



Small Tool Zipper Bags

Use pre-quilted fabrics for quick-to-sew bags to hold pencils, rotary cutters, stilettos, threads...any small notions. Try one with provided dimensions. Then vary the length and/or width to make other shapes and sizes.

Materials

1 rectangle of pre-quilted fabric, 7"x10 ½". You can lengthen by increasing the 10 ½ side or widen the bag by increasing the 7" side

1 zipper, 12" or longer. Zipper should be about 2" longer than the longer side of your bag.



Steps

1. Place fabric with preferred outer fabric face up. Open zipper, and center it face down (zipper pull down) along 10 ½" side with zipper tape even with fabric edge. Pin or clip in place. There should be extra zipper at zipper bottom end. Sew zipper to fabric with ¼" seam allowance, using a zipper foot.
2. Turn right side up, roll fabric away from the zipper teeth, and topstitch about 1/8" from the seam edge. Turn over, and check that the fabric raw edge is secure under the zipper tape.



3. Unzip the zipper. With fabric wrong side out, bring the second long edge of the fabric to the unsewn zipper side, right side of fabric to the right side of the zipper; clip or pin. This is easier sewn with the zipper unzipped. Be sure you have the left and rights sides of the fabric even with the sides already attached to the zipper.



4. Sew the zipper to the fabric. Roll the seam away from the zipper, and topstitch 1/8" from the seam. Turn over, and check that the fabric raw edge is secure under the zipper edge.





5. Unzip half the zipper; turn tube wrong side out. The tube is open at both ends. Flatten the tube with the zipper centered on top. Pin or clip the open side of the tube where the zipper tail extends off the bag. Make sure the metal zipper stop is not where you will sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the raw edge, and the top of the zipper matches or extends beyond the other side. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam across the short end. . Sew slowly over the zipper teeth, especially if you are using a zipper with large and/or metal teeth. Sew this seam 2 more times close or on top of the previous stitching.



6. Make sure zipper is still at least half open. Clip the other open end carefully matching the top ends of the zipper. Now stitch this short side, across the top of the zipper, about $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the fabric raw edges. Get close to where the zipper should stop when closed. Sew slowly over the zipper teeth, especially if you are using a zipper with large and/or metal teeth. Sew this seam 2 more times close or on top of the previous stitching. Cut off excess zipper tape and teeth. Use a serger or close zig zag stitch across these short seam allowances, if desired.



7. Boxing the 4 corners provides shape to the bag. With the bag inside out, hold the tube with a short end down and press corner into a triangle shape, serged seam up, centering the point with the serged seam away from the zipper. Use a ruler to draw a line $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the point, across the triangle (perpendicular to the serged seam). This drawn line will be about $1\frac{1}{2}$ " across. Stitch this line. Cut and repeat with the other 3 corners. Serge or zigzag these 4 short seams if desired..



Note: You can stop after Step 7, if you want a flat bag. You can create your own pre-quilted fabric, trying batting, Peltex, or foam between the 2 fabric layers for various effects.

