



# 52 Zippers

a little crispy

© Kristin Lawson 2017. All Rights Reserved.

## Getting started

---

This pattern assumes that you have basic sewing knowledge. It does not provide directions for basic techniques such as rotary cutting, sewing an accurate  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, pressing, pinning, basting, quilting, or binding.

---

Check out my latest patterns and other info at [alittlecrispy.com](http://alittlecrispy.com), or follow what I'm up to on Instagram @CrispyKristin. For questions or comments, please contact me at [kristin@alittlecrispy.com](mailto:kristin@alittlecrispy.com).

---

This handout is part of the 52 Zippers project, where I am sewing at least one zipper pouch every week in 2017. Share your zipper pouches made using these instructions and see others on Instagram using the hashtag #52zippers.

As the year goes on I will be adding more modifications and techniques to add to the simple zipper pouch. Look for more handouts to come! These handouts will be free for a limited time; at the end of the project all of the information will be compiled into a comprehensive zipper pouch pattern.

## Materials

The materials you need for this project:

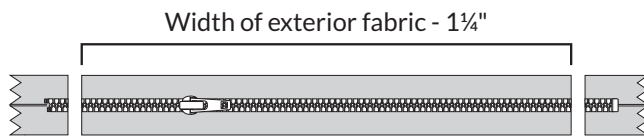
- (2) Outer fabric and (2) Lining fabric pieces. To determine the size of pieces for a simple zipper pouch, take the dimensions you'd like for the final pouch and add about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " each to the length and width. The outer fabric and lining pieces should all be the same size.
- (2) Zipper tab fabric pieces,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2", either matching your Outer fabric or not.
- (Optional) Fusible woven interfacing, such as Pellon SF101, or fusible fleece, such as Pellon 987f, or scraps of pre-shrunk batting, I leave out interfacing in very small pouches, but in anything larger than about 3" to 4", it adds nice structure to the pouch.
- A zipper at least 1" longer than your pouch width. If you are using a zipper with plastic teeth, you can buy a longer zipper and easily cut straight across the zipper to shorten it (though don't do this yet!). If you are using a zipper with metal teeth, you'll need to remove the teeth where you want to trim your zipper using pliers or very carefully cut between the teeth with not your best scissors.
- (Optional, but strongly recommended) Roxanne's Glue Baste It or  $\frac{1}{8}$ " to  $\frac{1}{4}$ " fusible tape, such as "Stitch Witchery" to hold the zipper straight while you sew. You can use tape or pins but glue basting or fusing makes a huge difference, both in ease and appearance.
- Standard sewing supplies such as a sewing machine, thread, iron, marking pen or pencil, rotary cutter and rulers, and so on.

# Add zipper tabs

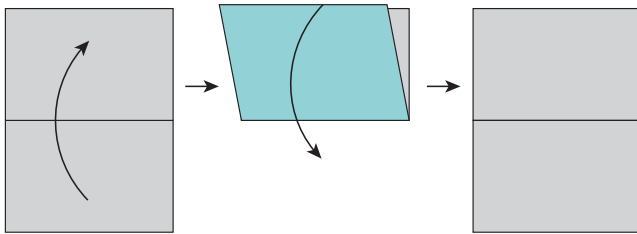
Before you sew your pouch together, a nice finishing touch is to add zipper tabs to the ends of the zipper. These not only make the finished pouches look more polished, but they also make it so the top corners aren't oddly dented in.

Add zipper tabs to your zipper:

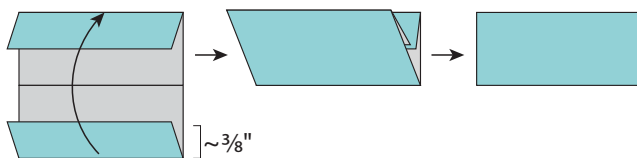
- 1** Trim your zipper to  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " shorter than the width of your exterior fabric and set aside. **Make sure that you don't trim off the zipper pull!** If you do accidentally cut off your zipper pull, go to <http://bit.ly/2hTLcDc> to read how to reattach it from the bottom of the zipper.



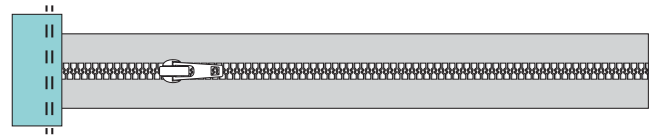
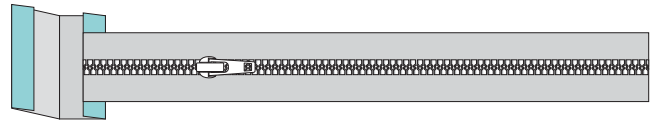
- 2** Fold the two zipper tab pieces in half widthwise, wrong sides together, to make a piece that is  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 1" and open them back up.



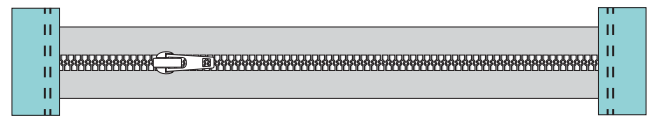
- 3** Fold both short edges over about  $\frac{3}{8}$ " towards the center, and then fold the tabs in half again, wrong sides together, along the crease you made in step 2. Press well.



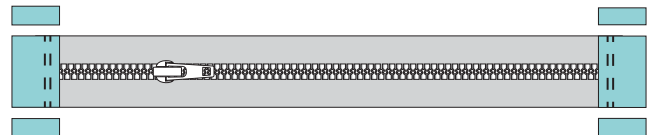
- 4** Insert one end of the zipper into one of the tabs, lining up the raw edge of the zipper with the raw folded edge of the tab. Close the tab around the zipper and topstitch near the folded edge two or three times. Make sure that you catch both layers of the zipper tab in the seam.



- 5** Repeat on the other end of the zipper to attach the other zipper tab.



- 6** Trim both zipper tabs so they are even with the long edge of the zipper.

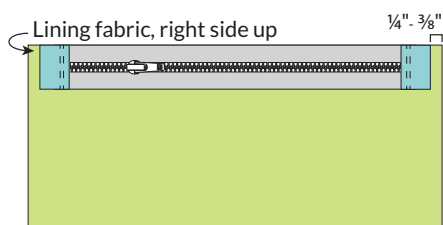


- 7** Follow the directions in the next section to add your zipper to your pouch.

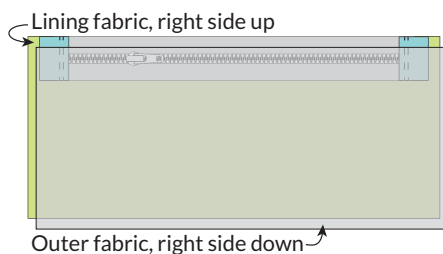
# Sew your zipper pouch using zipper tabs

After you have prepared your zipper in the previous section, you're ready to sew your zipper pouch:

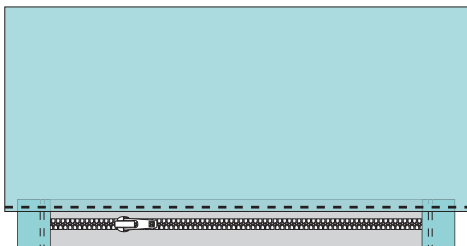
- 1** Do any necessary prep to your Outer and Lining pieces, such as piecing, interfacing, or quilting.
- 2** Center your zipper, right side up, on top of one of your lining pieces, also right side up. Your zipper should be a little more than  $\frac{1}{4}$ " in from each side, and can be up to  $\frac{3}{8}$ " in from each side. Baste in place with Roxanne Glue Baste It, or fuse it in place with a thin strip of Stitch Witchery. You can also use Clover Wonder Clips, tape, or pins, but the seam will not be as straight.



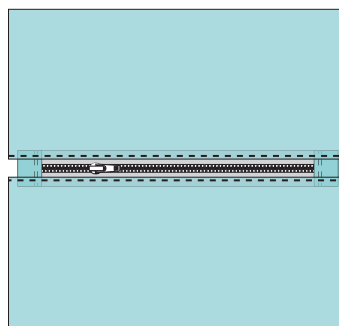
- 3** Place the Outer fabric, right side down, on top of the zipper, which is still facing up. Baste or secure in place. Stitch the layers together along the top edge with about a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, using a zipper foot if needed. You will need to stop partway through the seam with the needle down, lift your presser foot, and slide the zipper slider out of the way to complete the seam.



- 4** Fold both Outer and Lining fabrics away from the zipper so they now are wrong sides together. Press carefully so you don't melt the zipper. Topstitch along the seam close to the zipper to secure the layers.

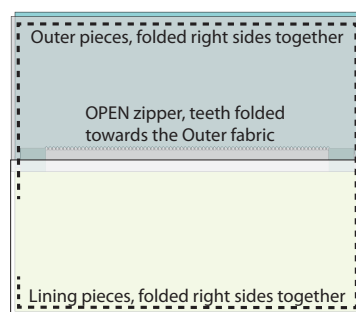


- 5** Repeat steps 1 to 3 to sew the second Lining and Outer pieces to the other edge of the zipper.

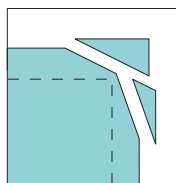


- 6** **Open the zipper.** Fold the Outer pieces so they are right sides together, and the Lining pieces so they are also right sides together. Pinch the zipper so that it bulges towards the Outer pieces. Carefully line up the side seams and pin.

Sew almost all the way around the outer edges, leaving a gap in the side or bottom edge of the Lining for turning. Avoid catching the zipper tabs in the seam.



- 7** Clip all four of your corners to reduce bulk.



- 8** Turn the pouch right side out through the gap in the Lining seam. Poke the corners out with something pointy but not sharp, like a pen cap or knitting needle. Stitch the gap shut either with your machine or with a ladder stitch by hand.



Enjoy your new pouch!