

Zippy Pouch - STM 2

Project Overview

Zippy Pouches are a fun, versatile project you can create in any size and use for almost any purpose. The zipper is installed in a unique way, and the pouch is fully lined with French seams for a clean, finished interior. A colorful zipper pull adds the finishing touch.

Materials and Cutting Instructions

The finished size for the pouch will be about 6" x 8".

Cut 1 piece of exterior fabric 13" long x 10" wide

Cut 1 piece of lining fabric 12 1/2" long x 10" wide

Cut 1 piece of fusible interfacing 12 1/2" long by 9 1/2" wide

1 polyester zipper 14" long (matching or contrasting)

Matching or contrasting thread

Chopstick or other tool to push out corners



INSTRUCTIONS

Create a Fabric Sandwich

1. Press fabric to remove wrinkles. Place the fusible interfacing, adhesive side down, on the wrong side of the exterior fabric. Keep an even margin of exterior fabric all around. Press to fuse.
2. Place the exterior and the lining piece right sides together. The lining will be 1/2" shorter than the exterior fabric. Pin or clip both 10" ends, matching raw edges.
3. Stitch a 1/4" seam at each end. It will look like this, with extra exterior fabric to form a band at the ends in step 5.
4. Press the 1/4" seams toward the lining, then turn the piece right side out.



5. Carefully press from the lining side to form a 1/8" band of exterior fabric at each end. This ensures the piece will sit snugly against the zipper in the next step and prevent the lining from showing. This creates the "sandwich" you will use for the following steps.



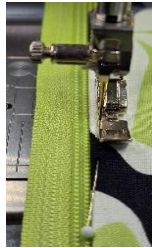
Insert the Zipper

1. With exterior side up, place one edge of the fabric against the ridge (technically called a bead) at the bottom of the zipper teeth, with the pull positioned to the left. Pin in place, inserting the pins so the sharp ends point to the left. The zipper should be longer than the fabric—center it so the fabric sits approximately in the middle of the zipper tape.



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2. Use a zipper foot to stitch the zipper 1/8" from the zipper ridge. Backstitch each end. Keep the pin in place until the machine needle is about one stitch away from it.



- a. If you like, you can add a second line of stitching about 1/8" away from the first for a more polished finish.
3. Turn the pouch so the zipper pull is on your right and the bulk of the pouch is facing away from you. Bring the opposite end around to form a tube, then place the other folded fabric edge against the top zipper ridge. Align the outer fabric edges.
4. Hold the pouch from left side and insert two pins parallel to the zipper, with the sharp points facing the left as before. Unzip the zipper so you can finish pinning easily. Continue placing the edge of the fabric against the zipper ridge, carefully pinning in place.

5. Once pinned, turn the fabric so both the lining and exterior are visible. This position makes stitching easier.



6. Stitch close to the zipper as before. Add a second decorative line of stitching line if previously used.
7. Turn the pouch right side out, then zip the zipper. Fold the pouch tube so that you have about 1" above the zipper and the zipper pull is to the left. Press the top and bottom folds. Check that the lining is smooth and free of puckers.

Finishing the Zippy Pouch

1. Pull the zipper to the center, **before** trimming the zipper ends even with the fabric edges. Polyester zippers can be cut with scissors.
 - a. Handle the pouch carefully until the side seams are stitched so the zipper coil at the stopper end does not separate.
2. The front panels should match, but if they don't, trim so the edges are straight and even.

3. Stitch each side with a 1/4" seam, backstitching at the beginning, at the zipper teeth, and end as shown by the red lines. Zipper teeth should be touching as you stitch over them. Trim any loose threads along the edge so they don't show in the next step.



4. Turn the pouch inside out, gently pushing out the corners so they're smooth and sharp. Press.

5. Create a French seam by stitching a 1/2" seam to enclose 1/4" seam on both edges. Backstitch at the beginning, over the zipper teeth, and at the end. Trim all threads.



6. Turn the Zippy Pouch right side out again, gently push out the corners, then press.
7. Add a zipper pull for a finishing touch.

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How to Make Zippy Pouches in Different Sizes at Home

Now that you know the basic technique, you can make this fun, quick project any size - from mini to oversize. Create cases for writing and art tools, personal items, chargers, jewelry, doggie bags, first-aid supplies, snacks, and more. Make them for family and friends. The possibilities are endless!

When designing custom sizes, keep these guidelines in mind:

1. Allow for the top fold and bottom wrap.

For the length, remember that you will need about 1" for the top fold, and the bottom must wrap back up to the top.

2. Add seam allowance to the length

The top and bottom each use a ¼" seam, so add an extra ½" to the length you want.

3. Use paper to test your size

The easiest way to size your pouch is to fold a piece of paper to the dimensions you think you want, make the necessary folds, add the seam allowances, and measure.

4. Account for French seams.

To create French seams inside for a clean finish, add 1 ½" to the desired finished size – ¼" for the first seam, ½" for the second finishing seam times.

5. Avoid directional fabric for the exterior.

Directional fabric is one that has a definite "up" and "down" in its design. If you use it for the exterior, part of the print will be upside down when it is folded.

6. Choose a polyester zipper long enough for the pouch's width.

The zipper should be at least of 4" longer than the pouch width – more is alright.

7. Interfacing and Stability

Without interfacing, your pouch will be floppy. Use medium weight fusible interfacing for the exterior piece. It should be cut ½" less than the length and ½" less than the width. Follow the fusing instructions on page 1, "Create a Fabric Sandwich, #1". Pellon SF101 is an excellent woven cotton option that provides structure without stiffness.

8. The Lining

Lining should always be cut ½" shorter than the exterior fabric to assure it is not seen when the zipper is attached.

***Follow the original instructions on
pages 1 & 2 and everything will go smoothly.***

Have fun Creating!

