

outside zipper pocket

There are many types of zippers, and choosing only one can be difficult. Let the zipper become the focal point of the bag — sometimes it determines which fabric to choose, and sometimes it enhances the fabric. These Riri zippers could stand alone as the embellishment.



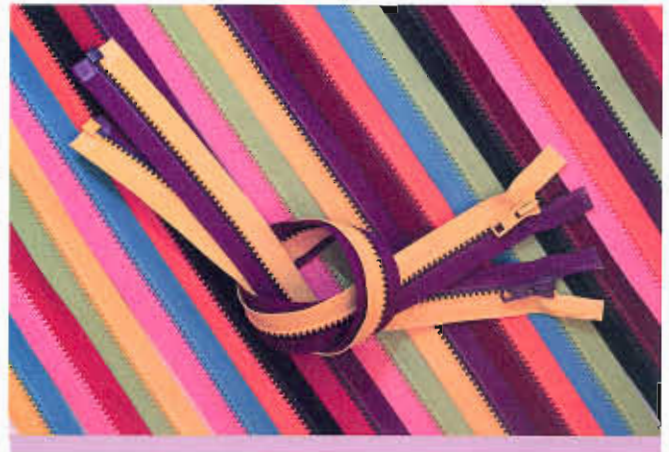
To join two zippers together, the zipper coils must be the same type.

It is easier to make something larger and trim it down to the perfect size than to build up a too-small object. This is true in the case of a zipper pocket. There are too many variables with zippers to make a zipper pocket by beginning with the perfect pattern piece. The zipper tape or coil may be large for decoration or small for utility; more zipper tape may be exposed for design work on one project and barely show on another. So, begin with a piece of fabric that is slightly larger than the intended size pocket, and use the excess zipper tape to decorate another area of the bag.

Most jacket zippers are 22" or longer. This particular pocket is about ½" larger than the Fashion Fabric Center Panel (#1).

tip:

Sports zippers are sturdy enough for handbags, too. YKK has a variety of bright and pastel separating zippers. Choose two zippers in complementary colors, unzip them and swap the colors.





1 Using a rotary cutter, cut the pocket at the angle that best suits your needs. Sometimes the zipper opening may be perfectly horizontal, while other times it is more practical for the opening to be slightly angled from the upper portion of one side to the lower portion of the other side.



2 Align the cut edge of the fabric with the edge of the zipper. Using the all-purpose foot riding against the zipper, and the needle to the far left position, stitch the length of the zipper.



3 Fold the fabric over to expose the zipper coil. Position the edge-stitching foot with the bar between the zipper coil and the fold of the fabric. Move the needle position slightly left of the fold, and stitch across. Place the zipper pocket on another layer of center panel fabric, and trim to match.

tip:

On a small bag with an outside zipper pocket, place the zipper opening at a slight angle to make it easier to put things in the pocket.

