

SELVEDGE STRIP ZIPPERED POUCH

These little zippered pouches are delightfully easy to make - and the perfect use for those selvages you've been saving "just because". I tell you, I had so much fun making the first one (they whip up in a couple hours or less), that I've made four more since! Oh, and I've managed to eat all the chocolates I used for the photo, too.

MATERIALS

Finished size = 9" x 5"

Difficulty Level = Intermediate

- 1 - 10" (25cm) zipper - can be longer, as you can cut to fit a variety of selvedge strips, at least 10" long
- 2 - 10" x 6" rectangles lining fabric
- 2 - 10" x 6" rectangles interfacing
- 1 - 2" x 5" strip of coordinating fabric for zipper covers
- zipper foot for your sewing machine
- matching thread
- corner turning tool or chopstick
- pencil & ruler



SELVEDGE TOP DIRECTIONS

1. Lay 1 lining fabric rectangle on table, wrong side facing up, with long edge closest to you.
2. Place 1 interfacing rectangle on top, matching edges.
3. Lay your first selvedge strip at the edge closest to you, with the selvedge edge lining up with the raw edge of the fabric, and the raw edge of the strip away from you. Place the strip so that your favourite part shows the most - it may be the writing on the strip, or the colour dots, or both.
4. Place a second selvedge strip over top of the first, covering the raw edge of the first strip. Stitch close to the edge of the second selvedge strip to stitch both selvages to the interfacing and lining fabric. We used a zig-zag stitch in the sample shown but you can use a straight stitch, or any decorative stitch on your sewing machine.

5. Continue adding selvedge strips until you reach the top of the lining layer.
6. Press and trim away any excess fabric from top layer. Square up your selvedge tops so they are as close to 10" x 6" as possible. Set aside.

ZIPPER

1. Measure selvedge top along the longest edge. Cut your zipper 1" shorter.
2. Fold the 2" x 5" zipper cover fabric in half lengthwise, right sides facing out; press. Open and fold the raw edges in to fold line; press. Fold in half so raw edges are covered; press once more.
3. Place one cut edge of the zipper inside the

Selvedge Strip Zippered Pouch, cont...

folded strip of fabric (butt the cut edge of the zipper right up against the inside of the fold), and topstitch close to the other edge of the fabric, encasing the end of the zipper inside the fabric. Cut away excess fabric and use it to encase the other cut end of the zipper.

ASSEMBLY

1. Change your sewing machine foot to the zipper foot (read your sewing machine manual for instructions on how to use the foot if you haven't tried it before).
2. Centre right side of zipper on right side of one selvedge rectangle, matching edge of zipper with raw edge of the selvedge rectangle. Stitch close to the zipper teeth, from one edge of the selvedge rectangle to the other.
3. Repeat for the other side of the zipper, using the other selvedge rectangle.
4. Open the pouch and press seams flat, away from the zipper.
5. Topstitch close to the zipper seam on both sides.
6. **Open zipper - this is very important!** Fold the pouch so right sides are together, and all 3 raw edges of selvedge rectangles are aligned.
7. Stitch a ½" seam allowance on all three sides. If you wish, you can also do a satin or zig-zag stitch to cover the raw edges. Trim away excess fabric from corners at top nearest the zipper to reduce bulk.

8. Make a box corner in the two bottom corners of the pouch:
 - measure 1" (or more) up both sides of the pouch and mark with a pencil
 - fold pouch so one side seam matches the bottom seam, and draw a line across the corner where you marked your 1" line; do this on both sides
 - stitch along drawn line and cut away excess fabric; finish with zig-zag stitch if desired
9. Turn pouch right side out though the open zipper; push corners out with corner turner.

You are finished! Wasn't that easy?

Ready to make another? And another?

Tip: you can make these in any size - just cut the zipper to fit!

