

Travel Jewelry Organizer

by Caroline Critchfield

Skill Level: Experienced beginner

This sweet case has spots for your earrings, rings, necklaces, and bracelets. It's a perfect way to show off coordinating prints and is especially suited to fat quarters.

Pattern requirements and cutting:

Main fabric (1 FQ or 1/4 yd) *light to mid weight cotton*

10 1/2 in x 1 1/2 - 3 1/2 in **cut 3 or 4** for exterior (for foundation piecing)
7 1/2 in x 5 in **cut 2** for interior
7 1/2 in x 2 1/2 in **cut 1** for interior

Coordinating fabric (1 FQ or 1/4 yd) *light to mid weight cotton*

10 1/2 in x 1 1/2 - 3 1/2 in **cut 3 or 4** for exterior (for foundation piecing)
12 1/2 in x 2 in **cut 2** for interior
1 1/2 x width of fabric **cut 1** for trim and ties

Lining fabric and white craft felt (1 FQ or 1/3 yd each) *light weight cotton for lining*

7 1/2 in x 5 in **cut 2** for interior
7 1/2 in x 2 1/2 in **cut 1** for interior
12 1/2 in x 2 in **cut 2** for interior
12 1/2 in x 10 1/2 in **cut 1** for exterior

Cut one more piece of felt measuring 7.5" x 2" for the earring holder.

Additional supplies:

coordinating thread.

tailors chalk or a heat erasing pen

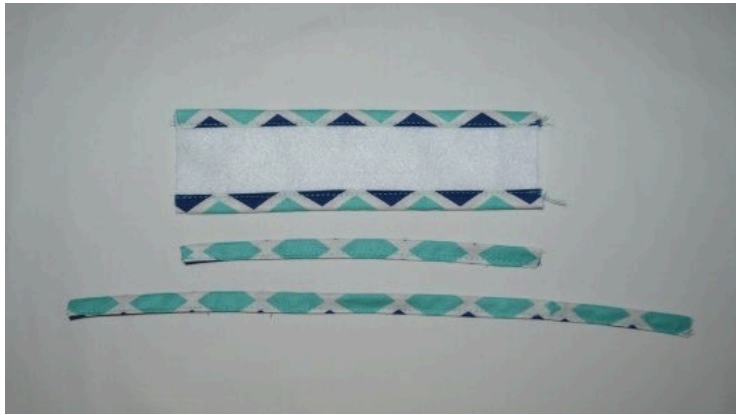


Tutorial Steps:

All seam allowances are $\frac{1}{4}$ ".

Preparation

1. Fold the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " strip in half lengthwise. Press. Open and fold edges to center crease. Press. Cut four pieces measuring 7.5", 7.5", 8", and 14".
2. Wrap one 7.5" piece around each long edge of the earring holder felt and stitch.
3. Make ring ties out of the remaining two pieces. Tuck one short end to the inside just a bit, refold, and stitch along the open edge. Repeat with last piece.



Constructing the shell

4. Prepare to foundation piece your 10.5" wide strips to the 10.5" x 12.5" piece of felt. Arrange your strips in a pleasing order, alternating between the main fabric and coordinating fabric.



5. Baste the first strip to the top of the felt, with the wrong side of the fabric strip against the felt. Your basting stitches should be $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the top.



- Place your next fabric strip on top of the first, right sides together and stitch with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Turn the second piece down and press.

Repeat until the felt is covered. Trim excess fabric away from felt leaving a 10.5" by 12.5" quilted panel.



- Measure and mark the center of each short end, $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the edge. Pin one section of the frog closure to each end with the three bottom loops under your mark and the top loop or knot above the mark. Hand sew or machine zig zag stitch over the three bottom loops to secure the frog parts to the shell. Fold back the unstitched loop or knot and pin on top of the three loops. Set aside.



Constructing the interior

- Make a "zipper sandwich" using the first zipper and 3.5" x 7" pieces of main fabric, lining, and felt.



Lay your main fabric down, right side up.

3



Center the zipper on top, with the zipper facing down.



Lay your lining fabric over the zipper, facing downward.



Place the matching piece of felt on top, and pin along the zipper tape.

9. Stitch along the top, 1/4" from the edge. Open the fabrics away from the zipper and press both sides. Topstitch on your main fabric 1/8" from the seam.



10. Sandwich and sew the 7.5" x 2.5" pieces of main fabric, lining and felt to the other zipper tape in the same way. Press and topstitch.



11. Sew the second zipper to the top of the smaller section as follows:



Lay the second zipper along the top edge, right side down. Open the first zipper.



Pull the smaller lining and felt pieces down through the first zipper.



Fold the bottom edges of the lining and fleece up to match the top edge of the second zipper. Pin and stitch.



Turn the top section right side out. Press and topstitch.

12. Sew the last 7.5" x 5" main fabric and lining pieces to the remaining zipper tape. Press and topstitch.

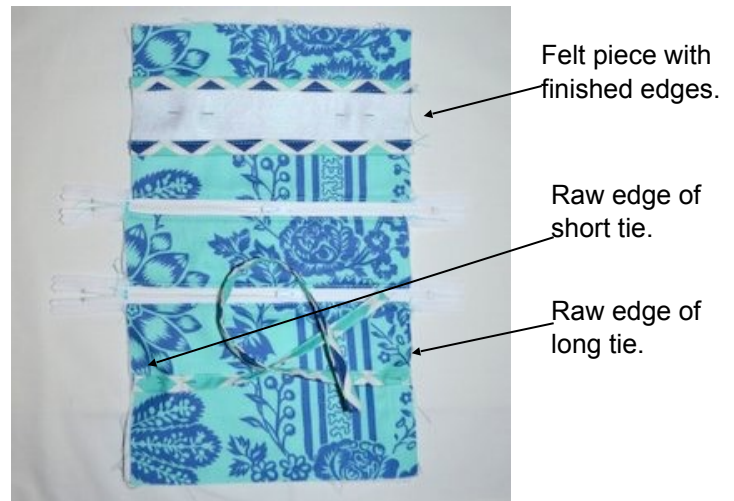


13. Open zippers half way and tack zipper openings closed near the fabric raw edges.



14. Pin the felt piece with finished edges and the ring ties over the zipper pockets as illustrated.

The felt piece should be centered over the top zipper pocket. The raw edges of the ties should be lined up with the raw edges of the bottom pocket on either side. Place the short tie on the left and the long tie on the right, centered from top to bottom.



- 15 Sandwich the 12.5" x 2" strips of coordinating fabric, lining, and felt along one side edge as illustrated.

The strip of coordinating print should be pinned to the front.



The lining piece then felt strips should be pinned to the back of the sandwich, right sides together.

Pin and stitch. Trim edges, cutting off zipper ends.



16. Repeat on other side of zippers. Press sides away from zippers. Topstitch.

Tie the ring ties together to keep them from getting caught in the outer seams.



Sewing the case together

17. Lay your zippered piece on your work area right side up. Place the outside of the case over it, right side down and the large lining piece on top, right side up. Pin around the edges. Make sure that the loose ends of the frog closure are pinned back out of the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances and that at least one zipper is open.

Stitch all the way around. Turn right side out to check stitching. If everything looks good, turn inside out again to clip corners and finish seam allowances or trim with pinking shears. Turn. Press.



10. On the outside of the case, use tailors chalk or a heat erasing pen to draw a line across the middle where it folds.

Stitch over the line, remembering to backstitch at the beginning and end.

