

Small zippered purse

Materials

- ◆ Scrap fabric...almost any weight is useful. Light weight fabrics can be used double.
- ◆ Thread
- ◆ Zipper
- ◆ Ribbon or cord, beads...optional...for zipper pull.

TOOLS

- ◆ Sewing machine
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Pins
- ◆ Rotary cutter, cutting board, Lucite ruler...optional but nice.
- ◆ Iron and board

Work sequence

- ◆ Square off your fabric. Final purse size is not an issue at this point. Just make it tidy and on the grain.
- ◆ With fabric right side up, lay zipper face down along fabric edge and stitch about 1/4-inch in along the length of the zipper.
- ◆ Flip the zipper over and press seam allowance to the fabric side.
- ◆ Topstitch the seam about 1/8-inch from the edge.
- ◆ Repeat with other side of the zipper.
- ◆ If the zipper is too long for the fabric piece, let it dangle off the edge. Nylon zippers can be cut to fit. If it's a metal zipper, fabric and zip should be the same size.
- ◆ You should now have an inside-out zippered tube.
- ◆ Flatten your tube so that the zipper runs about 1" from the top edge and the pull is on the right. If you're a lefty, you might want to position the pull on the left.
- ◆ Pin or press into position.
- ◆ Open the zipper a couple of inches or you'll have trouble unzipping and turning the piece right side out later on.
- ◆ Stitch the sides. It's a nice touch to clean up the edge with a zigzag stitch. Trim.
- ◆ You can turn it right side out now and press.
- ◆ Add a piece of ribbon and a bead for a zipper pull.

Optional Boxed Bottom

- ◆ With work inside out, press bottom edge for a good crease.
- ◆ Open up the purse a bit, and align bottom crease and side seam. Press the resulting point. Do it with both sides.
- ◆ Stitch across the point about 3/4 - 1 inch in. You are stitching the hypotenuse of a 90-degree triangle. Unsure of how far in to stitch? Pin first, check it right side out, adjust to your satisfaction, then stitch. Do it with both sides.
- ◆ Turn right side out and press.