

STM 2

Front Opening Zipper Pouch

Materials

Zipper Pouches can be made any size you want. For this class they will be approximately 8-1/4" x 6" finished. Once you learn the technique, you can make this fun, quick project any size from mini to oversize. When cutting out custom size pouch, add 1-1/4" to desired finished width to allow for inside edges French seam finish. Directional fabric should not be used as an outside fabric.

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|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 piece focus fabric | Cut 9-1/2" wide x 12-1/2" long |
| 1 piece lining | Cut 9-1/2" wide x 12-1/4" long |
| Fusible interfacing | 9" x 12" long |
| 1 polyester zipper | 14" (matching or contrasting) |

Matching or contrasting thread
Chopstick or other tool to push out corners



STM 2 students: Your fabrics may have been precut to a smaller size. You will make them larger by putting them together with an exposed decorative French seam on the focus fabric and a regular seam on the lining fabric.

1. Lay 2 focus/outside fabrics right sides together. Stitch a 1/4" seam.
2. Fold the wrong sides together, then press. Stitch a second seam at 3/8" from the fold. This enclosed seam will be on the right side of the fabric.
3. Press the seam so it goes downward, then stitch close to the folded edge.
4. The lining pieces will be stitched with a regular 1/4" seam, right sides together. Press the seam open/flat.



pieces should be 1-1/4" wider than finished size.

2. Press fabric to eliminate wrinkles, then place the fusible interfacing, glue dot side down, on the wrong side of the focus fabric. There should be about 1/4" of the wrong side of the focus fabric showing all around. Follow instructions that came with the interfacing to fuse them together.
3. Place the focus and lining fabrics right sides together. The lining will be 1/4" shorter than the focus fabric. Stitch a 1/4" seam at each shorter end, matching the raw edges. Turn so right sides are facing out.
4. When pressed there should be about a scant 1/8" of the focus fabric showing beyond the lining fabric. This will help make sure that it fits snugly against the zipper in the next step and that the lining fabric does not show.



Assembly

1. Trim all fabrics to the desired size for your pouch. Lining fabric length should be 1/4" less than the outside focus fabric. The width of both

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5. With right side up, place one edge of the focus fabric against the bottom of the zipper teeth. Pin in place with the sharp end of the pins facing the left.



6. Use a zipper foot to stitch the zipper about 1/8" from the zipper teeth. The zipper pull should be to the left side of the pouch and should extend about 1" past the edge. Leave most of the extra zipper at the right edge. If you want, you can stitch a second line about 1/8" away from the first line for a more decorative look.

7. Align the other edge of the fabric close to the zipper teeth as before. Pin in place. Next unzip the zipper and turn the fabric as shown. This makes it easier to stitch.



8. Stitch next to the zipper. Add a second decorative stitching line if desired.
9. Turn the bag right side out, then zip the zipper. Fold the pouch so that you have about 1" above the zipper.
- For most people the zipper pull will be to the left, but if you are making this for a "lefty" you may move the pull to the right by turning the fabric, so the zipper pull is on the right. Adjust the fabric so the 1" topper is at the top.

10. Check to make sure the front panels match. If not, trim so they are straight. Remember to move the zipper pull to the middle before trimming. You may cut the polyester zipper with scissors or a rotary cutter. **Be sure the zipper coil at the stopper end does not separate.**

11. Carefully take the pouch to the ironing board and press. Focus fabric should be facing out.

12. Stitch each side with a 1/4" seam, backstitching at the beginning, zipper teeth, and end as shown by the black lines. Zipper teeth should be close together as you stitch over them. If necessary, trim any loose threads along the edge so they do not stick out in the next step.



13. Turn the pouch inside out, making sure to poke out the corners so they are smooth and "sharp." Press.

14. Stitch another seam at 3/8" to enclose the first seam. Back stitch at the beginning, end and over the zipper teeth. Trim all threads.

15. Turn the pouch right side out again, poke out the corners, then press.

16. Add a zipper pull if desired.



This pattern was compiled and adapted from several different internet zipper pouch patterns for STM2 in 2024.