

The Creative Thimble



Cosmetic Bag, Change Purse & Eyeglass Case

Designed by Laura Martell

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These change purses and cases make a wonderful addition to coordinate with your tote bags and purses. You can use the scraps leftover from your totes or use a contrast/coordinating fabric for them. These also look great in tapestry, denim and ultrasuede. If you have an embroidery machine, they make a great canvas to create a unique one of a kind embroidered gift. Make all three for a quick and easy last minute gift set.

Supplies:

Fabric Scraps or Leftovers from your purse pattern.

Fusible Interfacing, (I use Décor Bond, by Pellon)

7" zipper

Thread to match fabric

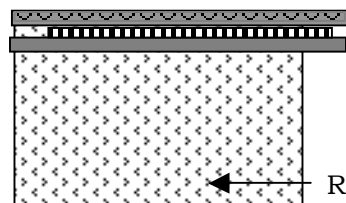
Cut the following amounts for each case or purse you make:

Cosmetic Case – Cut 2 fabric & 2 Interfacing 6" high x 8" wide

Change Purse – Cut 2 fabric & 2 Interfacing 4" high x 5" wide

Eyeglass Case – Cut 2 fabric & 2 Interfacing 8" high x 4" wide

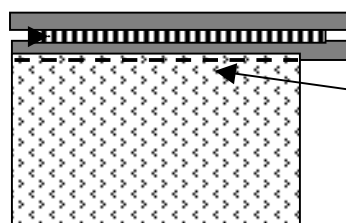
1. Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of each corresponding fabric piece.
2. Place zipper tape right sides together with the top edge of the fabric. Let any excess zipper tape hang off the right edge of fabric.
 - i. Cosmetic bag – place on 8" side
 - ii. Change purse – place on 5" side
 - iii. Eyeglass Case – place on 4" side
3. Zig zag the zipper to the top edge of the fabric. Overlap the raw edge of the fabric with the stitching to help prevent raveling.



Zig zag over the zipper tape to encase the raw edges.

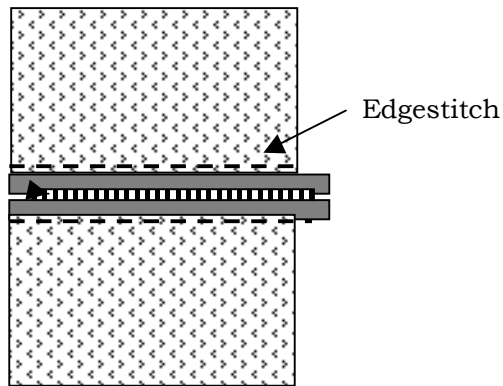
Right Side of fabric

4. Press zipper away from fabric. Roll the fabric up near the zipper teeth and edgestitch the fold of fabric close to the zipper teeth, through all layers.

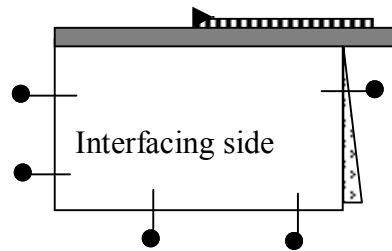


Edgestitch close to fold of fabric.

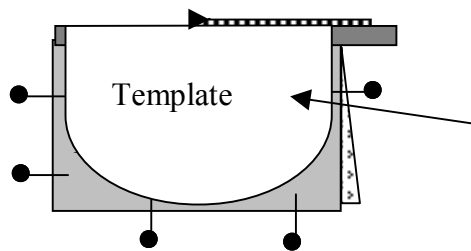
5. Place the right side of the zipper tape to the right side of the second fabric piece, along the top edge. Zig zag in place as in step 1.
6. Press zipper away from the fabric. Roll the fabric up near the zipper teeth and edgestitch the fold of fabric close to the zipper teeth, through all layers.



7. Open zipper half way, and fold fabric right sides together. Pin.



8. Trace and cut out of cardboard or template plastic, the corresponding template (below) for the case or purse that you are making.
9. Place the template on your pinned fabric and trace around it with a pencil. **Stitch on the pencil line.** Start sewing through the zipper and zipper tape at the top edge and backtack. Continue to sew around the pencil line and end sewing through the zipper tape on the other top edge.



Place template on fabric and trace.
Sew on pencil lines.

10. Cut off the excess zipper and trim close to stitching. Turn right side out and voila!! That's all there is to it!!

Change Purse Template

Cut 1 from Template Plastic or
Cardboard

Cosmetic Bag Template

Cut one from Template Plastic or
Cardboard

Eyeglass Case Template

Cut 1 from Template Plastic or
Cardboard

**Lengthen this template to 7 ½" for
eyeglass case.**

Choose these shapes or make your own, maybe one that is not so rounded. Make a rectangle about ½" smaller than the case and curve the corners with a spool of thread.

Once you have the hang of it, you can make these any size that suits your needs. Here are a few ideas:

- Pencil bag for the kids backpack.
- Make a padded one for your telephone or PDA.
- Make a larger rectangle one with corner triangles to add depth.