

# Grab Bag

8" x 6" x 3"

Instructions by Karen Montgomery

## MATERIALS

1/4 yard fabric for the outside of the bag

OR

Patchwork measuring 8 1/2" by 24 1/2"

1/4 yard of stiff interfacing such as Peltex or Soft and Stable.

1 Fat Quarter for pockets and lining

Basic sewing supplies including rotary cutter, mat and ruler, walking foot for your sewing machine, removable marking pencil

1 pair of clip-on handles

## CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

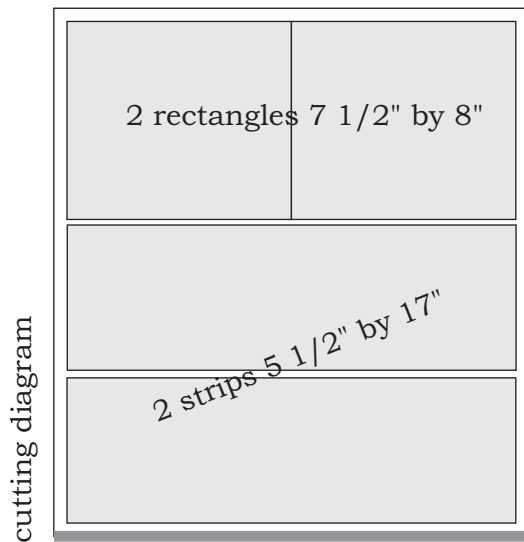
From the fabric for the outside of the bag cut:

1 strip 8 1/2" by 24 1/2"

From the fat quarter for the lining cut:

2 strips 5 1/2" by 17"

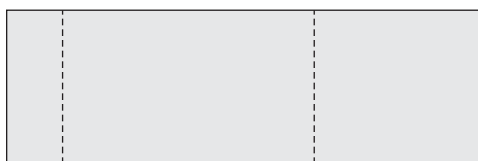
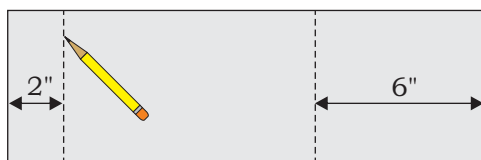
2 rectangles 7 1/2" by 8"



## INSTRUCTIONS

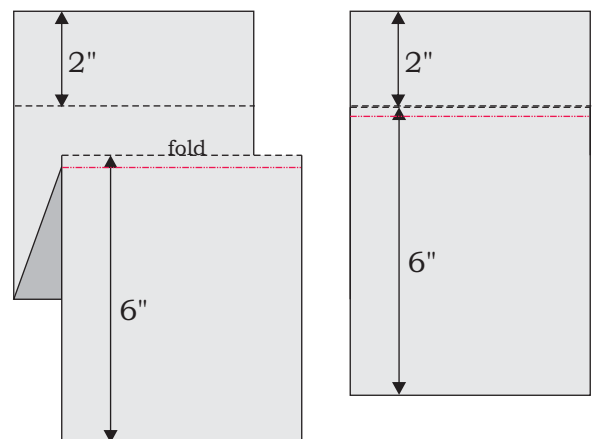
### The Lining

1. Place the 5 1/2" by 17" fabric strips right side up on your pressing surface. Using your removable marking pencil draw a line 2" from one end on each of the strips. Draw a second line 6" from the opposite end on each strip as shown.

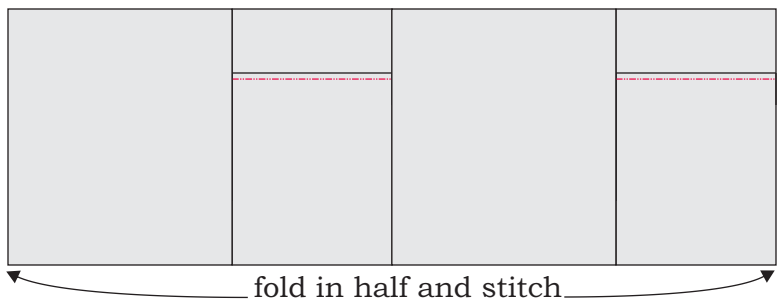


2. Fold the fabric on the 6" line having the wrong sides together. Press. Top stitch along the folded edge.

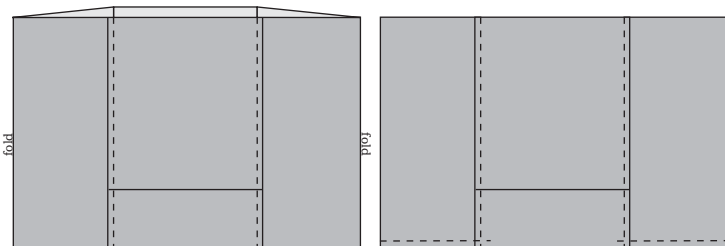
3. Place the fold against the 2" line and press flat. This will create your pocket. Your folded pocket unit will measure 5 1/2" wide by 8" long. Make 2.



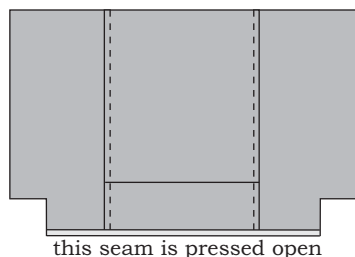
4. Stitch the pocket units together with the 7 1/2" by 8" rectangles alternating the pockets with the rectangles. Stitch the ends together to form a complete circle.



5. Fold the circle, matching the seams for the pockets, centering them in the unit. The solid rectangles will be folded on the right and left side. Press flat. Stitch across the bottom edge leaving a 4" opening in the center. Clip the corners and press this seam open.



6. Measuring from the seam line and the fold, cut a 1 1/2" square from each bottom corner. Open the corner and match the side fold to the bottom seam. Stitch across the opening creating a boxed bottom. Repeat for the opposite corner.



### The Outside

8. Place the fabric for the outside of the bag on the interfacing. Quilt the layers together if desired. Trim to measure 8 1/2" by 24 1/2" if necessary.

9. Fold the bag in half with the right sides together and stitch the short ends to form a circle. Press flat as you did with the lining having the seam on one side. Stitch the bottom seam without leaving an opening.

10. Box the bottom corners as you did with the lining, measuring the 1 1/2" from the side fold and the bottom seam (*not from the bottom edge of the fabric*).

11. With the outside of the bag inside out, insert the lining into the bag so that the right side of the lining is against the outside of the bag. Pin the top edges matching the side seam to the fold so that the boxed bottoms match. Stitch completely around the top edge.

12. Turn the bag right side out through the opening in the lining. Stitch the opening closed by hand or machine. Push the lining inside the bag and steam press the top edge, rolling the lining to the inside. Top stitch around the top edge to hold the lining in place.

13. Clip the handles to the top edge of the bag on each side.

Enjoy!

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*This project was inspired by Sew Far, Sew Good featured in the spring 2016 issue of Quilts and More magazine.*

Personalize your bag using a creative technique!

The body of the bag can be divided into sections to feature a unique patchwork.

The bag on the left was made using a panel of English paper pieced hexagons.

The bag on the right was made using 24 log cabin blocks measuring 4" using the Mini Log Cabin Ruler from Creative Grids.



# Zipper Pocket for the Grab Bag

Instructions by Karen Montgomery

## MATERIALS

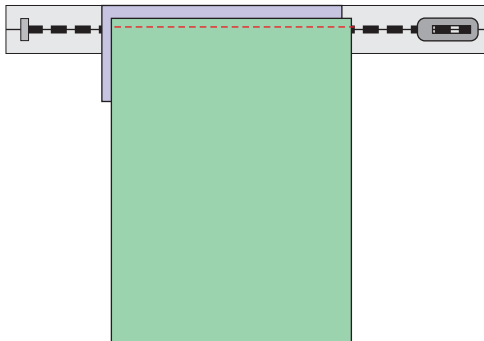
2" by 5 1/2" for top  
7" by 5 1/2" for bottom  
8 1/2" by 5 1/2" for pocket  
9" or longer zipper

## INSTRUCTIONS

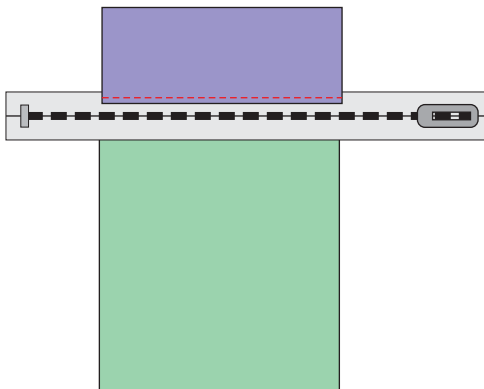
1. Place the 2" by 5 1/2" for the top face down on top of the zipper. The zipper pull should be face up.



Place the rectangle for the pocket face up on top of the smaller rectangle aligning the raw edges. Stitch the fabric to the zipper tape. The distance you stitch from the zipper teeth will determine how much of the zipper tape shows. Stitching too close to the teeth will sometimes prevent the zipper from opening.

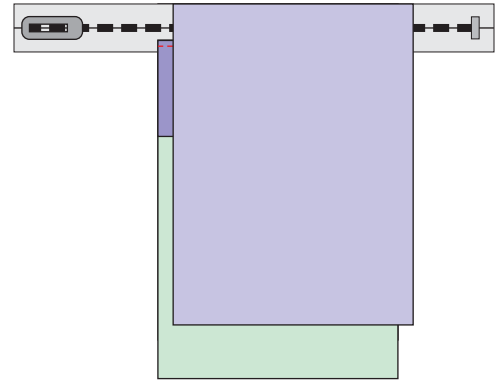


2. Press the fabric away from the zipper teeth. Fold the pocket fabric down behind the zipper and press. Top stitch through all layers to create a finished edge.

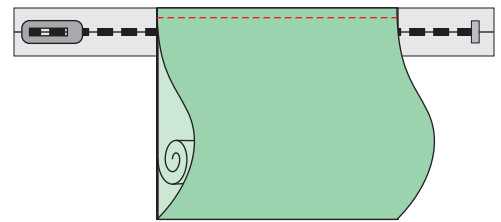


After the top stitching is complete, fold the pocket fabric back toward the top before continuing.

3. Rotate the unit so that the opposite side of the zipper tape is on the top. Place the fabric for the bottom directly over the fabric for the top edge, having the raw edges even.



Fold the pocket fabric up over the fabric for the bottom, rolling the bottom fabric to keep it from getting caught in the seam. Stitch across the zipper using the same seam allowance as you used on side one.



4. Turn the unit right side out, exposing the zipper and press. Open the zipper to top stitch the bottom edge. Move the zipper pull into the center of the pocket and trim the excess zipper tape. Trim the length of the pocket unit to 8" to match the remaining lining pieces.

