



## sewing project of the month

### zippered shoulder purse

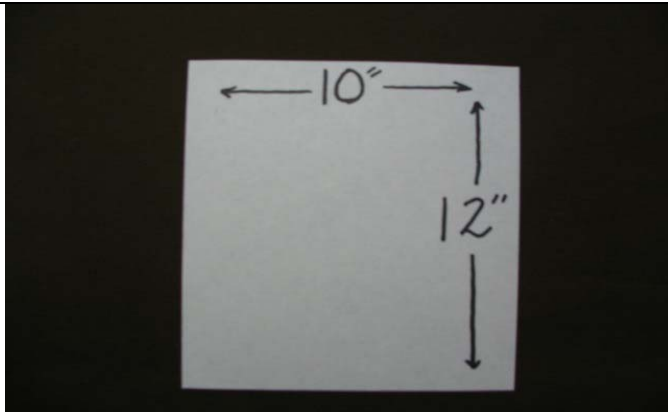


9" x 11" finished size purse

What you need:

- 3/8 yd of any width fancy or fun outer fabric for purse
- 3/8 yd of any width fabric for lining of purse
- 9" zipper to match purse fabric
- Heavy sew in Interfacing – enough for (2) 10"x12" pieces
- 1 ½ yd of cording for handle, match or compliment purse fabric
- Piece of interfacing measuring at least 10"X 12" for pattern piece
- Sewing needle
- Thread to match fabric
- Thread to match cording
- Fabric glue
- Iron
- Pins
- Chalk pencil
- Seam Ripper
- Scotch tape (3/4" wide matte finish tape)

*\*Remember to always read directions a few times before you start a project, so that all steps are very clear. This makes sewing so much faster and easier!*



### Making your pattern piece:

Draw a rectangle onto your pattern making interfacing measuring 10" x 12" and cut it out.

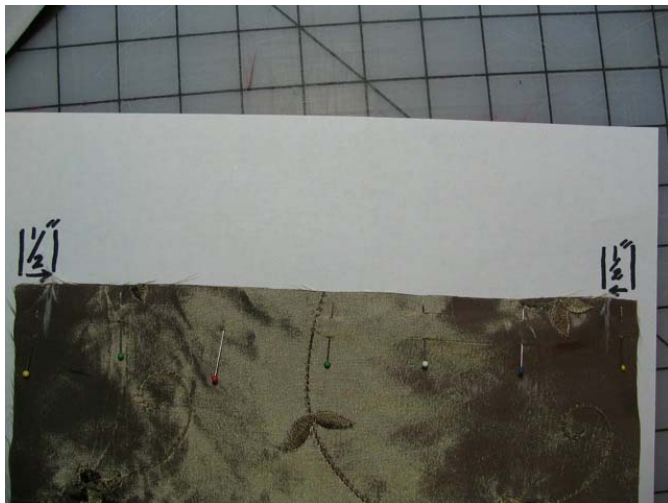
(The 12" lengths are the sides of the purse, the 10" lengths are the top and bottom of the purse)



Fold the purse fabric in half, pin the pattern piece down onto it and cut out your two outer purse panels. Do the same for the lining, and the interfacing.

When you are finished you will have two 10" x 12" panels out of each of the two fabrics and the interfacing (6 total).

*(The top fabric shown in the picture is the purse fabric, the white is the interfacing and the brown in the lining fabric)*



### Zipper placement:

- Take the two outer purse panels and place them right sides together. Pin them together across the top of the purse (10" edge).
- Make a mark  $\frac{1}{2}$ " in from each of the outer edges.
- With a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance stitch from the outer edge up to the  $\frac{1}{2}$ " mark and backstitch. Be sure to do this on each side.
- Next, set your stitch width to a basting stitch and baste between the two  $\frac{1}{2}$ " marks.



Open up the two panels with the seam allowance facing up, and iron the seam open.

Take the zipper and place it face down on the open seam allowance over the basting stitches, and tape down both of the outer edges of the zipper tape.



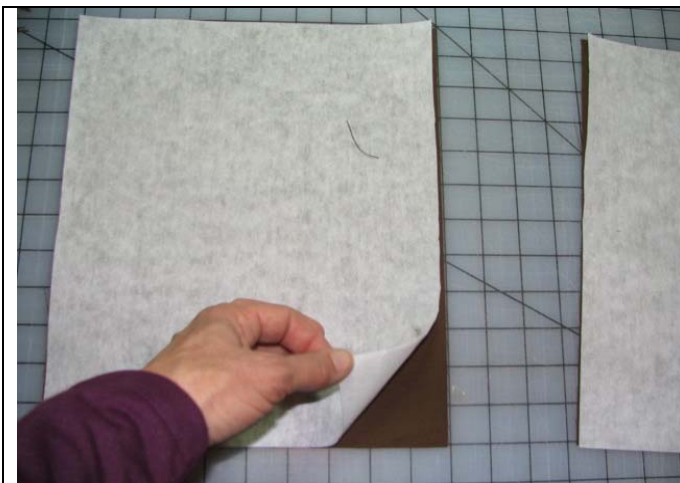
Turn the fabric over, right side up. Place a zipper foot on your machine sew  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from zipper teeth. Stitching all the way around the sides and top and bottom of zipper.



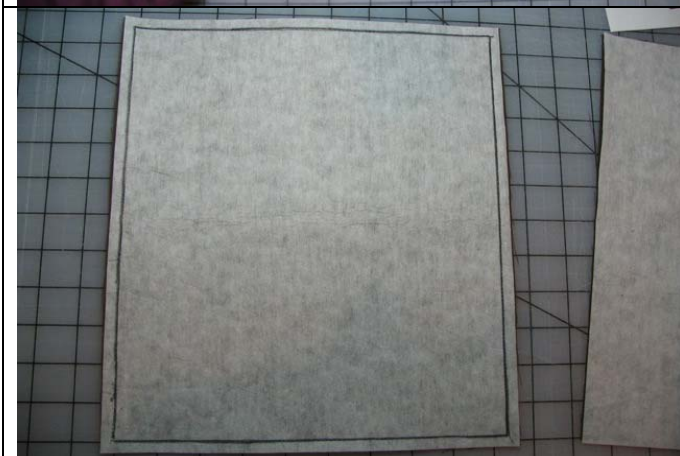
Open up the basting stitches to reveal the zipper. Open the zipper up. Remove the tape when you've removed the basting stitches.



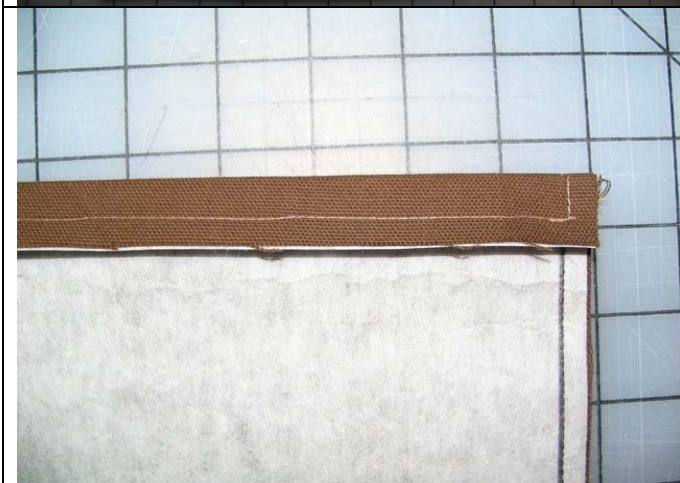
Fold the two outer fabric panel's right sides together. Pin around the two sides and the bottom of the purse, and with a seam allowance of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " stitch around these three sides.



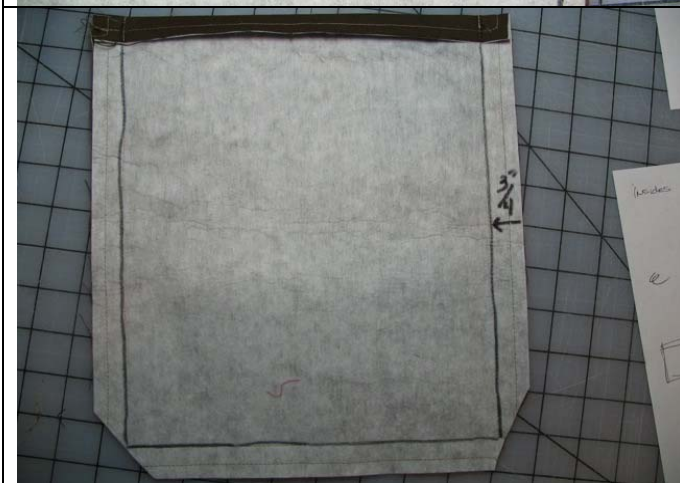
Take the two lining panels and place the interfacing pieces on the wrong side of each of the panels.



Using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, sew the interfacing onto the lining, sewing all the way around each panel.



Fold the tops of each of the lining panels down  $\frac{3}{4}$ ", towards the interfacing and iron the fold down.



Place the two lining pieces right sides together, pin them together down each of the two sides and across the bottom. Sew the three sides with a  $\frac{3}{4}$ " seam allowance.



Press the seams of the lining open.



Slip the lining into the outer shell of the purse.



Match up the side seams of the lining and the purse. Next, approximately 1/2" down from zipper teeth, on the inside of the purse, sew the lining down into the inside of the purse.



Handle:

Place a little bit of fabric glue (one that will dry clear) on each end of the cording to keep it from fraying.

Now tie a knot at each end of the cord. I used matching thread to sew back and forth through the knot just to make sure the knot wouldn't slip out.



Now sew the end of the cord down onto the outside of the bag. Place the end of the knot about 1 ½" down from the top edge of the purse along the side seam, and hand sew it on.

To help get the needle through the cording you may need to use a small pair of pliers.



This is what it looks like with the handles sewing on.



Here is the bag finished!