

STOW & GO

{ by Milinda Jay Stephenson }

Craft a lovely garment bag, complete with a pocket for shoes, in less than two hours. It's perfect for traveling and for keeping special garments clean and wrinkle free.

The handy pocket for your shoes is an added bonus!

{ Download this
garment bag
pattern for FREE
at sewnews.com! }



Supplies

- 1 yard of 42"-wide print cotton fabric (bag)
- $\frac{2}{3}$ yard of 42"-wide print cotton fabric (pocket)
- Zippers: 14"-long zipper (pocket) & 30"-long zipper (bag)
- Removable fabric marker
- Zipper foot
- All-purpose thread
- Two 4" lengths of $\frac{1}{8}$ "-diameter cord (zipper fobs)

Get Started

Download and print the Stow & Go pattern at sewnews.com.

From the bag fabric, cut two 2" x 6" strips for the binding.

With right sides together, fold the bag fabric in half, aligning the selvages.

Baste the selvedge edge using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance, making sure to match the fabric print, if necessary; press open the seam. Position the bag on a flat work surface, centering the seam. This is the bag front. Designate one short edge as the upper edge.

Position the pattern along the bag upper edge. Using a removable fabric marker, trace the pattern upper edge (1). Cut the fabric along the marks.

Construct

Serge- or zigzag finish the binding raw edges.

With right sides together, position one binding strip long edge over one bag front upper straight edge; pin, and then stitch. Press open the seam.

Fold the binding toward the opening wrong side, concealing the raw edge; pin, and then stitch in the ditch on the bag right side. Repeat to bind the remaining upper straight edge.

With right sides together, align the bag upper edges; and pin, and then stitch using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance, leaving

the upper edge free (2). Serge- or zigzag-finish the seams. Clip the corners.

Install a zipper foot on the machine.

Unzip the long zipper. With the bag wrong side out, position the teeth along the bag seam allowance. Baste the first zipper tape side. Zip the zipper and position the remaining zipper tape along the opposite seam allowance; baste. Turn the bag right side out. Topstitch both zipper tape edges, beginning at the zipper lower edge. Carefully clip the basting stitches from the bag center seam and remove the threads, exposing the zipper teeth.

Position the pocket fabric right side up on a flat work surface. With right sides together, fold the pocket in half widthwise; pin, and then stitch the long edge. Fold the pocket tube in half lengthwise with wrong sides together, aligning the selvages; press. Position the pocket on a flat work surface, with the seamline centered and facing up (3).

With right sides together, position the pocket selvedge edges along the bag lower edge; pin the perimeter.

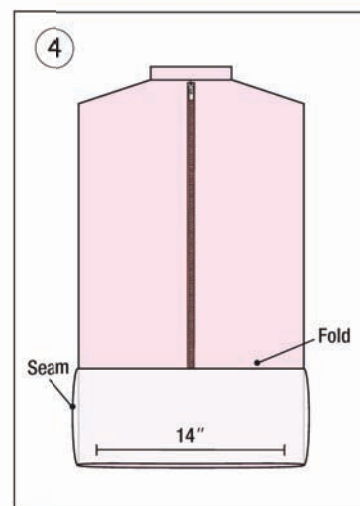
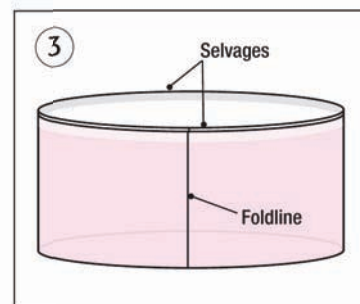
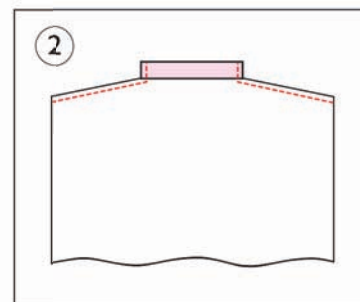
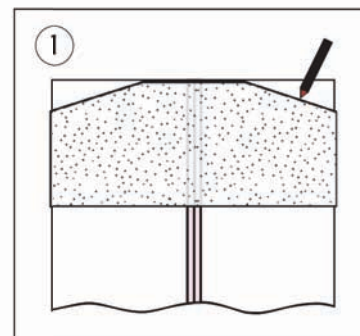
Stitch the pocket to the bag, leaving a 14" opening centered below the bag zipper (4).

Install a zipper foot on the machine. Unzip the small zipper. With the bag wrong side out, position the teeth along the pocket opening seam allowance. Baste the lower zipper tape edge to the pocket opening.

Zip the zipper and position the remaining zipper tape along the bag opening edge seam allowance; baste.

Topstitch the zipper in place along both tape edges from the bag right side. Unzip the zipper. Remove the basting.

Turn the bag wrong side out. Stitch the pocket lower edge through all layers; press. Serge- or zigzag-finish the seams; press.



Finish

Turn the bag right side out through the zipper.

Insert one cord end through the zipper pull; knot. Repeat to insert and knot the remaining cord in the remaining zipper pull. ☞