

Top Zip Bag with Flap Tutorial

This tutorial is for the round bottom, top-zippered bag that has a flap. It's going to be a long-ish one because I took a shit-ton of pictures and I want to use them! Also, there's 3 hoopings to this bag. Don't stress though, because the first two are really easy.

So let's get going!

Materials you will need :

- 1) Your outer fabric/vinyl cut to the appropriate sizes
- 2) Lining fabric also cut to the appropriate sizes. (these will be listed on the design pdf)
- 3) Zipper

4) Loop Hardware and Loop Material (I use matching vinyl cut into 1" X 3" strips)

5) Tear-Away stabilizer

6) Thread - though if I have to actually tell you that, you may want to seriously reconsider this and do something a bit easier. Maybe involving construction paper and paste?

7) LOTS of TAPE! I use blue painters tape. You can use whatever kind you want to. I don't recommend duct tape though. It gets a bit messy.

We will start with the pocket, then we do the flap, and lastly, the bag. If you want to skip the pocket, that's totally fine. Do the flap first, then the bag. Just don't skip the flap, because the bag will look like shit if you do.



The Pocket

Step 1 -

Hoop 2 pieces of stabilizer and then flop your outer fabric piece on there (aka floating). Tape it so it's smooth. Run your first color to tack the fabric to the stabilizer.

Step 2 -

Run your design colors. On this bag, this is the next two colors. When you've done that it should look something like this

Step 3 -

Take your hoop off of the machine and flip it over. Place your lining fabric pretty side out across the design. Make sure all of the stitch lines are covered! Then tape it in place and run the lining tack down stitch.

Step 4 -

After you run the tack down stitch, you need to trim the fabric. It should look some thing like this when you're done













Step 5 -

Now flip it back over and trim the front fabric. It's only necessary to trim the top (on both sides) as close to the stitch line as possible. That's where your satin edging will be.



Step 6 -

Run your final colors. On this bag, it is one color. On a future one it may be two colors.

Step 7 -

Remove your pocket from the hoop and use a lighter to remove the fuzzy shit on the top satin that's left from the stabilizer. There's a video in the group on how to do the lighter trick. It makes your edges look nice!

Now, set that aside and let's move on to the FLAP!



The Flap

HA!

You thought I was going to do another 3 pages on how to stitch the flap didn't you? Fooled you! You make it the exact same way as the pocket, except for the trimming. I'm putting pictures so you can see what I'm talking about.



The BAG!

Here we go! You're over half way done now. Are you excited? I am!

Do this again! Use two sheets of tear-away when you're doing the bags. It makes everything stitch out much nicer.

Also, if you're in desperate need of bifocals (like me) and refuse to give in, make sure you find your damned magnifying glasses and keep them close so you can see what you're doing.





Step 1 -Run your zipper placement!

Step 2 -

Line up your zipper with the placement lines and tape the hell out of it. Then run the zipper tack down, attaching your zipper to the stabilizer.

Step 3 -

After you do the zip tack, flip your hoop over to place your lining. (the piece that is the same size as your front piece) The "good" side should be facing down. You want to put the bottom edge just under the bottom zipper tack down line, then fold up the part that is flapping in the breeze and tape the hell out of it just like the picture!

Then flip your hoop over and place your front (outer) fabric/vinyl just like you did on the back, with the good side facing down. The folding it up out of the way part isn't necessary though. Just tape it in place. The tack down will run right over where the bottom zipper tack down is.

Run color number 3







Step 4 -

Now you need to flip the front (outer) fabric down. Try to put the fold right up next to the zipper teeth and tape it so it won't freaking move. LEAVE YOUR LINING WHERE IT IS! Run color 4





Step 5 -

Make sure your fabric is laying nice and smooth and then tape the ever-loving shit out of it! You don't want it to be able to move at all. (I'd make a bondage joke, but I'm trying to keep this tutorial at PG-13 level at least.) Once you make sure your fabric is secure, run the design colors. In this bag (the wineglass one) it will be color stops 5, 6, & 7. Then STOP!





Step 6 -

Remove you hoop from your machine once again. Unfold that back lining and flip it down. It should cover the entire back of the deign except for the zipper. Pull it taut and smooth, then (say it with me) TAPE IT!

Throw it back on the machine, take a big gulp of the wine you should have got for yourself when I told you to prepare, and run color stop 8. DO NOT TRIM ANYTHING YET!



Now, the next step is for the 6X10 and 7X10 bags. Don't panic if you're doing the $5X_7$. The only thing that is different is the order that we're going to add the flap and loops. I'm putting the pictures and instructions directly after the ones for the bigger bags. The $5X_7$ one is purple so you'll be able to see easily. After the loops and flap are placed, everything else is the same for all sizes.

Step 7 - (6X10 & 7X10) Grab your flap that you set aside earlier. You want to line up the stitch line on the top of the flap with the TOP zipper placement line as shown. Tape it down, another glug of wine, and put the hoop back on your machine.

















Step 8 -

Run color stops 9 & 10. Color 9 is your flap tack down stitch, color 10 is your loop placement.

Place your loops/hardware as shown! Then run color number 11. That is your loop tack down stitch. *Step 8 - 5X7 Bags! Line up your flap with the top zipper placement line and tape it down so it won't move. Then back on the machine it goes so that you can run color 11. That's the tack down line for your flap!

Now we're all following the same instructions again so -

Step 9 -STOP EVERYTHING and doublecheck that you've opened the damned zipper!



Where are we? Oh yeah!

Step 10 -

Grab the pocket that you did earlier and place it face down on the front of the bag. Line it up where you want it and, you guessed it, TAPE it in place! Then take your last piece of outer vinyl/ fabric. This is the back of the bag piece! Cover ALL of the stitchlines with this and TAPE IT TOO!

You should have a big, fat fabric sandwich happening here!







Step 11 -Now run color 12! This is the step that attaches all of these pieces together.





Step 12 -

Almost Done! (which is good because my eyes are crossing from all this typing!)

Grab your last piece of fabric. This should be your biggest lining piece. If it's not, well shit. You'll need to go cut another one. We'll wait.... Ok, now flip your hoop over. Place your lining fabric pretty side down over the whole damned thing. Smooth it out and practice your bondage once again. Oops! I meant, tape it securely.





Step 13 -

Run the FINAL color! When you pull this off of your machine this is what it should look like. Front & Back!





Now, onto the final page for trimming, turning, and all of that stuff!

Remove your material sandwich from the hoop and trim it so it looks like this! I didn't get enough pictures of this for some stupid reason, but you will trim the vinyl close to the stitch lines all the way around and you will trim the lining fabric like the picture. If you've never done an invisible seam lining before, I recommend watching Bea's video tutorial in the guide section on the group Facebook page. She makes more sense than I will about this!

Your next step is to turn the bag (the first time!) You will turn it inside out through the hole in the bottom of the lining. Once you get that done, it should look something like this. The lining will be facing out on both sides. You will then fold the little flaps on the bottom of the lining inwards and either sew the hole shut or cheat like I did and glue it. You'll probably do a much better job than I did at this!

After you get the bottom sewn/glued/stapled, Open your zipper! The top flap will be tucked down inside like this!







Go ahead and turn the bag right side out now!

The inside should look like this



And the outside should look like this!







TA-DA! You're finished! Now, stick it in a squisher and celebrate with another glass of wine! Or maybe another bottle. Whichever it is, YOU DID IT! YAY YOU!



Picture of my squisher!