

Vinyl Zipper Pouches by Caroline Fairbanks-Critchfield



VINYL ZIPPER POUCHES
... cute dumpling shape!



There are so many uses for a see-through pouch. Sew your own with just a few supplies and my free pattern!

You can use these small clear bags to organize sewing supplies, keep your makeup, or carry small bottles through the airport.

They are so fast and easy to sew, you won't be able to stop!

Vinyl can be purchased or repurposed from packaging that common household items come in. This include pet beds, comforters, and sheets. I never throw these away.

Make sure you also check out [my best tips for sewing with vinyl](#) to make everything go smoothly.

You will need:

- a piece of clear vinyl about 8" x 12"
- 1 zipper, 14" or longer
- a bias cut strip 40" long and 2 1/4" or 2 1/2" wide
- 6" of ribbon, 1/8" wide
- Template page 9

Tips:

For this project I used 14 gauge vinyl from my local craft shop.

My regular 14" zipper measured 13 1/2" between the metal stoppers. Feel free to use a longer zipper by cutting it to the required length and sewing across the teeth to make a new stopper.



A bias cut strip must be used because of the curves on this pouch. Learn to make your own using my video tutorial [How to Make 3 Yards of Bias Binding from a Fat Quarter](#).

Bind the Oval Shaped Piece of Clear Vinyl

1. Cut out an oval shaped piece of clear vinyl using the pattern template on page 9.

2. Fold the 40" bias binding strip in half lengthwise (wrong sides together) and press lightly.

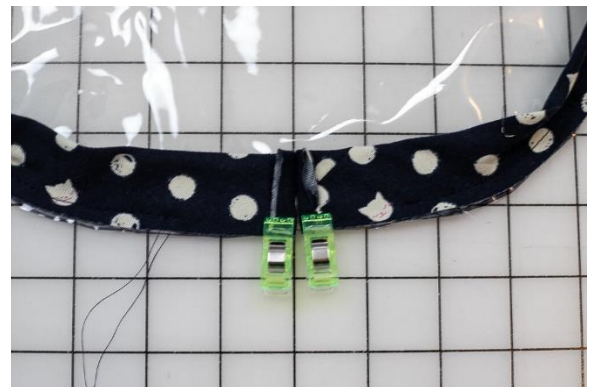
3. To get started, clip one end of the bias strip to the side of the vinyl oval with the raw edges of the strip against the cut edge of the vinyl.

4. Start sewing about 3" past the end of the bias binding. Sew the binding all the way around the vinyl, stopping about 6" away from where you started sewing.



Tip: My bias binding was 2 1/4" wide, so I attached it with a scant 1/4" seam allowance. If your binding is 2 1/2" wide, you may use a regular 1/4" seam allowance.

5. Bring the unsewn ends of binding together and fold them back in the center where they meet. Trim away each end to leave 1/4" past the fold where the ends meet.



6. Place the two ends of the binding right sides together and stitch with a 1/4" seam allowance. Press or finger-press the seam open.



7. Re-fold the binding wrong sides together as before and finish sewing it to the vinyl.

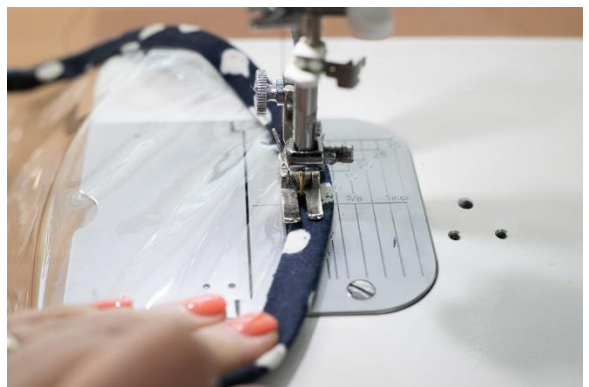


Fold the binding away from the vinyl, taking a minute or two to work with the seam and help all of the binding lie flat away from the vinyl.



8. Finish wrapping the binding the rest of the way around the vinyl.

Topstitch around the binding, 1/8" from the edge.



Fold the Pouch and Sew the Bottom Corners

1. Fold the pouch in half both ways and mark the center on the two long sides and the curved ends. You may use a fabric marking pen, tailor's chalk, or pins in the binding as I did. Note that my pins did not puncture the vinyl.



2. With the pouch right side up, fold down the two curved ends at the center of one side as seen above. Secure with clips.



3. Stitch across the corner 3/4" from the point. You may mark the stitching line before sewing, or if your sewing machine has a 3/4" seam marking, use it to sew 3/4" away from the point.

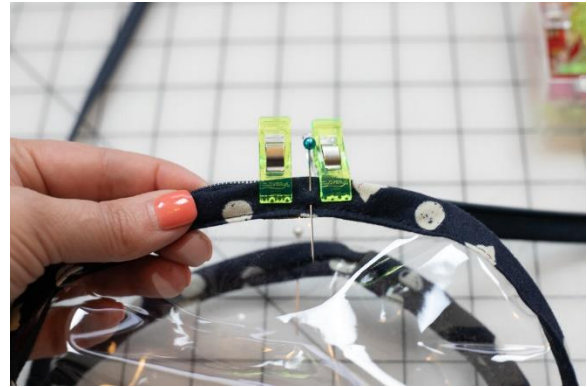


Repeat on the other corner and turn the pouch right side out with the pointy corners on the inside.



Attach the Zipper

1. Mark the center of the zipper on both tapes. Open the zipper.
2. Align the mark at the center of the zipper with the center mark on one side of the pouch (at the top).

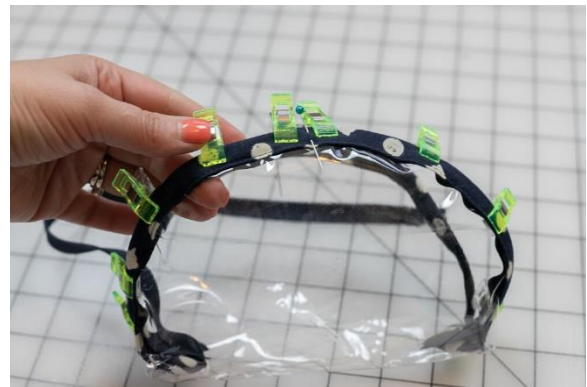


Place the zipper tape behind the binding, with the top (right) side of the zipper against the back (inside) side of the binding. Align the bottom edge of the zipper tape with the bottom edge of the binding so that the zipper tape does not show through the vinyl. The zipper teeth may or may not peek out over the top edge of the binding, depending on how wide your binding turned out to be. It will look fine either way, just make sure that the bottom edge of the zipper tape is lined up with the bottom edge of the binding, but does not show through the vinyl.

This may sound tricky, but after trying it, you will see that it is not difficult.

Place a couple of clips to secure the zipper at the center of the pouch.

3. After clipping the zipper to the pouch at the center (top), continue clipping it around the inside edge of the binding. The zipper should be long enough to reach from one end to the other with just a little bit of extra zipper inside near the pointy corners.



4. It will be very difficult to start sewing at the very corner, so begin sewing about 2" from one end. Topstitch over the previous topstitching, catching the zipper tape underneath.



Sew around the curved edge slowly - you are almost done!



Move the zipper slider out of the way as needed and sew right up to the vinyl at the bottom corner of the pouch. This part will be a little fiddly depending on how thick your vinyl is, but if you work patiently it won't be hard. Backstitch neatly.



5. Now go back to the place where you started and sewing in the opposite direction, attach the zipper from your starting point to the bottom corner next to the vinyl.

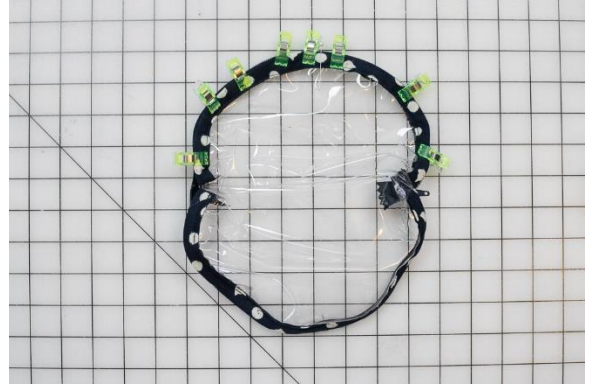


Backstitch neatly and topstitch on top of the previous topstitching on the binding, as before.



6. Open the zipper all the way and clip the right side of other zipper tape against the inside edge of the opposite side binding in the same way.

Make sure that the zipper is not twisted and as before, make sure that the bottom edge of the zipper tape is lined up with the bottom edge of the binding.



7. Attach the zipper by topstitching over the previous topstitching.

As before, start about 2" from one end and sew around the curve all the way to the vinyl. Backstitch.



Then go back and finish attaching this side of the zipper by sewing from your starting point all the way to the corner.



Attach Ribbon to the Zipper Pull (optional)

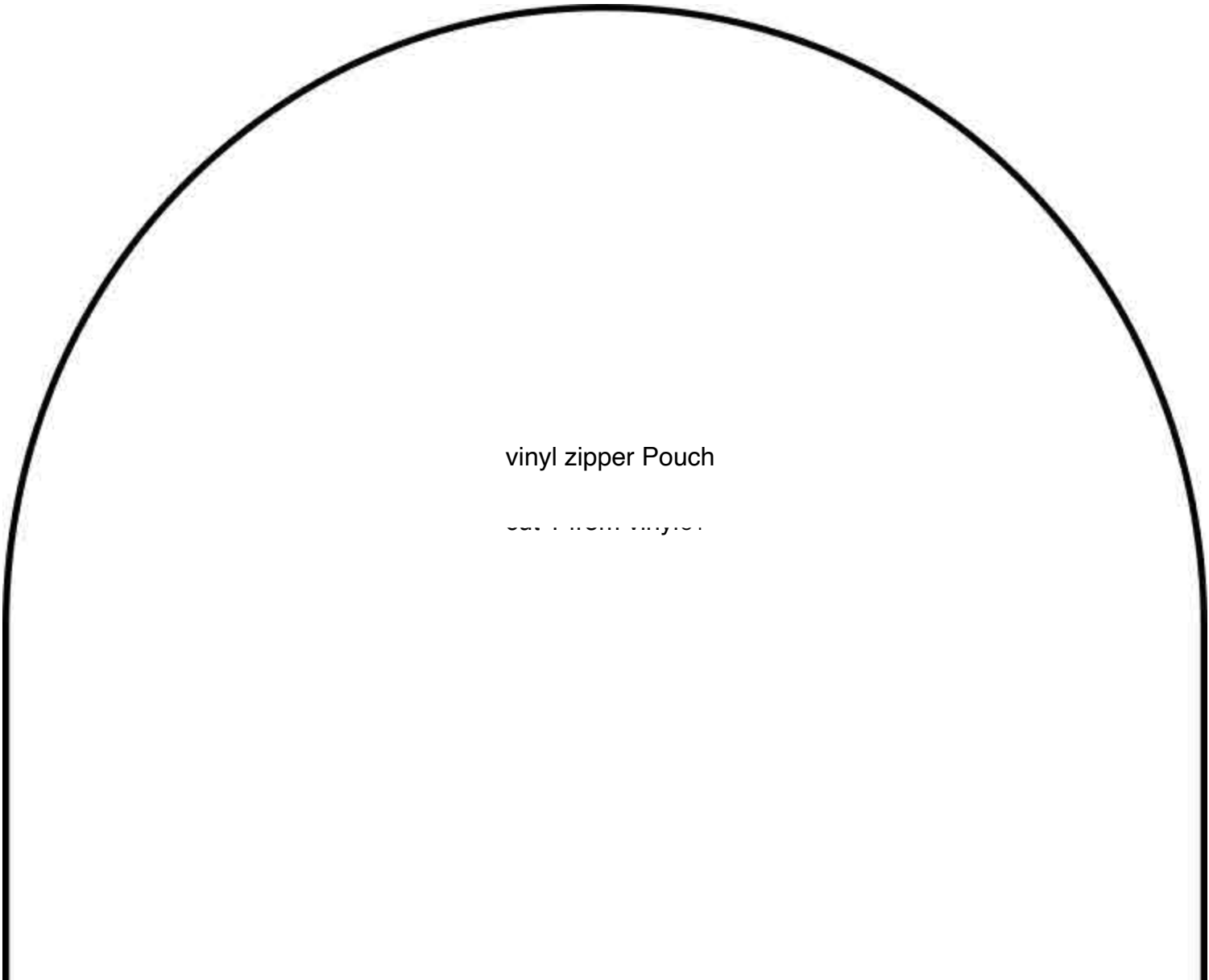
1. If desired, you may attach a narrow ribbon to your zipper pull for embellishment and to make opening the pouch easier.

Clip off the ends of the ribbon diagonally. Thread both ends through the opening on the zipper pull. Push the ends back through the loop and pull tight.



All done! You will find so many uses for these dumpling shaped pouches.





vinyl zipper Pouch

cut from vinyl



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