

DIY wristlet key fobs



DIY Wristlet Key Fob

Of all the DIY projects I've sewn and gifted to people, wristlet keychain fobs are the ones that people ask for again and again! This year the assistant principal at my daughter's elementary school was not very subtle when she repeated several times that the wrist lanyard I gifted her a couple years ago was getting old.

Cutting

For each key fob, cut:

- 1 fabric strip 2" x 14" for the outside of the strap
- 1 fabric strip 2" x 14" for the inside of the strip
- 1 fabric rectangle 3" x 3 1/2" for the wrap around tab
- 1 strip of light to medium weight fusible interfacing
- 1 swivel snap or alligator clasp with a 1" opening



You will also need:

- coordinating polyester thread
- a heavy duty needle for your sewing machine, such as size 90/14 or 100/16
- an iron and ironing board

Sewing

1. Place the two 2"x 14" fabric strips right sides together and sew along one long edge with a 1/4" seam allowance.









Pressing

- 1. Press the seam open.
- 2. Fold the strap in half and press to 'teach' the fabric to make a nice crisp edge along the seam.
- 3. Open the piece and place the fusible side of the interfacing strip against the wrong side of the fabric. Press to fuse (press well from the fabric side you want the interfacing to stick, but the cotton fabric can withstand the heat better than the non-woven interfacing).
- 4. Fold the long edges of the strip over to the wrong side by 3/4". This is just enough so that the long raw edges line up with the seam allowances under the interfacing you can see that if you look closely at the photo on the left.
- 5. After you have folded and pressed both long edges to the wrong side by 3/4", fold the entire strip in half again along the seam and press flat.



Set this piece aside for topstitching. I like to press my wrap around tab now because I'll need it in just a quick minute.

6. Fold one of the 3 1/2" sides of the tab piece over to the wrong side by about 1". Press flat.



Then fold the other side over so that the raw edge is about 1/8" away from the other fold and press - this will be the back and you don't want any raw edges to show.



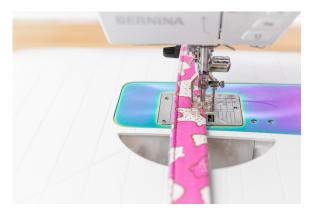
You'll have a strip about 1"x 3 1/2".



Topstitching and Finishing

1. Set your sewing machine to a topstitching length of 3-4. I also switched to the triple stitch so my topstitching would stand out (optional).

Topstitch along both long edges of the 1"x 14" strip, about 1/8" from the edge.



2. Switch to a wide zig zag stitch on your sewing machine (as wide as you can). Slide the swivel snap clip on the strap and butt the two ends of the strap together. Place the two ends under the sewing machine foot and zig zag back and forth, catching both ends of the strap.



3. Move the zig zagged join on the strap until it is about 1 1/2" away from the clasp.



Place the wrap around tab around it with the raw edge against the key fob so it won't show. Tuck the short raw ends to the inside of the strap.

Fiddle with this piece a bit until it is as tight as you can get it and then secure with a clip.



4. Sew two short lines of topstitching that connect with the topstitching on the strap. Neatly backstitch at each end of the topstitching.



This is enough to secure the tab and key fob, but you can add more topstitching if you wish.

If you sew up wristlet key fobs for yourself or for a gift, I'd love to see! Post a picture to Instagram and tag me @sewcanshe or #sewcanshe so I can take a look.

