

A free project, compliments of...

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Easy Eyeglass Case

Most of the time when you purchase new eyeglasses you get a nice, shiny new case to go along with them. Most of the time this case is a little on the blah side of fashion. Then there are times when you purchase a pair of sunglasses or magnified reading glasses and perhaps they didn't come with a case to put them in.

The instructions below show how I created a simple, easy-to-make eyeglass case, using mostly scraps from my scrap basket.

From my scraps of heavy interfacing, I found a piece that I cut to 4" x 13".

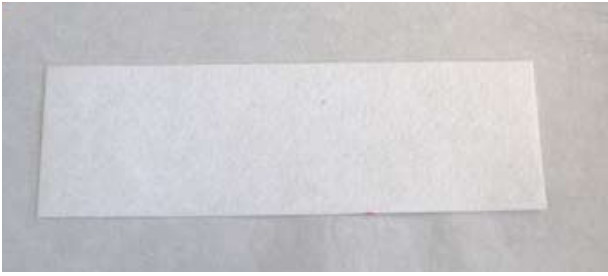
Note: Not all eyeglasses are the same size. You may need to make your case larger to accommodate your glasses. Simply increase the width and length accordingly to best fit your needs.

Place a piece of parchment paper or Teflon sheet on your ironing surface. Lay your heavy interfacing piece on top of the parchment paper. Place a piece of Mistyfuse, cut the same size as the interfacing, on top of the interfacing. Place another sheet of parchment paper or Teflon sheet on top of all this and press with your iron to fuse the Mistyfuse to your interfacing.



Supplies

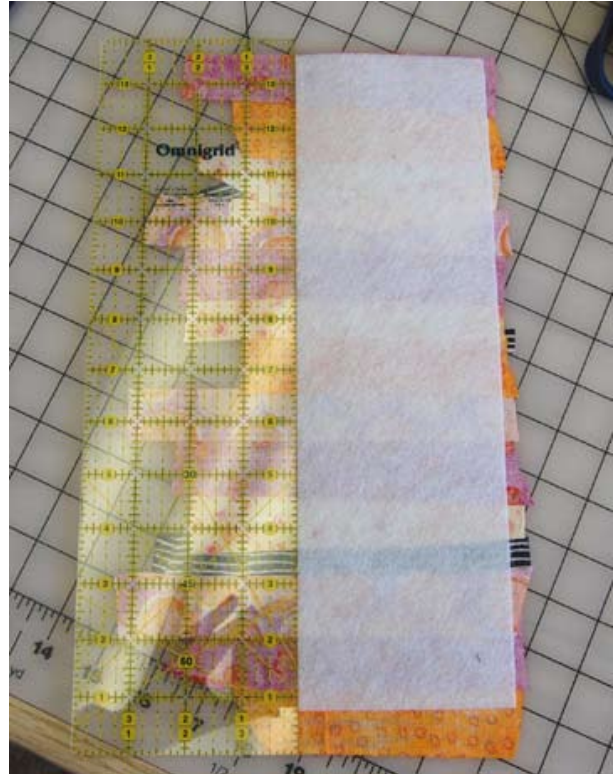
- Heavyweight interfacing (Tintex, Peltex, etc.)
- Mistyfuse
- Parchment paper
- Rotary cutting tools (cutter, mat, ruler)
- Fabric
- Coordinating threads
- Closure - Button, Velcro, cord, elasticized cord, etc.



Next flip the interfacing piece so the fabric is face down on your cutting mat. With your rotary cutting tools, trim away the excess fabric around the edges of the interfacing.

Once the fused interfacing has cooled, lift off the top piece of parchment paper.

Next I rummaged through my scrap fabrics and pulled out some pieces that I thought I would like to use. I cut some into strips that were wider than my interfacing.



Now my piece looks like this:

Start placing the fabric strips on top of the fused interfacing. Make sure to overlap your fabric pieces so that no interfacing and fusible can be seen. Also place the strips so that they hang over the edges of the interfacing.



There are lots of raw edges. I took the unit to my sewing machine and stitched a zigzag stitch along all of the raw edges.

Now it looks like this:

Once the entire piece of interfacing is covered, gently lay a piece of parchment paper over the top and press with your iron to bond the fabric strips to the interfacing. Let cool.



You could use any stitch for this part. If your sewing machine has decorative stitches programmed in it, this is a wonderful time to try some of them.

You could also embellish this surface further. With your sewing machine, couch down some fun novelty yarns, ribbons, or fibers. Add some beads, but remember to stay away from the edges about 1/2". Stamp or stencil on some designs with acrylic paint. As you can see, you can take this surface and really go wild.

After I finished with the outside surface stitching, I then flipped the interfacing unit over and added another piece of Mistyfuse and a coordinating piece of fabric for my lining. Press with your iron to bond and trim away any excess fabric that hangs over the edge of the interfacing.



The closure I plan to put on this eyeglass case is an elastic cord that I found in the beading/jewelry aisle at my craft store. I cut a piece of the cord approximately 4.5" to 5". On one short end of my interfacing unit, I carefully peeled back the fused lining fabric about 1/2".



Slide the two ends of the elastic cord under the lining fabric. I pushed them in so they were about 1/2" under the fabric. I also aligned the cord so that it was centered along the side.



I carefully pressed the lining fabric around the cord with the tip of my iron, to fuse it back down. The cord can still easily slip out at this point, so handle carefully.

Next I straight stitched over the cord about 1/8" from the edge of the fabric. I stitched forward, then back stitched, and then forward one more time so that in the end there was three passes over the cord.



The next step is to zigzag stitch around all four edges. I have my machine set for a 4.0 stitch width and a .8 stitch length. I stitched once around the entire unit, and then stitched the two short ends a second time.



While the unit is still lying flat is when you want to add the second part of your closure. I stitched a button 1/2" from the short edge on the opposite end from the elastic cord.



And pull the elastic around the button to close it up.



Next, fold the unit in half with the lining to the inside. Using a wide zigzag stitch, stitch down the two sides.



The eyeglass case is now ready for use. Slip your glasses inside...



There are many ways you can customize the closure on this case. Below are just a few.

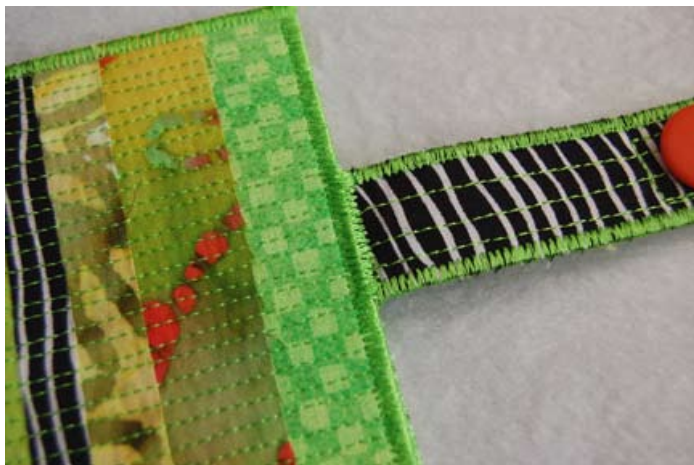
For the first one shown, I simply used a machine wrapped cord instead of the elastic cord. I sewed a shank-style button on the case so that the cord could be wrapped around the button to close.



The closure on the green case was made from a small piece of heavy interfacing. I fused fabrics to each side of the interfacing, added some decorative stitching and zigzag stitched around the sides.



To connect the flap to the main case, I simply pushed the two pieces together, without overlapping, and zigzag stitched them together.



I sewed on some Velcro so the flap would stay securely closed, and at the end stitched a decorative button to the flap.



On the next eyeglass case, I simply left it open at the top. Another thing I did differently with this case is I used batting instead of the heavy interfacing. This resulted in a softer eyeglass case.



I hope I've inspired you to go grab some of your scraps and sew up an eyeglass case. They make great gifts!