



Triangle Zipper Bag Tutorial

You can make your bag any size, but for this tutorial I made one that is about 8" long and 6" wide. Depending on what you're planning on using it for you can adjust your starting size.



Supplies:

Outside – 9" x 12"

Lining – 9" x 12"

Strap – 2" x 12"

Nylon Zipper – At least several inches longer than needed (in this case the zipper is being installed on the 9" side so I used a 14" zipper).

Fusable Fleece - Two – 9" x 12" (batting can be used but you would need to quilt it)

Fold the strap in half and press. Open it up and fold each side to the center fold and press.



Fold again in half on the center fold and press once again. Sew along the length of the strap, very close to each side and down the middle.

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Fuse the outside fabric and the lining fabric to the fusible fleece. Read the directions that came with your fleece to make sure it is fused properly.



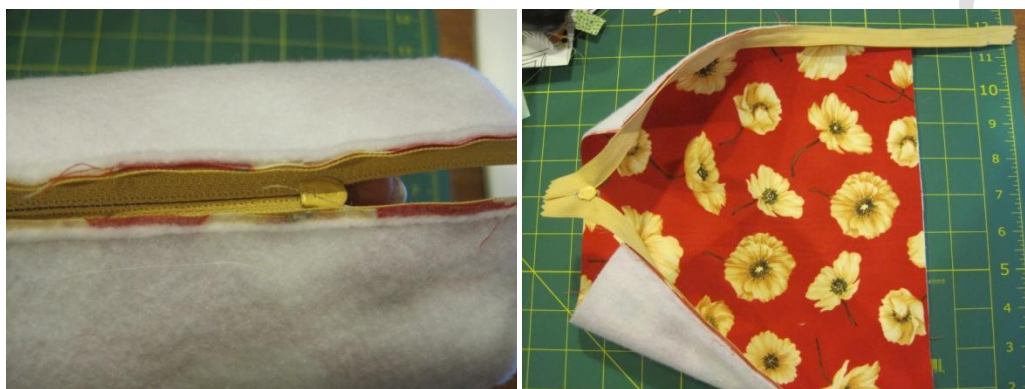
Now it's time to sew the zipper. Start with the outside fabric. Center the zipper so that it overhangs each end. Place the zipper face down along one of the 9" edges, lining up the edge. Sew in place using approximately a quarter inch seam.



Now fold the other 9" side up and sew it to the other side of the zipper. Be sure to line up the sides and pin in place before you sew. Remember right side of zipper to right side of fabric.



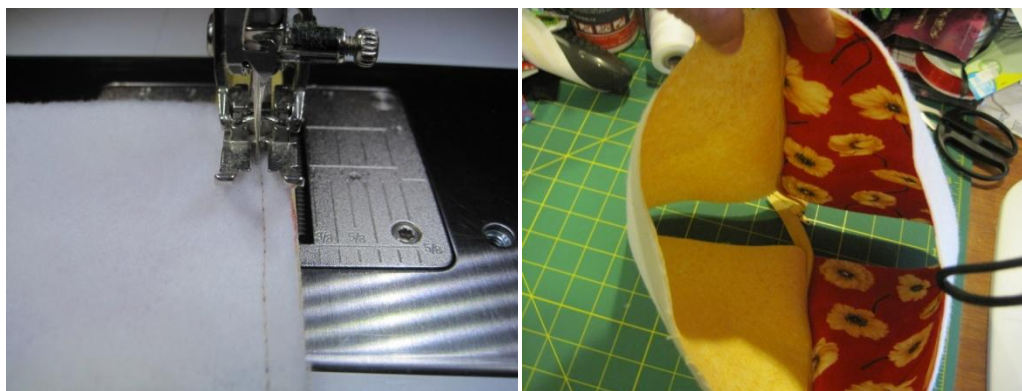
Here it is sewn in place and another view with it unzipped.



Now it's time to add the lining piece. Lay the lining inside with the right side of the lining facing the right side of the outside fabric. Align the fabric so that the zipper edge is even with the fabric. At this point I sew the lining in place from the side where I can see my original stitching.

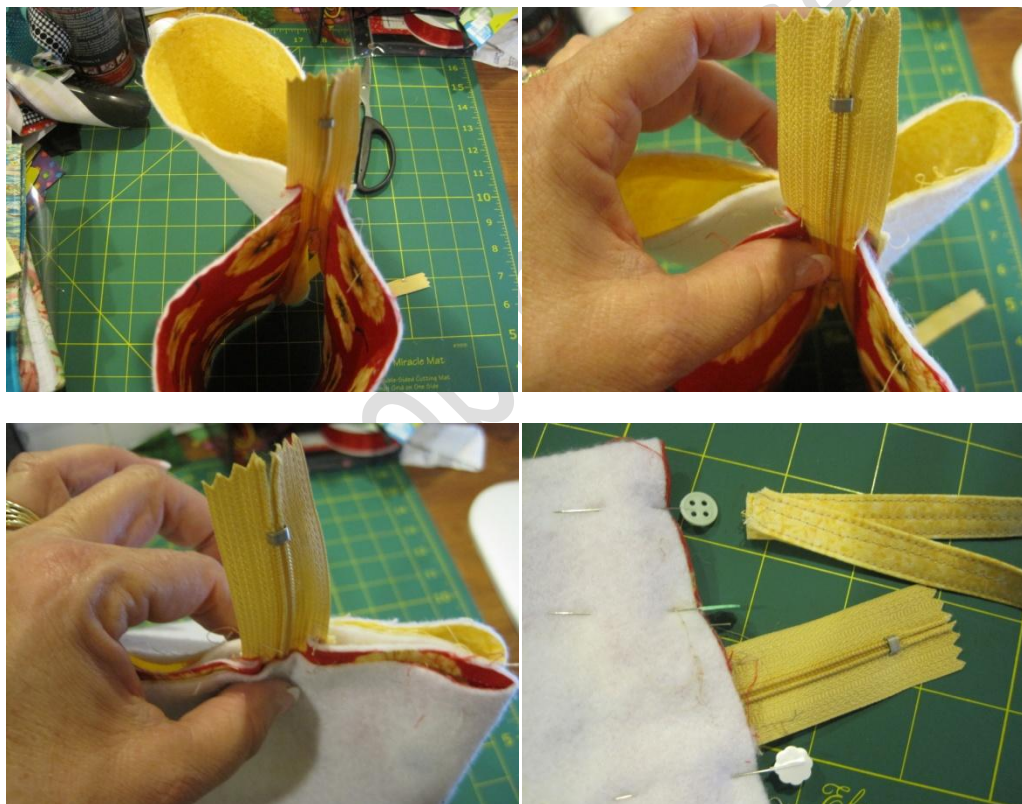


Notice in the picture below that I sew just inside the original seam. By doing this you will not be able to see any stitching where the zipper is attached. It hard to see in the picture but the second seam is sewn closer to the zipper teeth. Sew the other side exactly the same way and you will have a tube.



See the tube it makes. Now before you do anything else ZIP THE ZIPPER PART WAY CLOSED. I can't tell you how important this is. The zipper MUST be zipped until it's inside the body of the bag. Not too far just a little bit inside the bag (less than half way).

Start by sewing the flat end which is the same end that has the strap inserted. Pictures are often better than words so here we go.



Please ignore the loose threads, I had to un-sew because I forgot to insert the strap so learn from my mistake. The loop end of the strap goes on the inside of the bag. Leave a little bit of both ends of the strap peaking out right where the zipper is. See the pictures below, hopefully that will help.



I sew all the way across and then go back and sew several times over the zipper/strap area to reinforce it. Once that's done, cut off the extra zipper and the little ends of the strap that stuck out.



Now we're going to work on the tall end.



This is the end of the zipper that is not zipped closed. See how I pinch the ends together and then pin it in place. Before I sew this side I mark an area on the lining side to leave open so that I can turn everything right side out. Notice on the picture above, I marked where I want to leave an opening and then I sewed the rest of it. Once again I again sewed several times over the zipper to reinforce it.

Now the hard part.....not really but it does require a little patience. Reach through that opening and pull and tug until you get everything turned right side out.



As I was turning it, I realized that I forgot to cut off the extra ends of the zipper, so I stopped and cut them off. Once everything is turned, I sew the opening on the inside closed on my sewing machine although it would look much nicer if you sewed it by hand. I'm just too lazy and also I figure it's on the inside so who will see it.



Woot, Woot! Finished and ready to stuff with whatever you'd like. If you make a bag, I'd love to see a picture. Please email me at robin@robinquiltsetc.com.

Enjoy,

Robin