

## Compact Zippered Cosmetic Bag

By: [Lynn Browne for Coats and Clark](#)

You'll never forget your necessary make up, accessories and toiletries when you are on-the-go or going on a long trip with the Compact Zippered Cosmetic Bag. Follow this sewing tutorial to learn how to sew a bag in which you can store small cosmetics and kick-knacks. You'll need a closed end zipper, thread, a yard of printed fabric, and half a yard of fusible interfacing. With these cosmetic bag sewing instructions from Coats and Clark, you'll have a special DIY bag perfect for everyday use.



### Materials:

- Coats Fashion Closed End Zipper, 7" or Coats All-purpose Zipper, 7"
- Dual Duty XP General Purpose thread, to match fabric
- Print Fabric- ½ yard or fat quarter
- Lining Fabric- ½ yard or fat quarter
- Fusible Interfacing- ½ yard

### Instructions:

1. Make a pattern by drawing a rectangle 18" (L) x 10"(W). Draw a line across the center of the rectangle. On each of the 10" ends, mark 1" from each side. Draw a line connecting these marks to the ends of the center line creating tapered sides. Each end will be 8" tapering to 10" at the center.
2. Cut the 1 each of the pattern from the print fabric and interfacing.
3. For the lining, fold the pattern in half and add 1/2" seam allowance to bottom (10") end. Cut 2 from lining fabric.
4. Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the print fabric following manufacturer's instructions.

5. Place zipper right sides together on one of the 8" ends of the print fabric. Place lining over zipper, right side down. Pin. Using a zipper foot, stitch  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from raw edge. Press lining to inside. Repeat with other side of zipper.
6. Sew side seams together, being careful of zipper ends. Box the bottom corners of the bag by aligning the seam with the center of the bottom forming a point. Stitch across 1" from end of point. Repeat on other side seam.
7. Turn bag right side out. Pull lining out and align folds on bottom. Sew across bottom edges of lining to close. Tuck lining back into bag.



If you need even more bags, check out our collection of [50+ Patterns to Sew Purses!](#)

## Bye Bye Birdie Mug Rug Tutorial

By: [Anorina from Samelia's Mum](#)

Don't know what to do with fabric scraps? This scrap-busting Bye Bye Birdie Mug Rug Tutorial is a time-savvy and absolutely adorable gift idea. Grab your scrap basket and create whimsical birds that fly straight out of your imagination. These DIY drink coasters will make a fun addition to your dining room, kitchen, and coffee table. You can also enlarge the design to turn these into cute sewn wall hangings, or feel free to create your own ragtag animal design to add a foresty feel to your home.



### Materials:

- Scrap pieces
- 2 – 4.5" squares (one low volume and one colorful)

### Cutting Instructions:

Here are the pieces which you'll need:



A = the half square triangle blocks

B = will be the front of the bird. It needs to be the length of the HST block and approximately 1.5" – 2" wide depending on the look you're going for.

C = this needs to be a little wider than the bird body (B) but the same length. So somewhere between 2" to 2.5".

D = this is the beak. 1.25" square.

E = this square will go on the bottom corner of the birds body. Around 1.5" square should work.

## Assembling Instructions:

1. Place the beak (D) square on the top left corner of the white (C) piece and sew diagonally across the yellow from corner to corner.



2. Trim these pieces 1/4" outside of the sewn line. Flip the triangle piece over and press to the darker side.



3. Sew these 3 pieces together and press. Here you have the bird (sans legs).

- Now for the legs. You'll need a piece of the background fabric approximately 2" wide and the same length as the bottom of the bird block PLUS 2 inches. So for example, if the bird block measures 6", your piece should measure 2" x 8". This extra will give some wiggle room and will be trimmed down at the end.



- At approximately 2" from the left side cut this piece. Measure another 3/4" (or 1" depending on the look you want) and cut again. This is where we're going to sew in the legs. The leg fabric is only 3/4" wide and the same height as that bottom piece. Sew the legs into the spaces which we just created and then press.



- Sew the legs block to the bird block and then press and trim. Now you need a top bit. A little bit of sky. This piece needs to be approximately 2" and the same length as the rest of the bird block. Sew the sky piece and then press the block completely. Square the block, the designer trimmed hers to 6" and now you're finished with the block!



- Place your bird on a square of batting and a square of backing and quilt with straight lines. Use your presser foot as your quilting guide.



- For your binding, cut your strip 1 3/4" (rather than double fold binding). Starting a few inches from a corner and leaving a tail for joining, sew the binding to the right side, mitering the corners as you go. Stop a couple of inches from the starting point and join the ends of the binding neatly with a 45-degree seam, trim the surplus and finish sewing the binding to the coaster.

## Super Easy Lanyard and Key Chain Wristlet

By: [Tania Willis for Fiskars](#)

Never lose your keys again, thanks to this Super Easy Lanyard and Key Chain Wristlet! These handy accessories are so cute and will save you from hours locked out of the car or the house. Keep all your keys in one convenient place that's guaranteed to keep them safe and secure. Travelers, learn how to make a fabric lanyard to keep your passport or travel money safe around your neck. Plus, these DIY fabric lanyards or wristlets will look super cute clipped to your purse or belt. They're a must-have outfit accessory for people on the go.



### Materials:

- 1 1/4" D-Rings – Dritz
- Swivel Hook for 1" Strap – Dritz
- Key Rings
- A couple coordinating prints of fabric (1/8 yard, 45" wide)
- 45mm rotary cutter
- Thread snips
- Cutting mat
- Quilting ruler
- Scissors
- Iron

### Instructions (Lanyard):

1. Cut one piece of fabric using your rotary cutter so it measures 3" wide x 40" long.



2. Fold each long side in toward the middle and iron. Fold strip in half and iron again. Basically you've just created custom bias tape.



3. Stitch down the entire length of the open side of the strip stitching as close to the edge as possible. Repeat along other side. Trim dangling threads with thread snips.



4. Fold stitched strip in half, making sure the strip isn't twisted. Thread swivel hook onto strip. Match ends and stitch forward and reverse several times, approximately 1" from the ends. Clip the ends 1/8" from the stitching.





5. Flip strip inside out and move swivel hook to hang at the stitching that closes the loop. Stitch hook in place with the same forward and reverse stitching as close to the hook as possible. Trim dangling threads with thread snips.



#### Instructions (Key Chain Wristlet):

1. First you'll cut two pieces of coordinating fabric using your rotary cutter so they each measure 3" wide by 13" long. Iron each side in, toward the middle, approximately 1/4". Fold strip in half, iron. (Tip: You might find it helpful to use spray starch to get a crisp fold.) Repeat for second fabric.
2. Lay one fabric strip on top of the other to the folded edges are on opposite sides. Pin together. Stitch down the length of each long edge, as close to the edge as possible. Trim dangling threads using Thread Snips. If necessary, trim short ends of fabric even.



3. Decide which fabric you want on the outside, hereinafter called: right side. Fabric on the inside of the finished product: wrong side. Fold in half, matching ends, with right sides together. Slide D-ring onto strip.
4. Match ends and stitch forward and reverse several times approximately 1/2" from ends. Trim ends approximately 1/8" from stitching.
5. Flip strip right side out and move D-ring to hang at the stitching that closes the loop. Stitch ring in place with the same forward and reverse stitching as close to the ring as possible to secure in place.



6. Thread key ring(s) onto D-ring.

## Fat Quarter Bag

By: [M'Liss Little Rae Hawley from Martingale](#)

Carry around your quilting projects in this stylish Fat Quarter Bag. Follow this easy handbag tutorial to make one of these fun bags for yourself. It's a fast project that can be made from a piece of fat quarter fabric. Simple knotted handles make it easy to sling over your shoulder on the way out the door. This free bag pattern will show you step by step how to make a roomy Fat Quarter Bag. The best thing about this fat quarter idea is that it shows you how to create a bag you will actually use. More often than not, free bag patterns are small or flimsy. This bag does the job no matter what you need to get done.



### Materials:

- 42"-wide fabric
- 1 packet of 6 fat quarters
- 2 1/8 yds. for lining and handles
- 1/4 yd. flannel for handles
- 22" or 1" wide non-roll elastic

### Cutting Instructions:

From each of the six fat quarters, cut:

- 1 rectangle, 17 1/2 " x 19 1/2 " (6 total)

From the lining fabric, cut:

- 1 rectangle, 38 1/2" x 51 1/2", for lining
- 4 strips, each 2 1/2" x 40", for handles\*

From the flannel, cut:

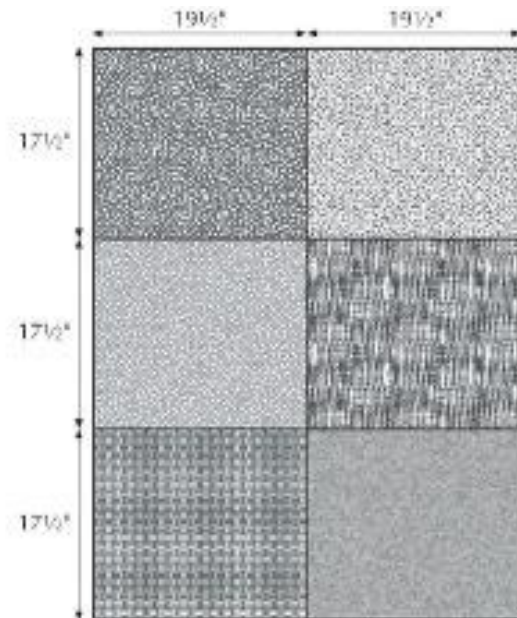
- 2 Strips, each 2 1/2" x 40"\*\*\*

*\*For longer handles, cut 8 strips*

*\*\*For longer handles, cut 4 strips*

**Instructions:**

1. Arrange the 6 fat-quarter pieces as shown. Stitch or serge the pieces together. Press the seams to one side.



2. Pin the lining and the joined fat quarters right sides together. Using a 1/4" -wide seam allowance, stitch or serge around the edges. Leave an 8" opening near the center at one short end. Turn the bag right side out.



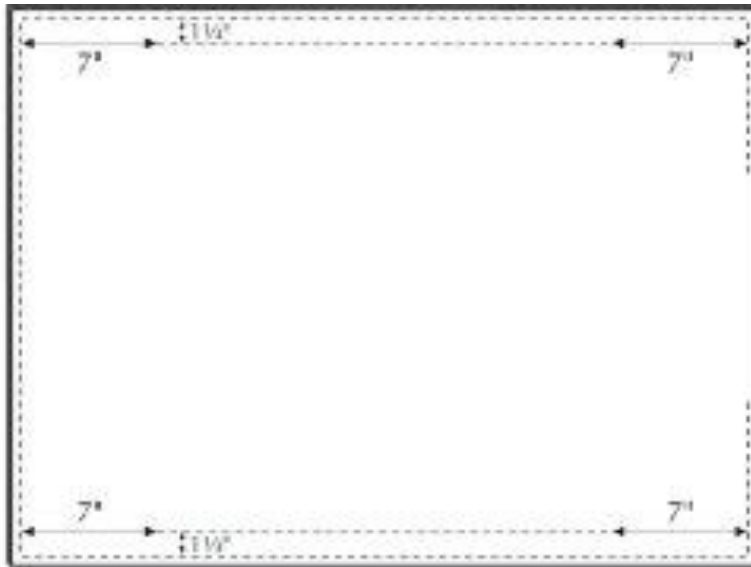
3. To make the handles, place 2 lining strips right sides together and place a strip of flannel on top. Stitch or serge around 3 sides, leaving 1 short end open for turning. Turn the handle right sides out. Slipstitch the end of the handle closed. Topstitch 1/4" from the edge all around both handles.



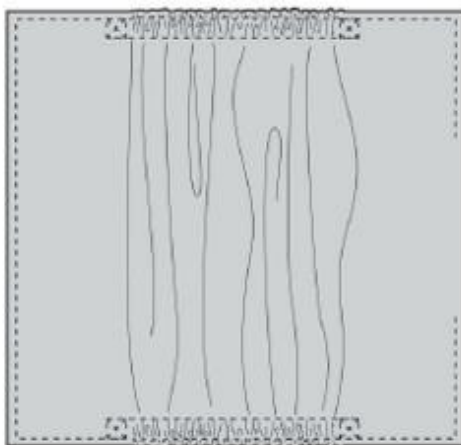
4. Press around the edge of the bag. Topstitch along the edge, beginning at the opening and ending at the other side of the opening. Do not stitch across the opening.

**Note:** To make longer handles, join 2 strips of fabric end to end to make 1 long strip. Make 4 long strips. Repeat with pairs of flannel strips. Follow the directions in step 3 to make the handles.

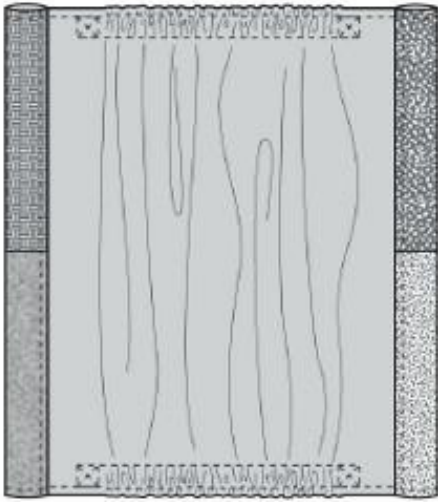
5. To make casings for the elastic, measure 7" from the short ends of the bag on both long edges and mark. Stitch from point to point, 1 1/4" from the topstitching.



6. Cut the elastic in half to yield 2 pieces, each 11" long. Working through the 8" opening, insert the elastic into both casings. Pin securely at both ends. Secure the ends of the elastic by stitching an X in a 1" square.



7. Slipstitch the open end of the bag closed. Continue topstitching across the 8" span.
8. To make the casing for the handles, fold 2" of both short ends toward the lining. Topstitch along the existing topstitching and 1/4" from the fold.



9. Insert a handle into each casing. Holding handle pairs together, tie the ends in a knot.



## Outstanding Outdoor Pillow

By: [Emma Jeffrey for Fiskars](#)

Follow these pillow instructions on how to make the Outstanding Outdoor Pillow from Emma Jeffrey for Fiskars and your next DIY picnic will infinitely improve. Even if you're not a frequent picnicker, you can still make a DIY pillow like this one and put it to use. If you read outside or take the kids to the park often, these pillow instructions will yield a better outdoor experience for you and your bum. Get professional advice on piping, adding a zipper, and including a handle into your pieces by checking out this sewing tutorial.



### Materials:

- 1/2 yard print heavy weight cotton canvas or outdoor fabric
- 1/2 yard solid heavy weight cotton canvas
- 5 yards of 1/2 inch piping
- Foam insert (mine measured 15 x 17 x 4 inches)
- Thread
- Needle
- Pins
- Sewing machine

### Instructions:

1. Cut the fabric to fit foam insert; in this case it measures 15 x 17 x 4 inches. This tutorial allows 1 inch for seam allowances. Please adjust measurements to fit your foam insert; remembering to add 1 inch. You will need to cut:

- 1 piece of print fabric (for top of cushion) – 16 x 18"
- 1 piece of solid fabric (for bottom of cushion) – 16 x 18"
- 2 strips of print (for longer sides of cushion) – 5 x 18"
- 2 strips of print (for shorter sides of cushion) 5 x 16"
- 2 strips of solid (for handles) 4 x 8"

2. Pin piping onto the edge of the right side of both your large fabric pieces, matching raw edges and easing around the corners. Where the two ends of the piping meet, open up stitching at one end and snip away a piece of the cord to meet the cord at the other end. Fold over the outside fabric edge of the piping to neaten. Sew piping onto the fabric pieces using a zipper foot to get close to the cord.



3. Sew the short ends of your side fabric pieces together to form a loop. Allow 1/2 seam allowance. Press seams open.





4. Make the handles by folding all raw edges of the 8 x 4 inch pieces  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch towards the center then fold in half lengthwise. Check that all raw edges are concealed and stitch. Pin handle pieces at the center of two opposite side pieces and sew securely.



5. Pin the side piece onto the top of one of your large fabric pieces all the way around with right sides together. Raw edges must match. Sew with the main fabric piece on top so you can follow the stitching from where you attached the piping. Get as close to this line of stitching as possible.
6. Repeat with the second main fabric piece but leave one side open so that you can insert your foam.



7. Turn your cushion cover to the right way and insert your piece of foam.