



ZipBag Tutorial

Some notes -

If your bag design has a back pocket, **DO IT FIRST!**
The tutorial for the pocket is at the end of this tutorial.

Cut your material pieces **AT LEAST** 1 inch larger than the design. There is folding involved in this process and you don't want to run short. Check your design pdf for design sizes.

A lot of designers say to use tear-away stabilizer. I personally use cut-away on the bags and tear-away on the pockets. I feel like the designs hold better on cut-away. It's a personal preference so do whichever you like.

This tutorial is for making a lined bag. Keep in mind that the seams will show on the inside. I don't sew well so I wanted everything to be done in the hoop. If you don't want to mess with a lining, just skip those parts of the tutorial.

And so we begin.....

Materials -

3 pieces of material for the outside cut at least 1 inch larger than the pattern.

1 - Front - Top

1 - Front - Bottom

1 - Back

3 pieces for the liner cut the same as the outside pieces.

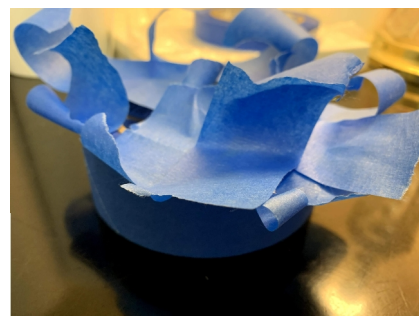
Zipper

D-ring (optional)

Ribbon (optional)

Stabilizer and thread (of course)

Some sort of tape to hold pieces securely.



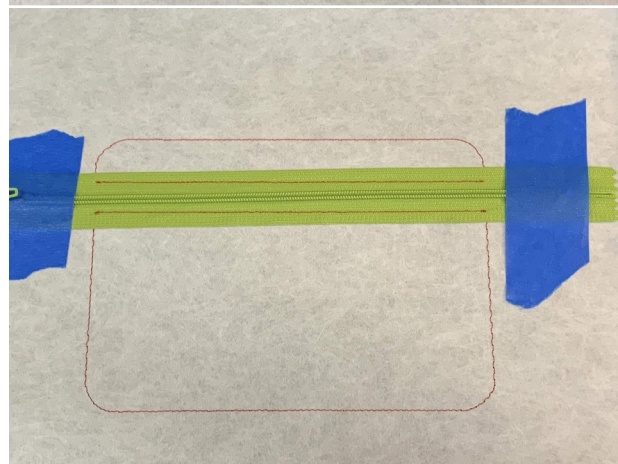
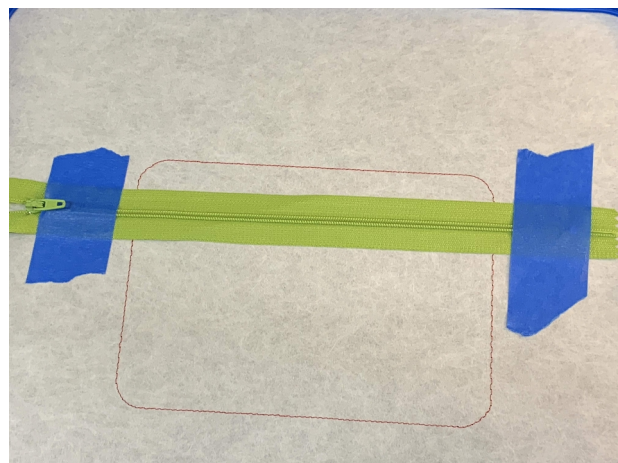
This is how my tape looks most of the time.

Step 1 -

Hoop your stabilizer and run the placement outline.

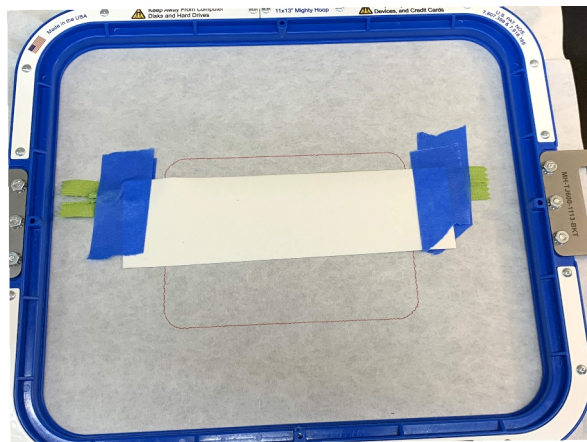
Step 2 -

Place your zipper right side up and line up the teeth of the zipper (not your own) with the center placement line. Tape to secure! Run the the next color to tack down.



Step 3 -

Place your front top fabric upside down (back of fabric facing up) lining it up with the top of the zipper. If you are lining the bag, do the same thing with your top piece of liner fabric on the back of the hoop. Use lots of tape to secure!



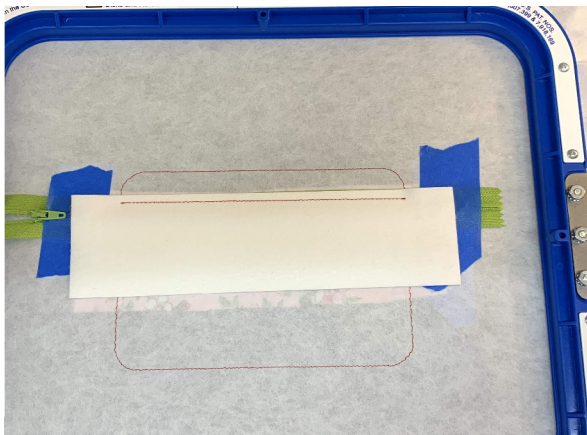
Front of hoop



Back of hoop

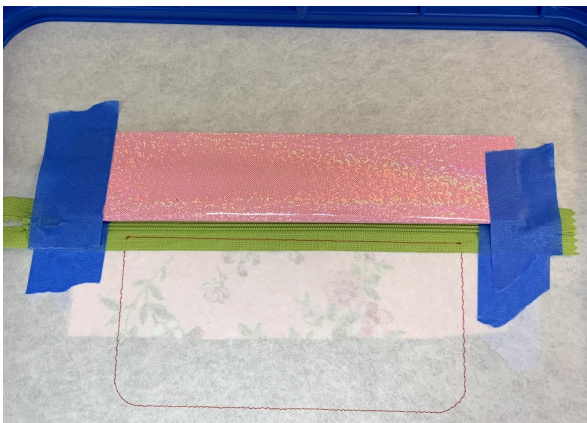
Step 4 -

Sew the next tackdown step. This is what it should look like so far!



Step 5 -

Now you're going to flip up the front fabric and secure with tape. **DO NOT FLIP THE LINING YET!** I like to fold it so that it just bumps against the zipper teeth. Make sure your lining fabric is still securely taped on the back so it doesn't get caught in the design stitching.



Step 6 -

Run the top design until just before the tackdown. Each design varies in color stops so you'll have to pay attention. You can always run the tackdown twice if you accidentally go too far.



Front



Back

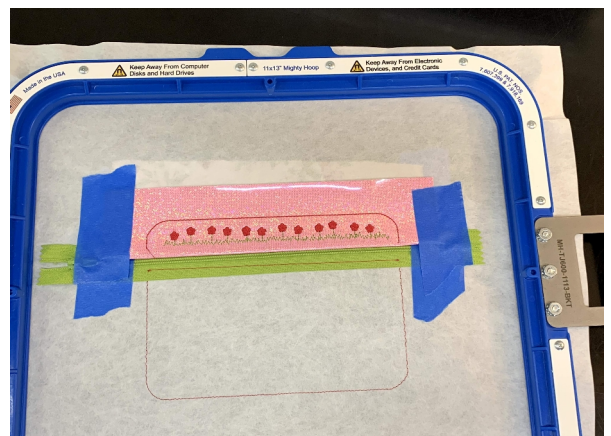
Step 7 -

Now you're going to flip up that lining fabric on the back and tape it securely!



Step 8 -

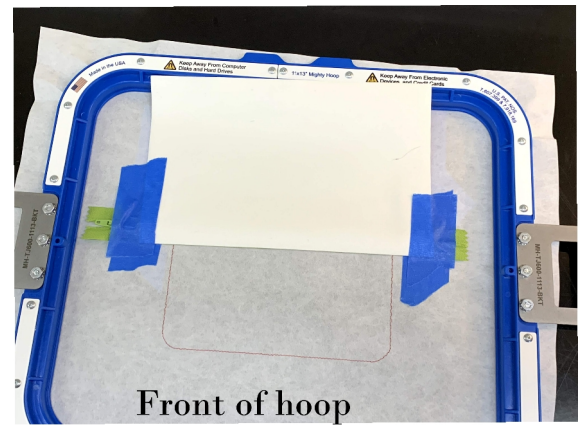
Run the top tackdown step. This will secure the front fabric and the lining together.



Step 9 -

Place your bottom fabric pieces just like you did the top except going the other direction.

Run the tackdown.



Step 10 -

Just like you did with the top piece, it's time to flip down the front material.

LEAVE THE LINING TAPED UP!

Again, make sure your lining is securely taped out of the way of the design stitching.



Step 11 -

Run the bottom design colors until the lining tackdown step. (usually 4th from last step)



Step 12 -

Flip your lining fabric down and tape. Run the tackdown step securing the lining to the front fabric then run the placement for your loop.



Step 13 -

Place your ribbon with the D-ring on the placement line with the D-ring FACING IN. Tape the hell out of it because you do not want that thing getting under your needle! Run the loop tackdown.

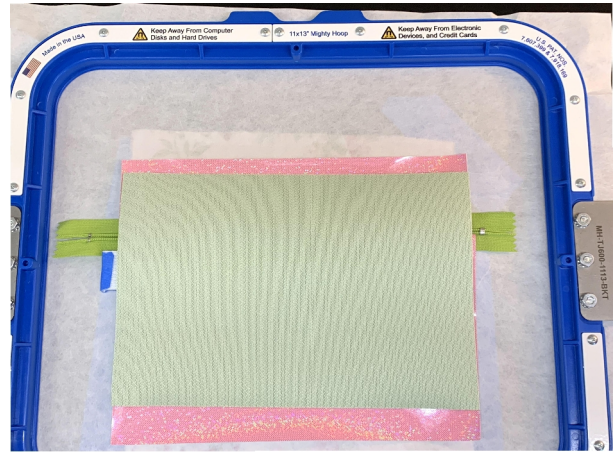


Step 14 -

Unzip your zipper 3/4 of the way.

Step 15 -

Time to make a sandwich! If you have a back pocket, place it front side down, lining up the bottom and sides as well as possible. Tape in place. Then place your back piece of fabric pretty side facing down over the whole thing. Place your lining fabric pretty side up on top of all of that! (Yes, I know. I didn't iron my lining. Hand slaps!) Generally I tape everything to keep it from shifting before the tackdown. I forgot this time, but I got lucky!



Step 16 -

Run the final tackdown!

Step 17 -

Unhoop everything and trim all the way around about 1/4 inch from the seams. I lost my good scissors so this looks like crap, but you get the idea!



Step 18 -

Use a seam ripper or small scissors cut away the stabilizer from the zipper being very careful to not cut into the lining or the stitches. Then you will turn your bag right-side out through your open zipper! Voila! You're finished!



To flatten your vinyl bag you can use a pressing cloth and a warm iron or just stick it under a stack of heavy books for a day or two. Just don't forget where you put it. I've done that. It sucks!



Back Pocket Tutorial

Materials - Outer material (vinyl or whatever)
cut 1 inch larger than design.

Liner material also cut 1 inch larger than design

Tear-away stabilizer and thread

Matching bobbin

- 1 - Hoop tear-away stabilizer and float your outer fabric.**
- 2 - Sew all the colors of the design until the second tackdown.
It's the 3rd from last color stop.**
- 3 - Turn your hoop over and place your liner fabric pretty side up
over the entire design. Tape it well!**
- 4 - Sew the tackdown step. Remove hoop from your machine and trim
both front and back material as you would for an applique. As close as
possible without cutting into the stitches.**
- 5 - Change your bobbin!**
- 6 - Stick that hoop back on the machine and stitch out the last
two colors. That's the satin and then the pretty decorative satin.**
- 7 - Remove and tear off all that stabilizer.**

You're ready to do the rest of the bag now!