

## Streamliner Pouch

This pouch, which finishes roughly the size of a business envelope, is sleek and elegant, with no unsightly lumps at the zipper ends and with a non-baggy lining. It's quick and easy, perfect for last minute gift making. Please note that both the speed and sleekness are dependent upon using a zipper of just the right size, a 9" one. A zipper is measured from stop to stop, not including the zipper tape beyond the stops. There's a note at the end of the pattern for how to re-size your pouch to use a different size zipper.

In addition to basic sewing supplies, you'll need pinking shears. You'll also need something round for marking the rounded seam lines on the bottom corners. I use the 1.5" radius corner of a Creative Grids Multi-Size Curved Corner Cutter, but you could use any round item roughly 3" across. You'll need ¼" Dritz Washaway Wonder Tape, though you could use washable glue in a pinch. For interfacing, you'll need Pellon SF101 (also called Shape Flex). Alternately, you could use another light or medium weight fusible interfacing.

### Cut:

- Exterior fabric, two 10 ¼" wide by 4 ¾" tall
- SF101, two 10" wide by 4 ½" tall (Cut a 4 ½" WOF strip and sub cut in half.)
- Lining fabric, two 10 ¼" wide by 4 ⅝" tall (Cutting this ⅝" shorter than the exterior fabric makes for a non-baggy lining.)

1. Fuse interfacing to exterior fabric.
2. Prepare the zipper. Fold all four zipper tape ends backward at a 45 degree angle. Machine baste, making sure your stitches are near the edge. Otherwise, they'll show after the zipper is installed. Diagrams A and B.



3. Decide which piece of fabric you want on the front of the pouch. If you want a decorative loop on the side of the pouch, baste it on the front piece with the top edge of the loop approximately 1 ¼" from the top edge, raw edges of the loop facing out. Diagram C.



4. Mark center of back side of zipper and center of pouch front piece. Diagram D.

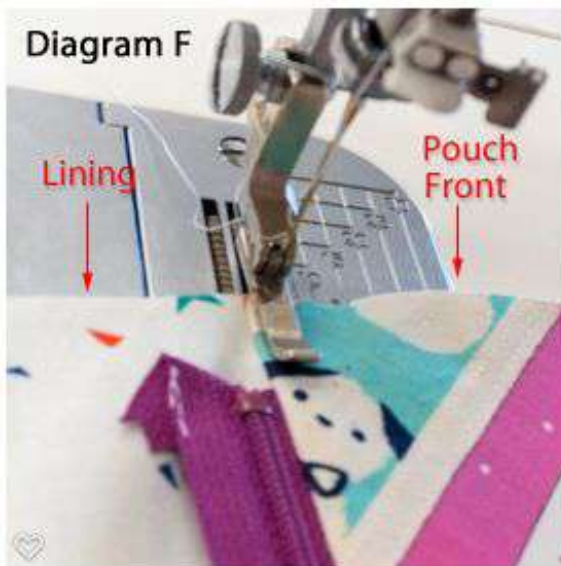


5. Place zipper right side down on the pouch front, with slider on the left. Line up center marks. Machine baste zipper approximately  $\frac{1}{8}$ " from edge, making sure to line up edge of zipper tape with edge of fabric. You can hold zipper in place with Wonder Clips if you like, but I don't find it necessary. Diagram E.



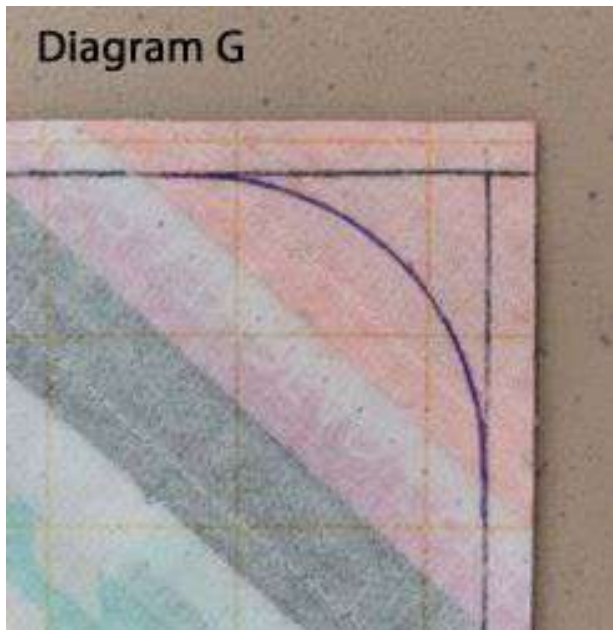
6. Place lining right side down on top of zipper, carefully aligning edges. Stitch  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from edge, using zipper foot. (No photo of this step.) Adjust zipper slider as needed. Straight stitching is very important here, as it will prevent your zipper from being wavy. If needed, draw a line  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from edge of lining and stitch on the line. Again, I don't pin or clip, but you may want to.

7. Flip pouch front away from zipper. Press. Top stitch close to zipper ONLY through exterior, not through lining. Diagram F.



8. Do steps 5 - 7 for other side of pouch.

9. Turn wrong side out, placing right sides of pouch exterior together and right sides of lining together. Draw stitching lines  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from edges all around, marking a  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " gap on the bottom edge of lining for turning. Using a Corner Cutter ruler or another round object, draw curved stitching lines on the bottom corners. (In this photo, my interfacing goes all the way to the edges of my pouch exterior fabric, but yours will be slightly smaller.) Diagram G.



10. Line up edges of pouch exterior carefully. Use 1" of Wonder Tape at the intersection of pouch exterior and lining on both sides to hold them in place, placing tape at very edge of fabric so it won't show after side seams are sewn.

11. OPEN ZIPPER! Sew around periphery of pouch on drawn lines, leaving turning gap. Take your time when sewing curves, as even a slightly jagged stitching line will be visible on the finished pouch. Turn edges of gap over  $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press well. This will help later when sewing opening closed.

12. Turn right side out and check to make sure the top edges of pouch sides line up nicely and that you don't have any pleats, etc. If it looks good, turn wrong side out and use pinking shears to trim rounded corners. Using pinking shears will make the corners lie nice and flat after pressing. If desired, trim a tiny bit from seam allowances at intersection of pouch and lining.

13. Turn pouch right side out. Press and sew opening in lining closed. Voilà! Once your happy dance is finished, please post your finished pouch on Instagram with #streamlinerpouch.

---

Re-sizing Pattern:

Start with the zipper you want to use. Measure it from stop to stop and add 1 ¼" to that measurement. That will give the width to cut your exterior fabric. Height as desired.

Zipper length + 1 ¼" = width of exterior fabric \_\_\_\_\_

Cut your SF101 ¼" smaller than your exterior fabric in both dimensions. \_\_\_\_\_

Cut your lining fabric the same width as exterior fabric but ⅜" shorter. \_\_\_\_\_

---

Pattern by Elnora Chambers, @elnorac on Instagram

Many thanks to Mary Wilde for thoughtful help with editing.