

A free project, compliments of...

*Terri Stegmiller*

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# Quilted Kindle Pouch

## Materials

- Batting
- Fabric
- Mistyfuse fusible web
- Parchment paper or Teflon pressing sheet
- Zipper - 7" or longer
- Zipper foot for your sewing machine
- Basic sewing supplies/tools

I recently got a Kindle and I love it. The Kindle is a wireless reading device available through Amazon.com. It's a great item if you enjoy reading, which I do. There are times when I'd like to take my Kindle along with me when I'm running errands. You never know when you might have to sit somewhere and wait for someone or something and it would be nice to have some reading material. The Kindle is a nice size to take along with me where ever I go. But I don't like the idea of just putting it in my handbag, unprotected. I don't want the screen to get scratched or damaged from other items in my purse or bag. So I decided to create a pouch to protect my Kindle.

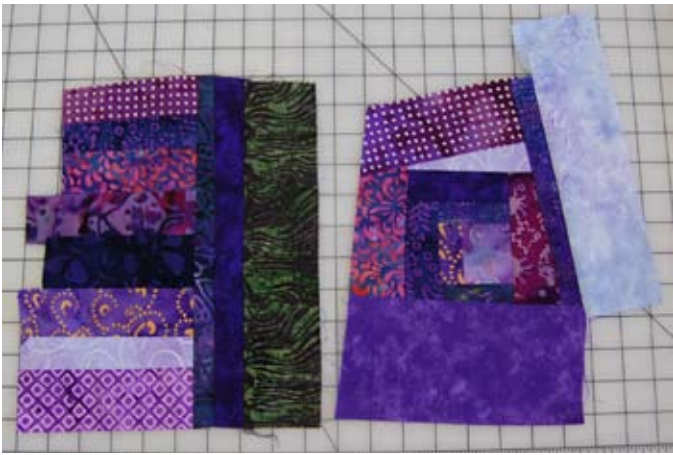
These pouches make great gifts and they don't have to be used for a Kindle. The pouches in this tutorial will hold the Kindle (Wi-Fi) and the Kindle (3G & Wi-Fi). If your wireless reading device has different dimensions than these Kindle devices, then you will need to alter the pouch dimensions.



## Create the Pouch Exterior

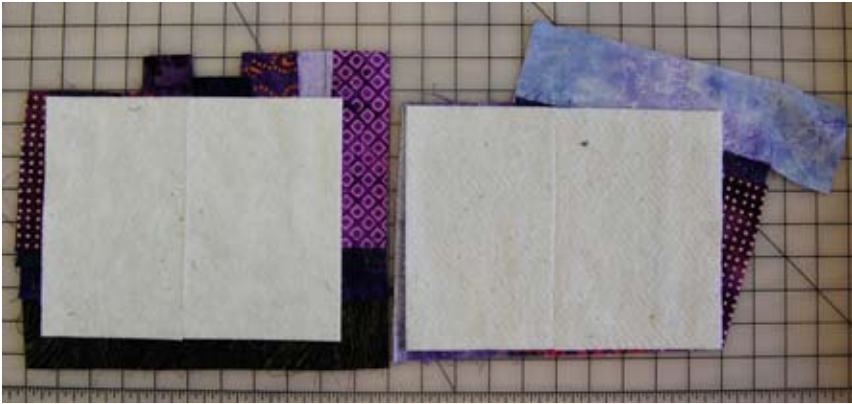
Cut two pieces of batting and two pieces of Mistyfuse to  $7\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $9\frac{3}{4}$ ". Batting scraps are perfect for this project. Refer to *Using Your Batting Scraps*, on the free projects page at Three Creative Studios if your batting scraps are smaller than what you need for your project.

Adhere the Mistyfuse to one side of the batting pieces. Remember to use your parchment paper or Teflon pressing sheet to protect your iron.

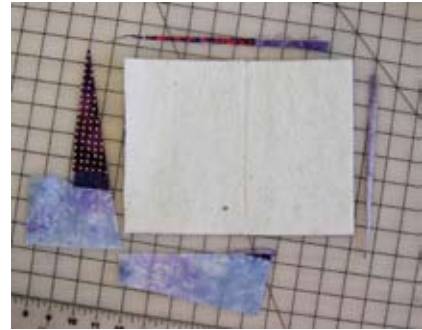


For the purple pouch in the example photos, I used fabrics from my scrap bin. I pieced them together in a free-form configuration. For one I sewed strips of fabrics together and for the other I started by sewing a liberated log cabin style block. I sewed these two pieces until they were slightly larger than my two batting pieces.

Next I placed my batting, Mistyfuse side down, on the wrong side of my fabric pieces. Position the batting so that you have complete coverage. Take these units to your ironing station and press well to adhere the batting to the fabric.



Trim away all the excess fabric that extends beyond the edge of the batting on both pieces.



Now you can add your quilting stitches. You can quilt this in any method you desire, either free-motion, decorative stitches that are pre-programmed on your sewing machine, or even by hand.

After you have quilted the two rectangle pieces, trim them to size. Cut to measure 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ".



If desired, add an embellishment to one or both of the exterior pieces. I fused and machine appliquéd a hand painted fabric design onto one piece. I always add any additional embellishments after I have trimmed the two pieces to size because it is easier to position them exactly where I want them. You don't want to add any bulky embellishments near the edges where the stitched seams will be.

This is only one method of creating your exterior look. You can use orphan blocks, fuse scrap fabric directly to the batting without piecing it first, cover with one single piece of fabric and embellish that with appliqué—the sky's

the limit when it comes to creating the look of your pouch. On the sample pouches shown on page 1, the turquoise pouch was created by fusing strips of scrap fabrics to the batting. The fabrics were overlapped about a quarter of an inch and the pieces were densely quilted. On the pouch with the heart appliqué, the base fabric is hand painted cotton duck that was left over from a previous project and the appliqué fabrics were from my scrap bin.

### Create the Pouch

Cut two pieces of lining fabric to measure  $6\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $8\frac{3}{4}$ ". Place one of the batting pieces, batting side down on your work surface. Place your zipper, face down, on the top edge, aligning the raw edges. If your zipper is longer than you need, be sure that when the zipper is in the closed position that the zipper head is near the side edge of the batting piece, as shown in the photo (left edge). The zipper end can extend off the edge of the other side as much as it needs to as any excess length will be trimmed away later.



I place four pins through the zipper and batting piece, as shown below, to help hold the zipper in position while I place the lining fabric on.



Next, place one piece of your lining, right side down on top of the zipper/batting unit. Align the edges and pin through all three layers. Note I've placed these pins parallel with the zipper. Once these pins are in place you can remove the four perpendicular pins.



With your sewing machine set up with your zipper foot, sew a quarter inch seam . I find it challenging to sew a straight line when sewing near the zipper head. To avoid a crooked seam, I leave the zipper in the closed position when I start sewing and sew just up to it, which is about one inch from the edge. Note where I stopped sewing in the photo. Then I will remove the piece from under the sewing machine, unzip the zipper about half way or more and then place the unit under the machine to finish the line of sewing.



Flip the lining and exterior piece so they are wrong sides together and finger press the seam at the zipper. From here on I will refer to this zipper/batting/lining unit as Unit A.



Place the remaining exterior piece with the batting side down on your work surface. Position Unit A on top to align the zipper at the top edge. The two exterior pieces will be right sides together.

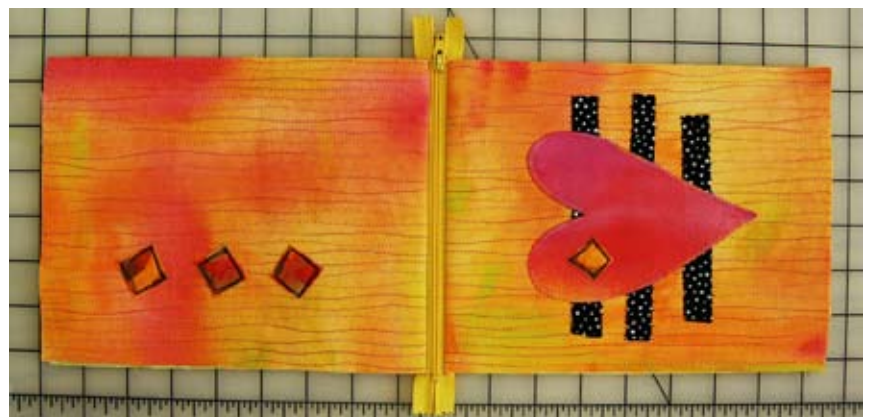
Place the four perpendicular pins into the zipper and bottom batting unit to hold them temporarily. Now take your remaining lining fabric and place it right side down on the top of Unit A. Unit A will become sandwiched between the unstitched batting and lining pieces. Align the lining fabric along the top edge and pin in a parallel direction along the zipper, as we did previously. Remove the temporary perpendicular pins. Your entire unit should resemble that shown in the photo at right.



Be sure the zipper is in the closed position. Stitch the seam, either starting after the zipper head or stopping before the zipper head. Open the zipper head half way or more and then finish the seam.

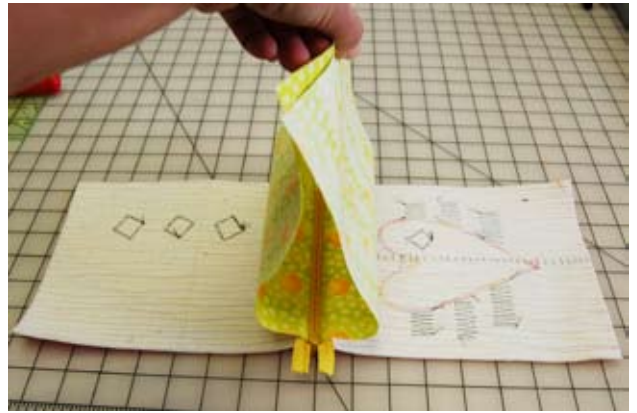
Position the unit on your work surface with the wrong side of the linings against the batting. Finger press the seams well.

At this point you can trim away any excess length from your zipper end if your zipper was too long. Leave 1/2" to 1" excess.



Place the unit with the right sides of the exterior pieces face down on your work surface. Lift the two lining fabrics and place them so they are right sides together and do the same with the exterior pieces.

**IMPORTANT:** At this point, open the zipper approximately 3/4 open. You need it to be open this much to aid in turning the unit right sides out after stitching the seams. You don't want it open all the way or the zipper head will be in the way of stitching the side seam.

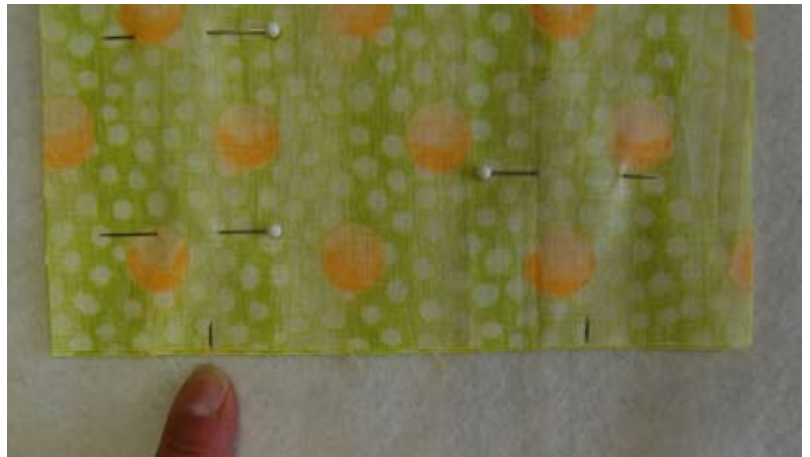


Place the unit on your work surface as shown at left and pin along all the edges.

I prefer to position my pins on the interior of the unit so that I don't have to worry about them getting in my way as I'm stitching.

When stitching around the four sides of the unit, you will leave an opening approximately four inches wide in the short end of the lining fabric. You can place marks on the fabric where you want to start and stop, as shown.

Start stitching at the mark where my finger is pointing and stitch the short distance to the edge, turn the unit and continue stitching around. I like to double stitch the corners for extra strength when flipping the unit right sides out. I also back stitch at the start and stop points for added strength.



Continue stitching all the way around the entire piece stopping at the other mark on the short end of your lining. When you stitch over the zipper on both sides, you want to make sure that the zipper seam allowances are pressed toward the lining fabric. Stitch carefully over these seams as they are bulky. Also be careful stitching this area in case there are any metal parts of the zipper that your needle may encounter. If that might happen, stitch up to the metal area as closely as you can, stop and lift your needle up and bring it down manually after you have cleared any metal parts.



After you have stitched around all four sides, leaving your opening in the short edge of the lining fabric, clip all four corners.

Now you can turn it all right sides out through your opening. Gently poke the corners out with a blunt tipped object.

Hand or machine stitch the opening in the lining and then push it inside the pouch. You are all done!

