

A free project, compliments of...

Terri Stegmiller

All information provided herein is done so in good faith. Terri Stegmiller takes no responsibility for problems or issues encountered by the reader when using any of this information. Always make sure you take appropriate health and safety precautions when working with your supplies and equipment.

Folder-Folio

This Folder-Folio is a great carry along item to have if you need to take some paperwork or other important papers to a meeting or appointment. The addition of a notepad creates an ever more versatile folder in case you need to take notes.

Let me show you how to make your own Folder-Folio.

Cut three pieces of Timtex interfacing. Your interfacing should be cut to (these are oversized and we will trim them down later):

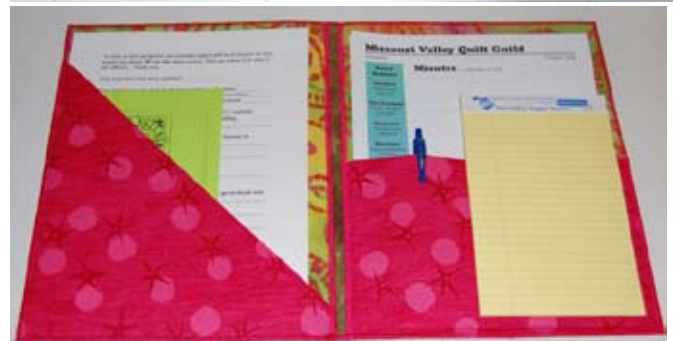
2 pieces - 10" x 12.5"

1 piece - 3/4" x 12.5"



Apply Mistyfuse to one side of all three pieces of interfacing. Be sure to use parchment paper to protect your iron and ironing surface.

Choose a color palette of fabric for the outside front and back cover. Scrap strips are perfect for this project. Cut strips of your chosen fabrics 11" long, in varying widths.



Supplies

- Timtex heavyweight interfacing
- Mistyfuse
- Parchment paper
- Fabric
- Coordinating threads

With the fusible side up, start placing your strips on the interfacing, starting at either the top or bottom edge. Overlap your fabric strips so that no fusible or interfacing is showing.



When you have your interfacing piece completely covered with strips, carefully press to bond everything together.

Flip the bonded piece over onto your cutting mat and trim off the extra fabric that hangs over all four sides.



You will now have a piece that looks like the next photo (upper right). Create another piece like this with the other 10" x 12.5" piece of interfacing.



Cut a strip of coordinating fabric approximately 1" x 13" and fuse it to one side of your narrow interfacing piece. Trim away excess fabric. This will be the spine of the folder. You now should have three pieces of fabric covered interfacing that looks like the following.



Note: There is fabric only on one side of the interfacing pieces at this time.

Using a coordinating thread and the quilting method of your choice, quilt the three pieces. For my example, I used the straight stitch on my machine and stitched wavy lines that run perpendicular to the fabric strips. An optional stitching method would be to stitch right over the top of the raw edges of each fabric strip, either with a zigzag stitch or a decorative stitch that you have on your sewing machine.

Free-motion stitching is wonderful for this as well.



Choose one of the cover pieces to be your front cover. You can use an appliqué design of your choosing to dress up the cover or follow what I did on mine cover.

Choose three pieces of fabric for your circles and another for the stems. Iron Mistyfuse to the backsides of each of these fabrics.



I roughly cut a 2.5" square from the three yellow fabrics and from that square I free-hand cut a circle. From the black fabric I free-hand cut three stems.

Place your appliqué shapes onto the front cover and arrange them as you please. Once you are happy with the placement, press with your iron to fuse them in place.

Next I set my sewing machine up for free-motion stitching and stitched the appliqué pieces. If you prefer, you can zigzag or satin stitch all of the raw edges.



Now it is time to trim down the oversized pieces. Trim each of the cover pieces to 9.5" x 12" and the spine piece should be 1/2" x 12".



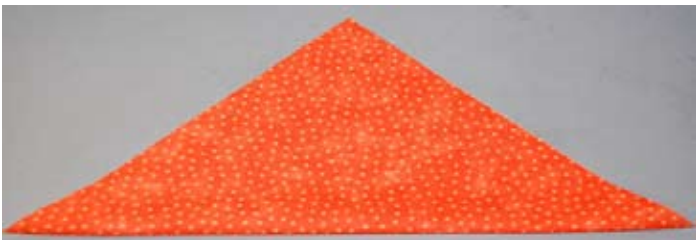
Choose a coordinating fabric to cover the backsides of all three pieces. I cut my backside fabrics approximately 1/2" larger on all sides as I find it easier to work with. Adhere Mistyfuse to the wrong side of the fabric and then bond the fabric to the backside of your heavy interfacing pieces. You should now have three pieces with a fabric lining as shown below.



Let's make pockets. Choose a fabric for your pockets and cut an 11" square and a 9.5" x 12.5" rectangle.



Fold the 11" square diagonally and press well.



This piece forms the diagonal pocket that is placed on the inside front cover. Align the raw edges of the pocket fabric to the raw edges of the front cover, making sure that the appliqué design on front is in the right direction with the pocket. Pin the pocket to the cover.



You'll notice a small section of the pocket fabric extends beyond the edge of the cover.



Trim this away, even with the raw edge of the cover.



Fold the rectangle fabric piece in half to create a pocket piece that measures 9.5" x 6.25". Press. Place the pocket fabric on the back cover and pin, aligning the raw edges.



Now it's time to zigzag stitch the edges of all three pieces. I set my machine to a 4.2 mm width and a .8 mm length. Your sewing machine settings may vary from mine. When I start to stitch, I turn my machine's hand wheel so that my needle comes down to the right. I push my cover piece up to the needle so that it touches the needle. This is where I want my needle to stitch when I comes down on the right zigzag. I want the stitch to be right off the edge of the fabric piece.



Let's put the folder-folio together. Take one of the covers and the spine piece to your sewing machine.

With your machine set up for zigzag stitching, push the two pieces together so they touch, but don't overlap.

For my zigzag stitching, I have my machine set for a 5.5 mm stitch width and a .8 mm length. Your sewing machine settings may vary.

Zigzag down the center of these two pieces from the top edge down to the bottom edge. Now flip the unit over and zigzag stitch over the same area again.

Push your remaining cover piece up against the other side of the spine and repeat the zigzag stitching again.

The final stitching will be to zigzag stitch around the outside edge of the entire three-piece unit. I use the same stitch settings for this as above.



Your Folder-Folio is done and now you have an attractive way to carry your paperwork with you!