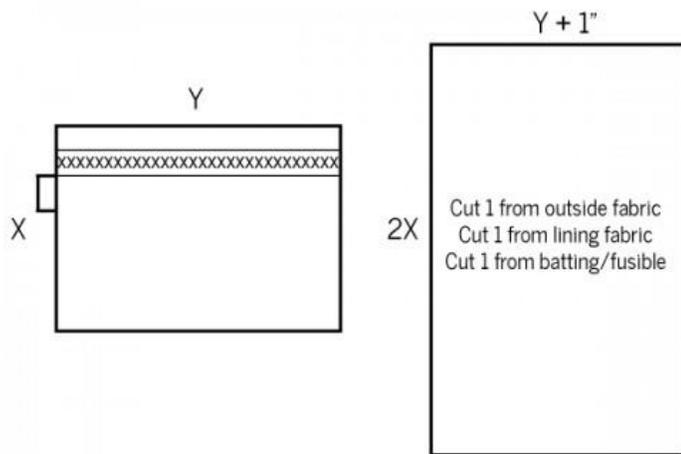


# Easy Zippy Pouches

You can make these any size. Here's the basic formula for working that out. I'm going to make the one for this tutorial coin-purse sized. I have one that is about 7x5 that I use for my inhaler, medicine and hair elastics in my purse so they don't get lost and it makes it easier to switch purses daily like I do. You could also make them really big and use them for packing, makeup, pencils, kids stuff... whatever, really.

Decide your finished size first. I want mine to be 3" tall (X) by 4" wide (Y). So I'll cut my fabric 6" tall by 5" wide. It's not perfect but it's pretty close.



Cut one from each of your main fabric and lining. I just used the same fabric for both since it's such a small amount. Then cut one piece of thin batting 1/4" smaller overall and a 2.5" x 2.5" tab. You will need a zipper at least 2" longer than the width of the fabric. Way longer is better.



Sandwich the two pieces RIGHT SIDES OUT with the batting in the middle. So lining is wrong side up, then layer the batting, then place the main fabric right side UP. Wrong sides both facing the batting.

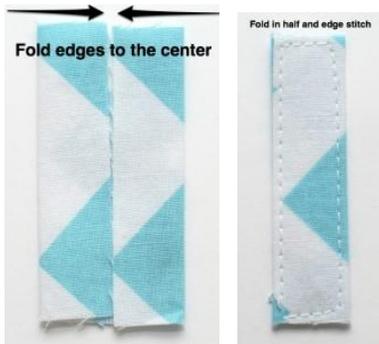


Quilt! I usually choose fabrics I can follow the designs on, like these Chevrons or the Ta-Dots, or I just do straight lines. And yes, you're supposed to cut quilted stuff bigger and then trim. You can do that if you want, but it should be fine. Trim any threads and if it gets all wonky you can square it up.





So now you should have one quilted piece. Press it really well, and while you're pressing fold the tab in fourths and edge stitch. Set that aside for now.



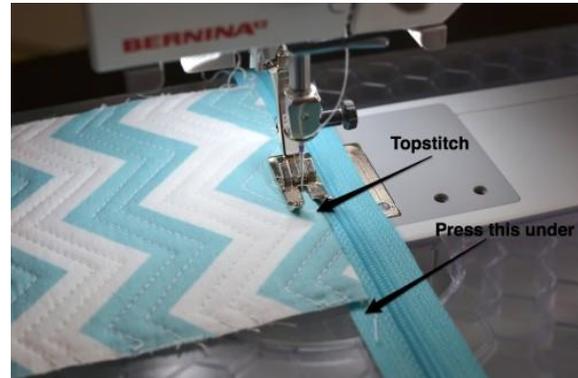
Now, the zipper. Ready? Align the top edges, right sides together as shown and sew with a 1/4" seam allowance. Use your zipper foot if you have one.



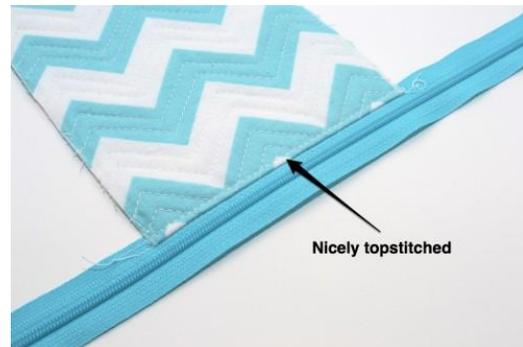
Now flip it over to the lining side and trim away half of the seam allowance. Then press the zipper back – be careful not to melt it.



Topstitch the fabric next to the zipper.



Yay! One side done!



Flip it over and you can see why we trimmed that seam.



Now, place it back right side up.



Now fold the bottom edge up to meet the top edge. The main fabric should all be in the middle right sides together and the lining will be showing. Pin it in place.



Sew with a 1/4" seam allowance.



Trim just like you did with the other side.



OK this is kind of trick on this little one, but you can do it. Reach through there and UNZIP. All the way. Then press the zipper to the back side.



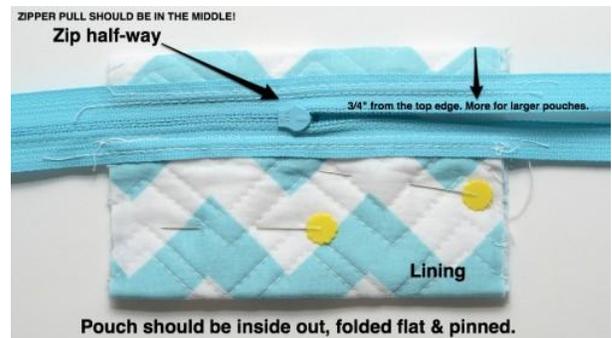
Topstitch the second side.



Turn the pouch **WRONG SIDE OUT** – **LINING SHOWING**.

Fold it flat and zip it half-way. The zipper pull **MUST BE IN THE MIDDLE**. Do not cut it off! :)

*On this little one, the middle of the zipper teeth are about 3/4" from the top. On a larger pouch I would make it an inch or more. Just play with it right side out until it looks right and then measure it before turning it inside out.*



Now cut off the excess zipper. Fold the tab in half and insert it at the open end of the zipper, raw edges sticking out a bit. If you're adding a D-ring, add it to the tab before you stick it in there. I'm going to add a split ring at the end.

Or make your tab wider or longer and don't add a ring. Whatever you want!



Sew down both side with a 3/8" seam allowance. I do this a couple times, and backstitch over the zipper ends a couple more.



Trim those sides to just under 1/4".



Overlock or zig-zag the edges. I have a #2A overlock foot for my Bernina. You probably don't. Just use the zig-zag foot and set it to the widest setting and use a short stitch length.

It's OK to let the right side of the needle go off the edge of the fabric.



If you want to add fray block to the open edge of the zipper, do it now.



Turn it right side out and PRESS really well. Use steam. Don't melt the zipper. Add a split ring. Here's some Canadian coins because I don't have any American coins in my sewing room. And a flash drive for scale. Yes, I'm a dork. I thought we'd established that? :)

