



Quick Zip Makeup Bag

1-2 Hours

What will you learn?

How to:

Select coordinating printed fabrics
Pre-wash fabrics before using them
Strip quilt (stitch and flip quilting)
Put in an exposed zipper



What will you need?

A sewing machine and basic sewing tools

Quilting weight cotton fabric: 2 fabrics that look nice together, $\frac{1}{4}$ yd. of each will make several bags, you can also use fat quarter cuts of fabric (fat quarters are 18" by about 22")

11"x14" piece of fusible fleece, **Pellon**[™] Fleece, or cotton batting (these products will take the heat of an iron, most polyester batting will not)

11"x14" piece of cotton muslin fabric (this will be the lining, you may use cotton quilting fabric if you wish)

14 inch polyester dress zipper to go with your fabric

6 inches of $\frac{1}{4}$ " ribbon to go with your fabric

Thread to go with your fabric

Seam Allowances: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch or use the right edge of your presser foot as a seam guide (a standard presser foot on most sewing machines makes a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch seam allowance)

Directions to make this project:

1. Pre-wash all your fabrics in warm water on a gentle cycle with laundry detergent, rinse with cold water, and dry on warm until dry. High heat and over-drying your fabrics will cause wrinkles to form that will be difficult to remove.

2. Carefully press your fabric flat. Use steam if necessary. With right sides of fabric together, line up the selvages of your fabric and smooth toward the fold. If there are wrinkles, keep the selvage edges together but shift your fabric sideways until there are no wrinkles. If you are using fat quarter cuts of fabric, just fold the fabric in half so you have a rectangle 9" by about 22".
3. Square up one end of your fabric so you can cut straight strips. From your favorite print; cut 3 strips 2 ¼ inches wide by 14 inches long. From the other fabric; cut 4 strips, 1 3/4" wide by 14 inches long. (If your machine has a ¼" presser foot, you may cut your strips 2" and 1 ½" wide to make them look like the makeup bags in the picture.)
4. Fuse-baste the lining fabric to the piece of fusible fleece following the manufacturer's instructions. Make sure you fuse to the side of the fleece that has glue on it. If you are using **Pellon™** Fleece or cotton batting, use scraps of fusible web to baste your fabric to your fleece or cotton batting. Sometimes the polyester fleece or cotton batting has a type of glue on the surface that will hold the backing fabric without using the fusible web. You may also fuse-baste with a spray basting glue like **Quilt Baste**. If you have a printed fabric for lining, fuse-baste the wrong side of the fabric to the fleece or cotton batting.
5. Place one of the wider strips right side up on the center of short side of the fleece side of your fleece and lining fabric unit. Use a couple of pins on the left side of the strip to keep it straight and hold it in place while you position the next strip of fabric. Take a narrower strip and place it wrong side up with one cut edge aligned with the right edge of the wider strip. Stitch down the aligned edges, using the edge of your presser foot as a guide.



Center first strip.



Position next strip on top.



Stitch strips.

6. Flip the narrower strip to the side so you can see the right side of both fabrics and press it carefully to the side. Now take a wider strip and place it right side down so it is aligned with the cut edge of the last strip you stitched down, flipped, and pressed. Repeat the stitching, flipping, and pressing with a wide strip. Then, repeat again with a narrower strip.



Flip and press.



Add next strip and stitch.



Flip and press again.

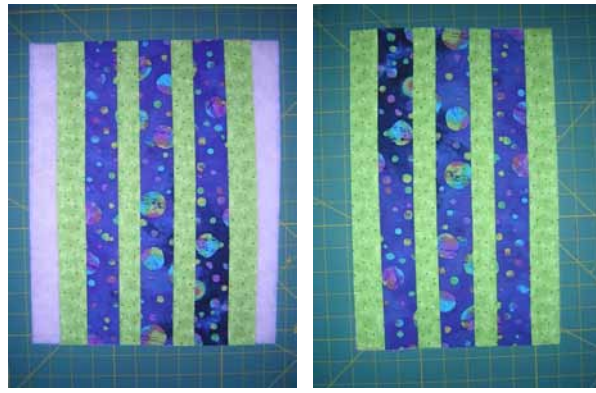


Add last strip.

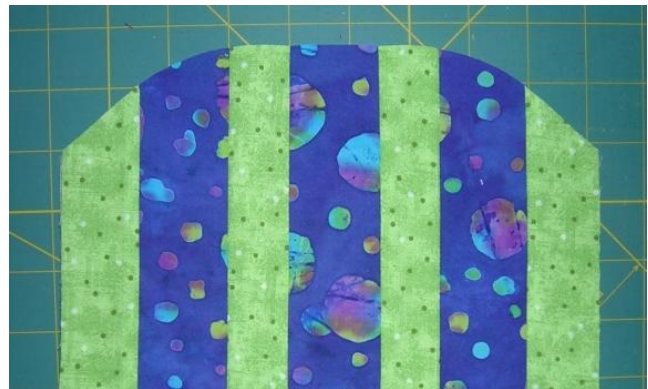
7. Rotate the fleece/backing fabric so you can repeat the flipping and stitching process with your remaining strips. You should have three wide strips and four narrow strips stitched down on your fleece and lining fabric unit.



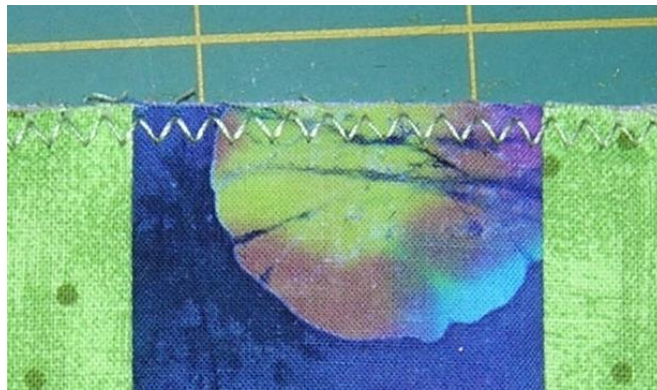
8. Trim the strips even with the fleece and backing then trim the fleece and backing even with the last strip of fabric on each long side. Next, square up each short side so you have a rectangle about 9 1/2" x 12 1/2". It is important that the short ends are the same width and that the long sides are trimmed to equal lengths.



9. Shape each short end with the curved pattern piece provided. Use the center fold line to match to the center of each short side.



10. Serge or zigzag around all edges. The zigzag stitching should be right on the edge to hold the layers together and prevent raveling. Use a zigzag stitch with a stitch width of 3.5 and a length of 3.0.



11. Apply the zipper to the curved ends of your strip-pieced rectangle using the exposed method. Center the zipper face down along the curve, aligning the edge of the curve with the edge of the zipper tape. Pin. Find where the zipper teeth will start and end on the curve. Mark both sides of the zipper teeth as a reference at both the starting and ending point.



Pin and mark where the zipper tape matches the curve at the beginning and end.

12. Put a zipper foot on your sewing machine and stitch with the needle making a seam line a scant 1/4" from the zipper teeth or the edge of the zipper tape, whatever is easiest to do with the type of zipper foot you have for your machine. If it is easier to follow the zipper teeth, you may want to open the zipper for this step. If you don't have a zipper foot, you can do this step with the multi-purpose foot or an open toe foot appliqué/decorative stitching foot. Backstitch at the beginning and end of this seam.



13. Close the zipper. Center and pin the other side of the zipper tape to the other curved edge of your stripped pieced rectangle using the marks you made in step 11. It is important to have the zipper tape start and end at the same points on both sides. Repeat step 12 for the second side of the zipper.

14. Zigzag the edge of the zipper tape to the curved edge of the stripped pieced rectangle on each side of the zipper. This will keep the zipper from catching the zipper tape or quilted fabric.



15. To make the sides of the bag, open (or close) the zipper only half way. This is a **very** important step.



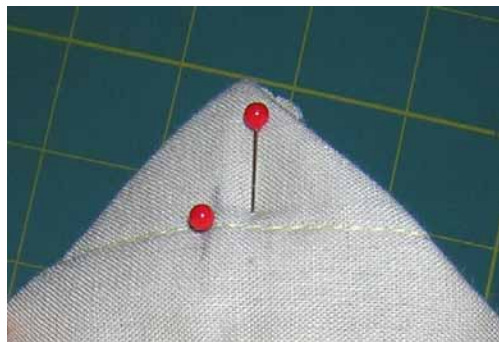
16. Fold the bag in half, right sides together and the zipper inside. Match the top edges of the quilted fabric (and the sides). Pin. You will want to start stitching where you matched the top edges (**NOT** at the fold that is the bottom of the bag). Stitch each side, using the edge of the presser foot as a guide. Back stitch at the beginning and end of the seams.



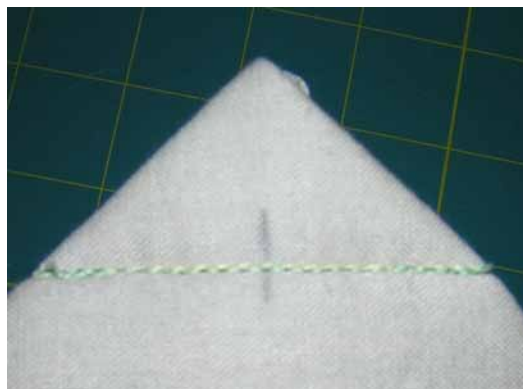
17. Check to make sure you have the zipper pull between the side seams. If so, you can trim off the ends of the zipper that extend beyond the side seams at an angle. It is best to use an old pair of sharp scissors that you would use for cutting paper or kitchen utility shears. Cutting through the zipper teeth will dull a good pair of fabric shears.



18. Square the bottom of your bag by stitching across the triangle formed by matching the side seam to the bottom crease. Mark the bottom crease with a pencil, chalk, soap scrap, or fabric marking pen. Insert a pin straight down through the mark and the seam line to temporarily hold the position of the corner while you insert another pin that will secure the corner when you begin stitching.



19. The base of this triangle should be about 2". If you stitch from the side where you can see the seam line where you stitched the last strip, you can follow it for a guide. Remember to backstitch at the beginning and end of your seams so your seams don't fall apart.



20. Turn your bag right side out. Check your corners to see if they are square and straight.



21. Insert ribbon in zipper pull and secure with slip knot.



Slipknot

adam.com

Image: http://www.humc.com/humc_ency/outdoor_health/images/Knots_1Slip.jpg

Trim and seal ends of ribbon with seam sealant or clear finger nail polish. You could also thread some small beads on the ribbon and knot the ends.

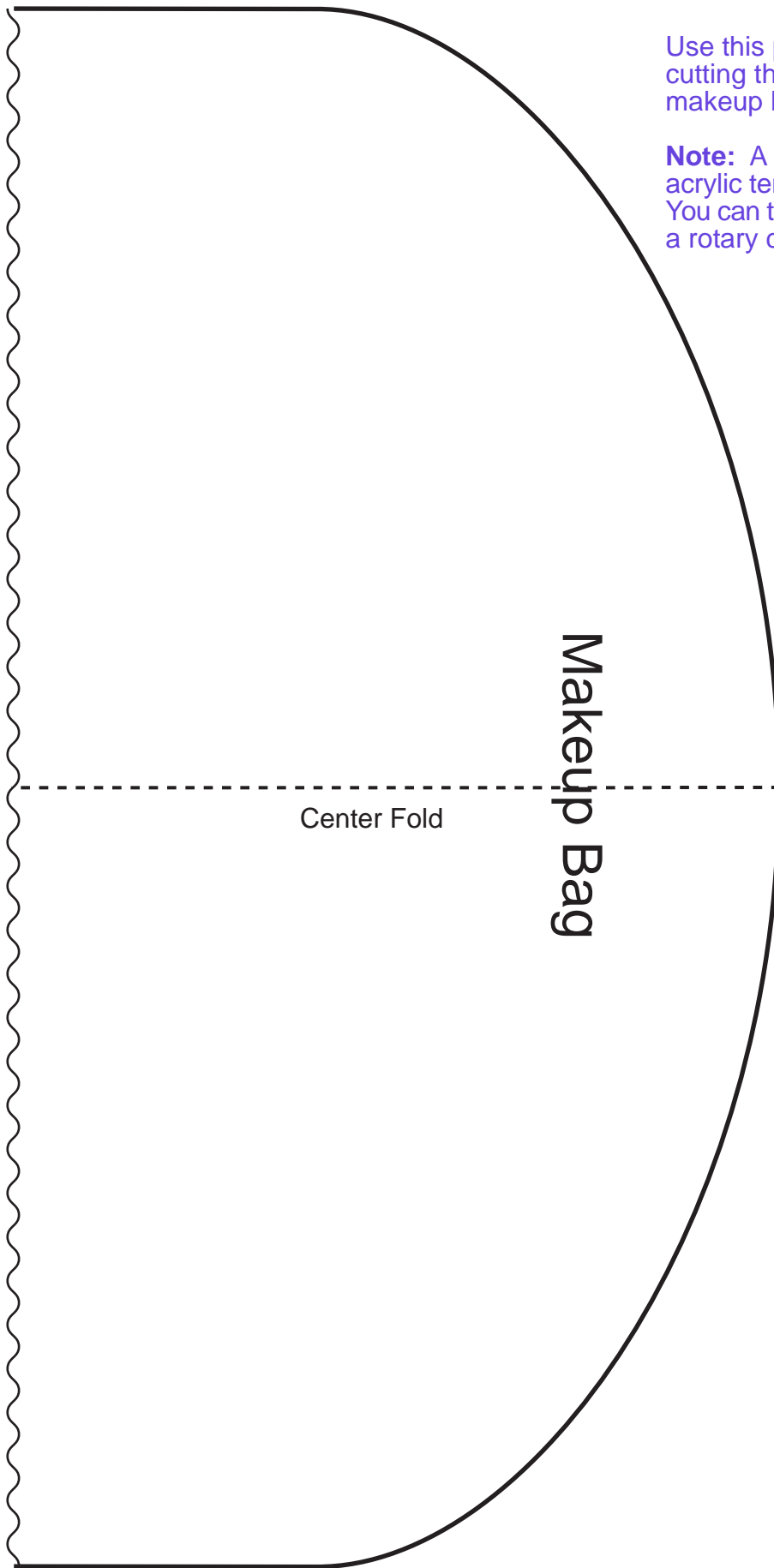


22. Enjoy your makeup bag. If you are making bags as gifts, you may want to stuff them with clean plastic grocery sacks so they will hold their shape. Try making a larger bag using pre-quilted fabric or try squiggle and waves quilting to make your own pre-

quilted fabric. You can also try using 4 different print fabrics. Cut your strips 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " if you have a $\frac{1}{4}$ " presser foot). You can use the technique for making square corners for other styles of bag. Maybe you would like to design a denim grocery sack.

Notes:

Pre-washing your fabric will take out chemicals left from manufacturing, remove excess dyes, and shrink the fabric.



Use this pattern as a guide for cutting the curved edges of the makeup bag

Note: A glass shop can cut an acrylic template using this pattern. You can then use the template with a rotary cutter and mat.