



Sharon's Patchwork Wristlet

Instructions are for a fun wristlet/make-up bag/pencil case/"whatever" bag that you can customize for any person or any occasion. Have fun being creative on the outside of the bag with your choice of patchwork, English paper piecing, or even highlighting a beautiful print. Don't forget that you can add a nice surprise with a fun lining too.



*** Patchwork front and/or back must be done ahead of time before the bag components are stitched together.

Supplies:

- one bag front 7 ½" x 11" (includes seam allowances)
- one bag back 7 ½" x 11" (includes seam allowances)
- lining- cut two pieces 7 ½" x 11" (includes seam allowances)
- fusible fleece (I used Pellon 987F one-sided fusible)- two pieces 7 ¼" x 10 ¾"
- woven fusible interfacing (I used Pellon SF101, otherwise known as Stacey Shape-flex)- two pieces 7 ¼" x 10 ¾" for lining backings, and one piece for wrist strap ½" x 10" (optional)
- zipper tabs- cut four 1 ½" x 2" pieces
- wrist strap (optional)- cut one piece 1 ½" x 10 ½" (or purchase one)
- D-ring loop (optional)- one piece 1 ½" x 2"
- matching or coordinating thread for stitching, and quilting (optional)
- one zipper at least 11" long
- one ½" D-ring (for wrist strap- optional)
- one ½" swivel hook (for wrist strap- optional)



***** ¼" seam allowances used throughout unless otherwise stated. Please note that photos are of different versions of the same bag, but instructions remain the same. Read all instructions before you begin.**

Preparing the front and/or back of bag and lining:

As stated on the previous page, the front (and/or back) must be prepared ahead of the remainder of the steps. You can choose to highlight a beautiful print or create a fun patchwork section (either traditional patchwork, English paper piecing or a "do-your-own-thing" improv patchwork).

Press the fusible fleece to the **wrong** side of the front and back pieces and press the fusible interfacing to the **wrong** side of the lining pieces following manufacturer's instructions.

Optional: At this point you may choose to machine quilt the front and back pieces with a matching or coordinating thread. This is strictly optional as the fusible fleece assures that seam allowances remain flat and will not move, but it does add a nice touch. However, if you choose to use a non-fusible product it may be better to quilt to hold layers together. If you have your own label, stitch it to one of the lining pieces, centred and 1 ¾" down from the top edge.



EPP front & print back with 2 fusible fleece, 2 lining pieces and 2 fusible interfacing



lining prepared with label, prepared zipper and D-ring loop

Preparing the D-ring loop (optional):

Press ¼" inch to the wrong side on both long sides of the 1 ½" x 2" piece of fabric. Fold in half wrong sides together so the 2 folds meet, press and edgestitch along both edges. Feed the loop through the D-ring and stitch the ends closed to hold it in place.



Preparing the zipper:

Mark a 9 ¼" segment on the zipper and stitch across the zipper teeth at those points a couple of times to secure the teeth. *** Open up the zipper at the top end before stitching over the marked line. About 1/8" away from the stitching lines trim the zipper ends off with a pair of old scissors.



Stitch the zipper tabs on both ends of the zipper as shown below and topstitch the ends with matching or coordinating thread. The reason tabs are used is that there is less bulk in the seam allowance when stitching the bag segments together...no bulky zipper teeth in the way! Trim the sides of the tabs even with the zipper tape.



Stitching the zipper to the bag:

Place the prepared zipper centred and **right side down** at the top of the **front** section with the zipper pull on the **left**. Pin or clip in place.





Place the top of one lining piece (the one **without** the label) right side down on top of the back of the zipper, pin or clip all layers together and stitch the seam. *** At one point you will have to move the zipper pull out of the way by lifting the presser foot up as far as possible so you can complete the seam.

Finger press the seam allowances away from the zipper and topstitch next to the seam. Lengthen the stitch a little when topstitching for a more professional look.



Place the second lining piece right side up on the table, place the zipper right side up on top of it, and place the bag back wrong side up on top. Pin or clip all layers together and stitch. Finger press the seam allowances away from the zipper and topstitch next to the seam. Below right is the completed unit.





Below left: the lining side of the completed unit. Below right: within the seam allowance, stitch the D-ring loop to the left side of the front of the bag $\frac{1}{2}$ " down from the edge of the zipper tape. Stitch to the front **only**! The lining will have to be moved out of the way.



Cut a 1" square from each of the bottom corners of both lining pieces and the front and the back of the bag. This removes the bulk for the box corners. This can also be done before the bag is built up, but one time I cut the top corner off by mistake and had to remove and restitch the label on the other end!



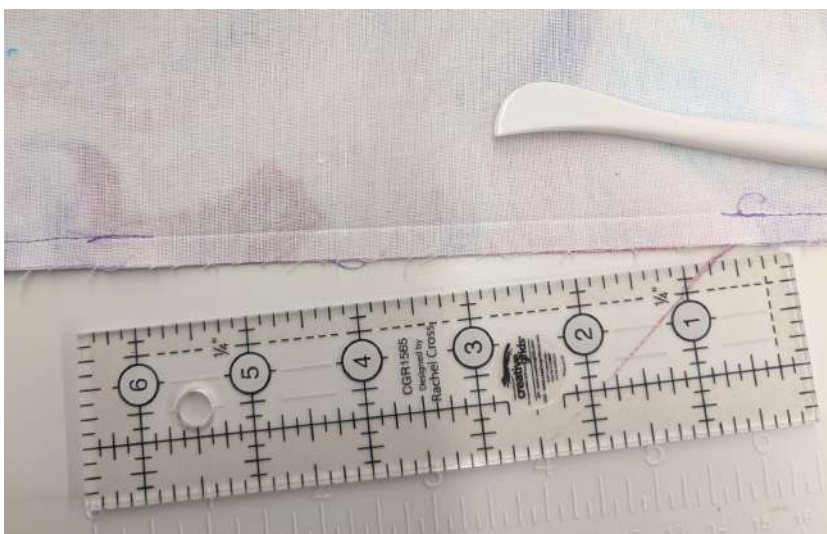


*** **OPEN THE ZIPPER!** If you don't, it will be really difficult to open it when turning the bag right side out...ask me how I know!

Pull the front and back sections together, and the lining pieces together, pin or clip all the way around, and push the excess fabric from the zipper tabs toward the front and back sections. Stitch together as shown leaving a 5 ½" opening on the bottom edge of the lining only. Trim the zipper tabs even with the seam allowance.



With a little bit of pressure, run the Hera marker (or point turner) along the seam allowance line with a ruler. This gives a nice sharp line for turning the seam allowance under for stitching once the bag is turned right side out.





Stitching the corners:

Press seams open as best you can...finger pressing works well since it's more difficult to do with an iron. Centre the side and bottom seams of each corner together as shown and stitch together, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam.



This next step is a little more work (and a little awkward!), but it ensures that the lining doesn't move around. Stitch the lining and bag seam allowances together on one side of the bag by stitching over the existing seams, again backstitching at the beginning and end. Repeat with the other side. Turn the bag right side out, but don't put the lining inside yet.





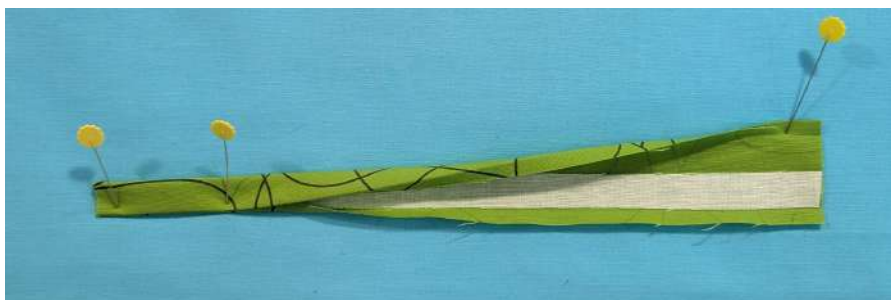
Stitching the lining opening closed:

Pin or clip the edges of the lining opening together folding the seam allowance to the inside. This should be easier because of the indented mark left by the Hera marker. Edge stitch along the fold, backstitching at the beginning and end. Turn the bag right side out and admire your beautiful work!



Wrist Strap (optional):

Press the narrow strip of fusible interfacing to the wrong side of the strap $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from one long edge. Press the fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ " to the wrong side on both long edges. Fold the entire piece in half lengthwise, press, and edgestitch along both sides using matching or coordinating thread.



Feed the wrist strap through the metal channel on the swivel hook and stitch the end closed. In order to hide the seam allowance, turn the strap so the straight edge of the swivel hook is nestled beside the seam allowance.





Stitch as close as possible to the metal to encase the seam allowance. You might have to move the needle to the far right. The wrist strap is now complete...just hook it on to the D-ring.



These fun bags make great gifts for just about anyone. Customize them for your favourite people. Here are some ideas:

- For children: use a fun fabric with their fave cartoon characters, super heroes, dinosaurs, etc and fill with small toys with those characters
- For travellers: a spot for their charging cables, adapters and foreign currency
- For quilters: fill it with a fat quarter and their fave threads and needles
- For teen girls: make-up and chocolate treats
- For game lovers: dice and playing cards

Below are the bags I made for my quilty friends. Have fun making some just for you!

