MAKE IT: ZIPPERED POUCH

This zippered pouch is a must-have to contain everything from cosmetics to electronics. The pouch is fully lined and can be easily adjusted to any size.

The essential zippered pouch is multi-functional, perfect for yourself or for a quick gift. Don't be afraid of zippers! This easy project is a great introduction. Turn any of your experiments into a useful pouch. Ideal for canvas, linen, or vinyl, but any fabric will work.
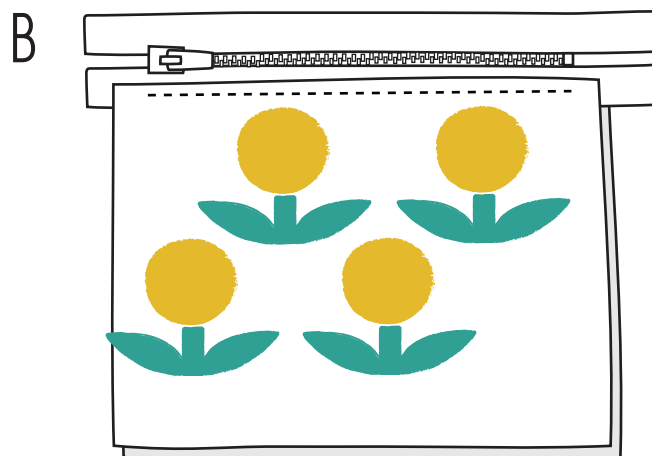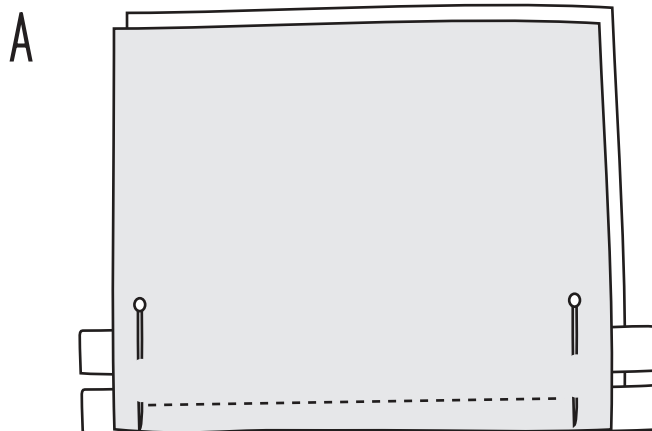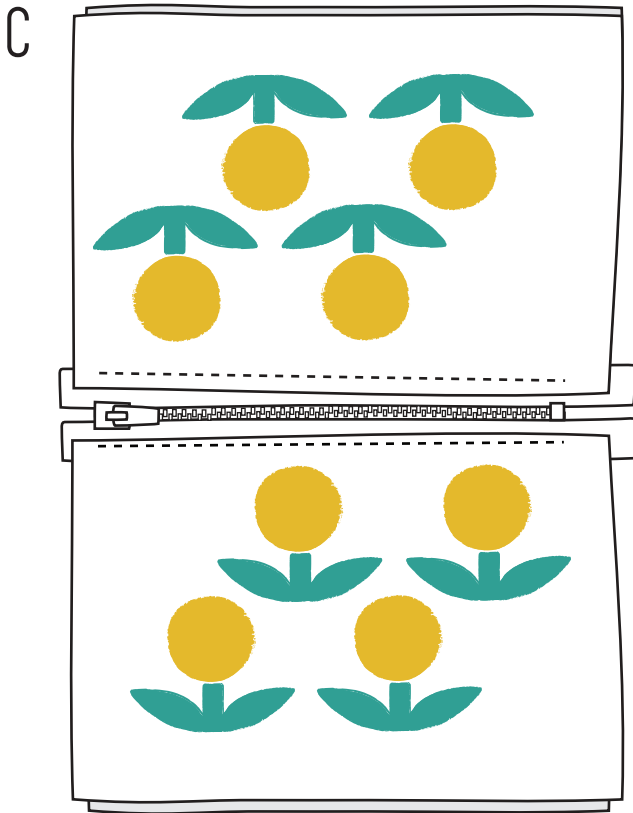

Supplies

-Fabric for outer pouch
(two pieces cut to 9" x 6")
-Fabric for lining
(two pieces cut to 9" x 6")
-7" zipper
-Matching thread

1. Layer fabric: Layer one piece of the lining fabric with one piece of the outer fabric on top, right sides facing. Slip the zipper in between the two pieces and pin or glue baste. See fig. A. The outer fabric should be on top and if it's a directional pattern, the pattern should be upside down.

2. Stitch one lining and outer piece to one side of the zipper: With the zipper presser foot on your sewing machine attached, start sewing at the beginning of the zipper (about 1/2" from the end of the zipper tape) and stitch about 1/4" from the edge, sewing along the zipper teeth, until you reach the end of the zipper as indicated by the stitch lines in fig. A. If the zipper pull gets in the way, pause, leaving the needle down in the fabric, then unzip the zipper to move the pull, and finish sewing.

3. Topstitch: Fold back both the outer and lining pieces to expose the zipper. Press. Topstitch along the folded fabric as shown in fig. B.
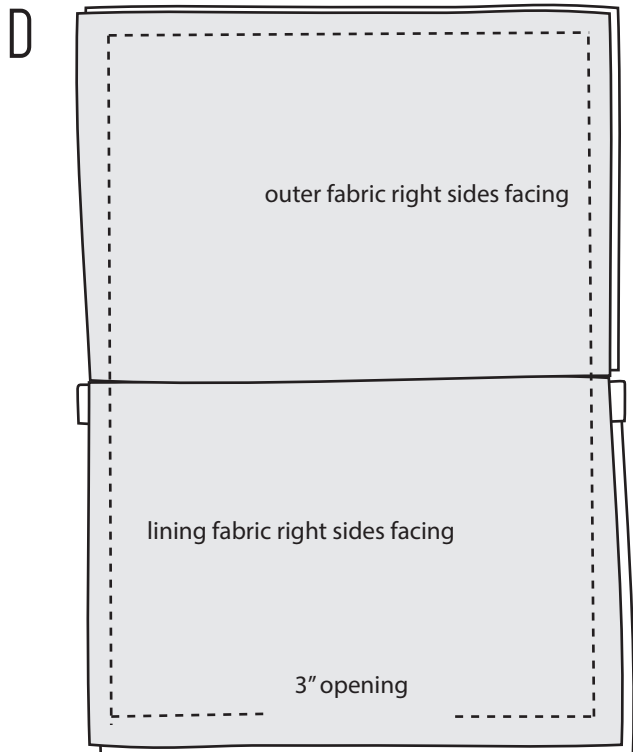
A

B

C

4. Repeat for the other side of the zipper: Repeat the process for the other side of the zipper with the remaining two pieces of fabric, being sure to align the pieces with the other side so that the zipper will pull smoothly. It should now look like fig. C.

5. Fold outer and lining pieces together: Check to make sure that the zipper opens and closes properly without catching any fabric. Open the zipper halfway. Fold the lining pieces together so that they are right sides facing, flattening the zipper tape ends. Fold the outer pieces together so that they also are right sides facing. Pin.

6. Sew along the raw edges: Sew along the outside perimeter, 1/2" from the edge. Be sure to sew right up to the ends of the zipper. Sew around, leaving a 3" opening in the lining, as shown in fig. D. Clip the corners, trim excess fabric and zipper tape ends.

7. Close opening and finish: Pull the pouch right sides out through the opening in the lining. Gently push out the corners on the outer pouch with a pointed object like a chopstick or pencil (eraser end). Fold in the raw edges of the opening in the lining. Press and topstitch to close. Push the lining inside the pouch and press.

D

outer fabric right sides facing

lining fabric right sides facing

3" opening