

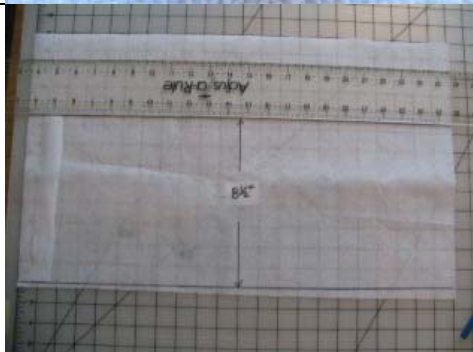
## BACK TO SCHOOL! - SEPTEMBER 2007

### PROJECT OF THE MONTH - SCHOOL PENCIL CASE



What you need.

- 1/4 yard of fabric (we found SpongeBob SquarePants fabric at a local Jo-Ann store)
- 1/4 yard of Pellon Craft fuse (or heavy weight fusible interfacing) (minimum 22" wide)
- 9" zipper to match fabric
- Thread to match fabric
- Scott tape
- Seam Ripper
- Zipper foot



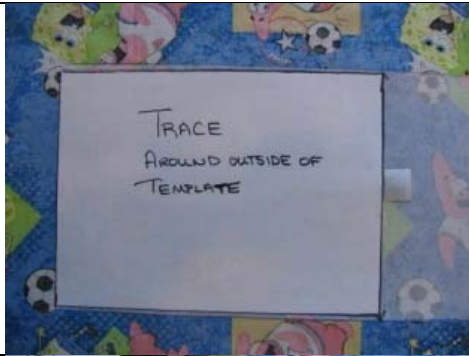
Cut your interfacing so that it measures 8½" x 22". When you cut it make sure that you cut it square so that the top and bottom are cut perpendicular to the selvages. You can achieve this by using a t-square.



Iron your fabric so that it is smooth. Place the fabric print side (right side) down on your ironing board. Iron the interfacing onto the back of the fabric (following manufacturer's directions). Before adhering, center the interfacing so that it doesn't hang off the edges of the fabric.



Next take a piece of paper and cut it down so that it measure 8" x 11". This will be used as a template for the back and front of the case. Note: I just trimmed off the edges of a piece of computer paper to get my template.



Take your fabric and place it face down on a table (interfacing side up). There is enough room on the interfacing to trace two 8" x 11" rectangles side by side.



Trace around the template on one half of the interfacing, move it over and trace again on the other half of the interfacing.



On each of the rectangles mark the top with a 'T' (11" edge), bottom with a 'B' (11" edge), and both sides with an 'S' (8" edges). Now cut out the rectangles.

A zipper will be placed along the top of the case (the 11" edge which should be marked with a 'T'); here are the directions on placing the zipper.



Take your two rectangles and place them right sides together. Pin them together along the top edge (the 11" edge marked with a "T"). Draw a line across the top 1" down from the top edge; this will be your seam line.



Next with your machine baste the two sections together along the line.



Now make a mark on the seam line at 1 " and another at 10" (the zipper will be placed between these two points).



Along the 1" seam line, sew from the edge to the 1" mark, back stitch a few stitches. Now flip it over to the other side and do the same thing.



Iron your seam open. With your fabric still face down, place your zipper face down over the seam line, centering the zipper between the 1" and 10" marks with the zipper teeth directly over the seam line.



Tape the zipper down, along each side of the zipper edge. (Please use a transparent tape)



Turn your fabric right side up. Place your zipper foot onto your machine, and sew across the bottom of the zipper, up one side about 1/4" from the zipper teeth, across the top of the zipper, and down the other side (back stitch to anchor the end of the thread).



Turn you fabric to the right side and use a seam ripper to open the basting stitches, to uncover the zipper.



Open the zipper up. Now you need to sew the sides and the bottom of the case using a 1/2" seam allowance. To do this fold your fabric piece in half right sides together. With the zipper along the top, match the side and bottom edges, pin around the sides and bottom, and with a 1/2" seam allowance down one side across the bottom and up the other side.



Clip you corners, turn the case right side out and iron.



You are done! There are lots of ways to have fun with this project so that you can make it extra special for yourself or whoever you are making it for. Before sewing the front and back of the case together you could do some embroidery on the panels, add ribbons, add fringes, or patches! The ideas are limitless. How about using fancy fabrics and making Make-up bags for friends for Christmas presents?