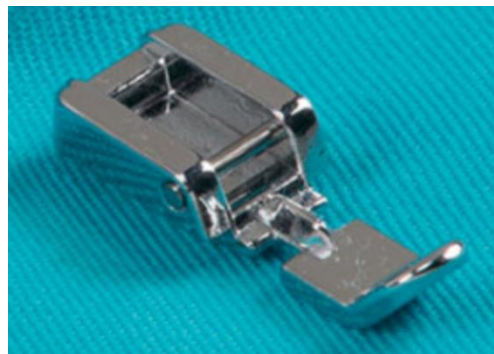


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## Supplies for a 6" x 8" Bag

- Outside Fabric – (Cut Fabric after Embroidery)
  - One (1) 7" x 9" for Back of Bag
  - One (1) 8" x 9" for Below the Zipper
  - One (1) 2" x 9" for Top of Zipper
  - Two (2) Width of Zipper x 2" for Ends of Zipper
  - One (1) 2" x 40" for Strap and Strap Connectors
- Lining Fabric
  - One (1) 7" x 9" for Back of Bag
  - One (1) 8" x 9" for Below the Zipper
  - One (1) 2" x 9" for Top of Zipper
  - One (1) 6" to 7" Inch Zipper
- Cut Away or Tear Away Stabilizer to fit Hoop
- (Optional) Batting for Quilting Outside Pieces
- Embroidery Thread
- Optional - Two (2) ½" D Rings for Connecting Strap and two (2) clasps
- Optional – Narrow Zipper Foot (ESG-ZF) or Teflon Narrow Zipper Foot (BLDY-TZF)



### *Embroider the Outsides of the Bag*

This project is a great time to explore all the

possibilities your machine has to offer. Make the bag in any size to highlight a design or try a new technique. The video features upcycling a pair “beyond repair” of jeans. The materials list above, creates a small bag that is perfect for on the go shopping or travel, but modify the size to custom fit the materials available, a phone, tablet or laptop.

To embroider the outside pieces of the bag, choose fabric pieces that are slightly larger than the needed dimensions. It is easier to hoop and embroider a large piece and trim the fabric to fit. When composing the elements of the design, keep the embroidery within the finished size of the bag. If the fabric piece is smaller than the hoop, pin and/or baste the piece to the hooped stabilizer along the edge. Keep any pins out of the field of embroidery. For ease of embroidery, embroider the small piece above the zipper by including the piece at the same time as the piece below the zipper (if the size of the hoop allows).

Stabilize the fabric according to the nature of the material. The small bag performs better when the front and back outer fabrics have some stiffness or body. Heavier fabrics, such as upholstery fabrics, may not need additional support beyond the stabilizer. The super stretchy jeans featured in the video benefited from additional stabilization by adding Dream Weave Fusible to the back before embroidery. Adding batting behind the pieces before embroidery not only will add body, but additional texture with a quilting look.

### *Install the Zipper in the Outside and Lining*

Make zipper installation simpler by adding tabs to each end before sewing the zipper in. Determine the



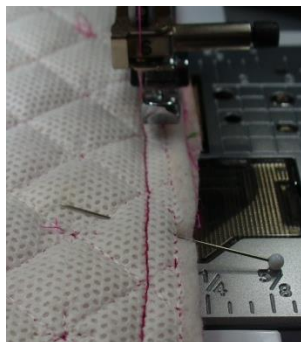
length of the zipper to fit  $\frac{1}{2}$ " in from the seam line. In the photo above the seam line is shown with the dashed lines. Place the fabric right sides together with the seam lines at the desired length. Close the zipper to determine the position of both the open ends of the zipper. The best position is seldom touching because of the width of the closed zipper pull. When stitching the closed end, this tab is an effective way to shorten a zipper. Polyester or nylon zippers with smaller teeth are not a problem for the needle, but always stop short of large or metal zipper teeth and begin stitching again close to the other side of the zipper teeth. Trim the zipper close to the seam. Use metal cutters to trim large or metal teeth.



Align the tabbed zipper centered on the top edge of the lower outside piece. Use a zipper foot and stitch the zipper to the top of the lower piece. For ease in sewing, move the zipper pull out of the way or use the narrow zipper foot. The narrow zipper foot is optional and is available as a standard or Teflon foot. The narrow zipper foot will NOT work with a center needle position. Move the needle to the far right or far left of the sewing field using the width key.



Lay the below the zipper lining piece right sides together with the outside piece. The zipper will be wrong side up and be sandwiched between the fabric pieces as shown in the photo. Choose the best side for the closed zipper pull. With the outside fabric facing up, sew along the previous stitching line to attach the lining to the zipper. Fold the lining to the back of the outside piece and press the edge. The edge may be edge



stitched to hold the lining in place. Repeat the process and attach the unstitched side of the zipper to the small above the zipper piece and the above the zipper lining.

### *Create a Strap and Tabs*

Choose a removable or dedicated strap for the Fun Little Bag. A removable strap is easy to replace if it becomes frayed during wear or exchanged as an accessory for more than one bag. Turn long edges of strap piece in  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and then fold the strap along the centerline. Interface thin fabrics before folding to add body. Cut two (2) 2" pieces from the end of the strap for tabs when making a removable strap. Baste the folded tabs

(with optional D ring if using) or the ends of the strap to the top or side just above the zipper on the outside piece.

### ***Assemble the Lined Fun Little Bag***

This bag is fully lined with no visible inside seams. Begin assembly by placing the outside back of bag piece right sides together with the previously assembled lined zipper side. Make sure both pieces are centered and the strap or strap tabs are basted to the edge. Open the zipper to create an opening for turning the bag right side out on the final step. The final lining piece will be added after these two pieces are sewn. Sew around the entire perimeter of the bag making sure that the edges of the embroidery on both the front and back are enclosed in the seam.



Place the lining side of the front of the bag face up. Lay the last lining piece right side down and centered. Pin in place. Turn the bag over and using the previous stitching as a guide, stitch just inside the previous stitching and leaving a 5" opening in the bottom for turning. Turn the bag through the opening. The inside of the bag is completely exposed. Fold the edges of the lining opening in and machine or hand sew the opening closed. Turn the bag right side out through the zipper opening.

Complete the removable strap by attaching the ends of the strap to the D rings. Insert the end of the strap into the D ring and fold the raw edge under. Stitch the ends securely. To create a removable strap, attach clasps to the ends of the strap in the same manner.