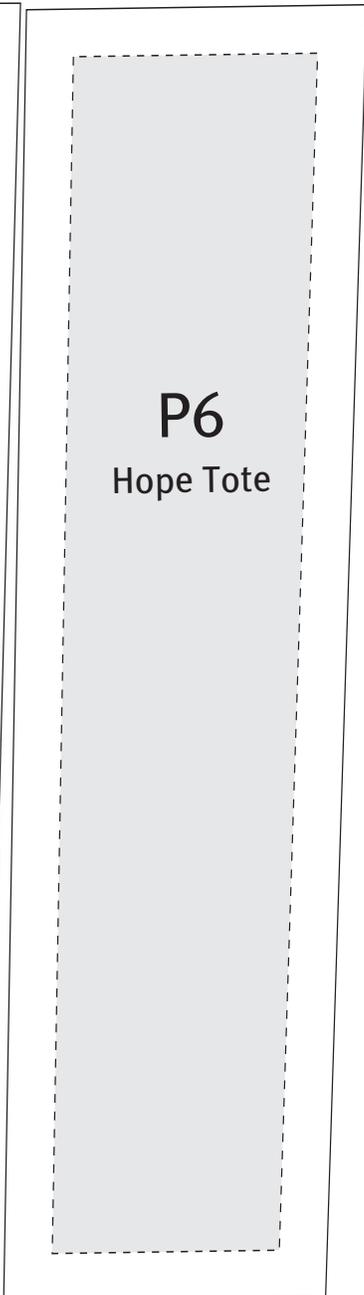
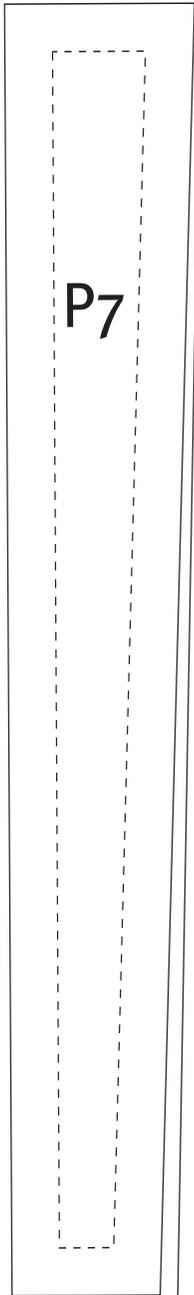
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