T-shirt Tote Bag Tutorial
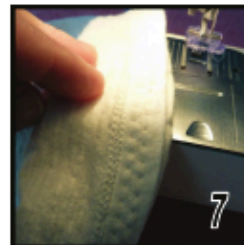### *try saying this three times real fast

Here's what you'll need: t-shirt, sharp pair of scissors (or rotary cutter and cutting mat), pencil or fabric marker, a plate or bowl slightly larger than the neck seam of your shirt, and a **sewing machine

1. Lay t-shirt on a flat surface and smooth out any wrinkles around the armholes (Fig. 1).

2. Cut off the sleeves (Fig. 2). You can cut on the outside of the armhole seam or the inside. Choose one or the other and do the same to the other sleeve. If you cut the seam off, it has a cleaner look. If you keep the seam, you have a reinforced bag handle.

3. Place your plate upside down over your neck seam (Fig. 3). Trace around the plate (Fig. 4). Cut on this line and remove the neck seam. This will be the opening of your tote bag (Fig. 5).

4. Turn your shirt inside out -'party sides' together-and line up the bottoms of your shirt (Fig. 6).

5. Using your sewing machine, sew a straight stitch along the bottom, using a 1/2-inch seam allowance. Go back and sewing a 2nd time, using another straight stitch or a zig zag, to reinforce this closure. This is going to hold the weight of whatever is in your tote bag (Fig. 7).

6. Reach into your shirt through the neck opening, grab the bottom and pull it out through the top. "Party sides" (right sides) should be facing out now. Shazaam!! it's a tote bag (Fig 8)

**You can hand stitch the bottom of your bag if you do not have a sewing machine. Just remember that this stitch will be 'holding' the weight of whatever you put inside your tote bag. I've tried duct tape, too. Of the various methods, I find the sewing machine stitch the fastest and easiest.

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