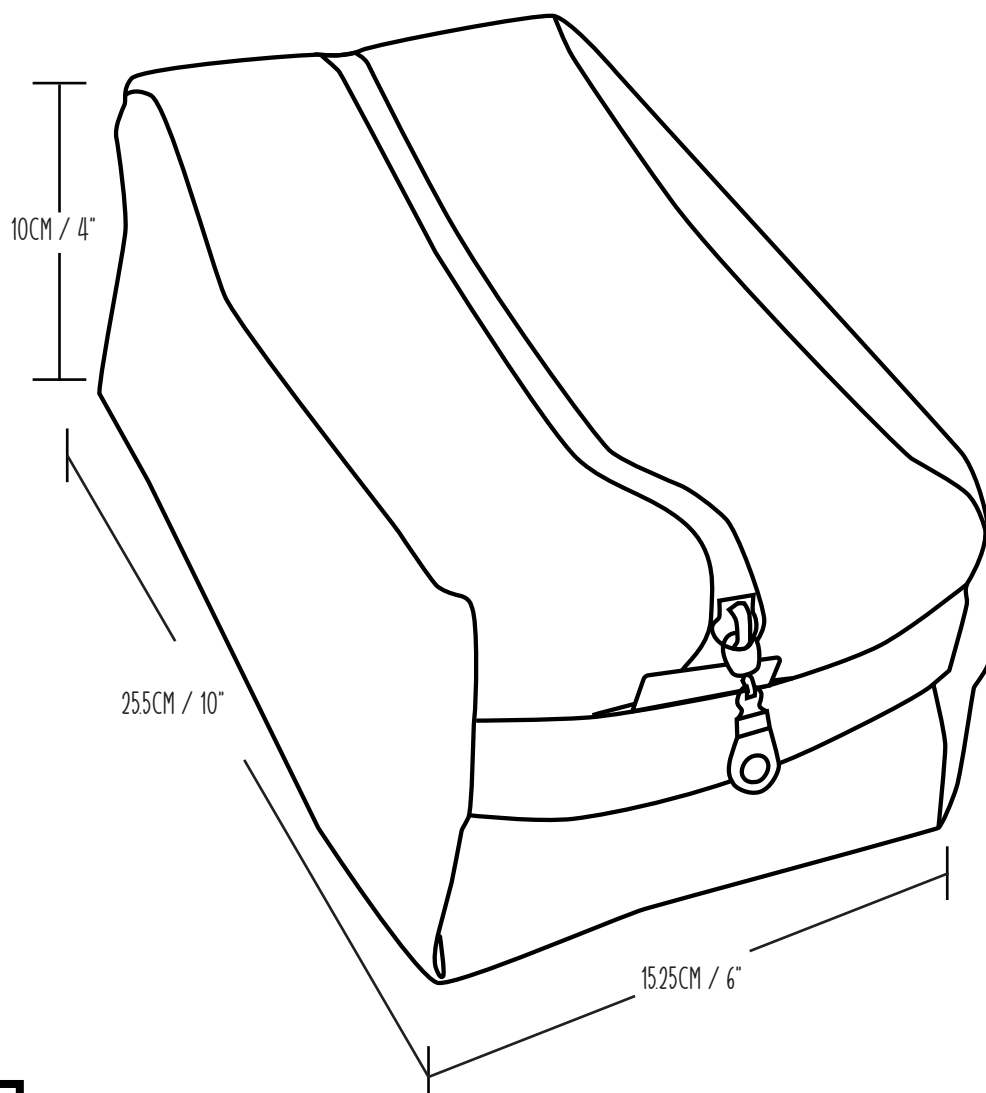


# BECKY STERN'S **DOPP KIT** **BAG**



INSTRUCTIONS VERSION 1

# WELCOME

The final bag dimensions are 10cm tall by 15.25cm wide by 25.5cm deep (4 inches tall by 6 inches wide by 10 inches deep). You can find these same instructions, as well as a video tutorial, on my website: [beckystern.com/doppkit](http://beckystern.com/doppkit)

This pattern and these instructions are licensed for personal use only. If you wish to run a paid workshop/class with this pattern, you must purchase a commercial license. Copyright law is such that I can't stop you from selling the bags you make with this pattern, but the polite thing to do is buy a commercial license if you're turning a profit. Please reach out with any questions or to report being charged for this pattern by someone other than me: [contact@beckystern.com](mailto:contact@beckystern.com)

## GATHER SUPPLIES

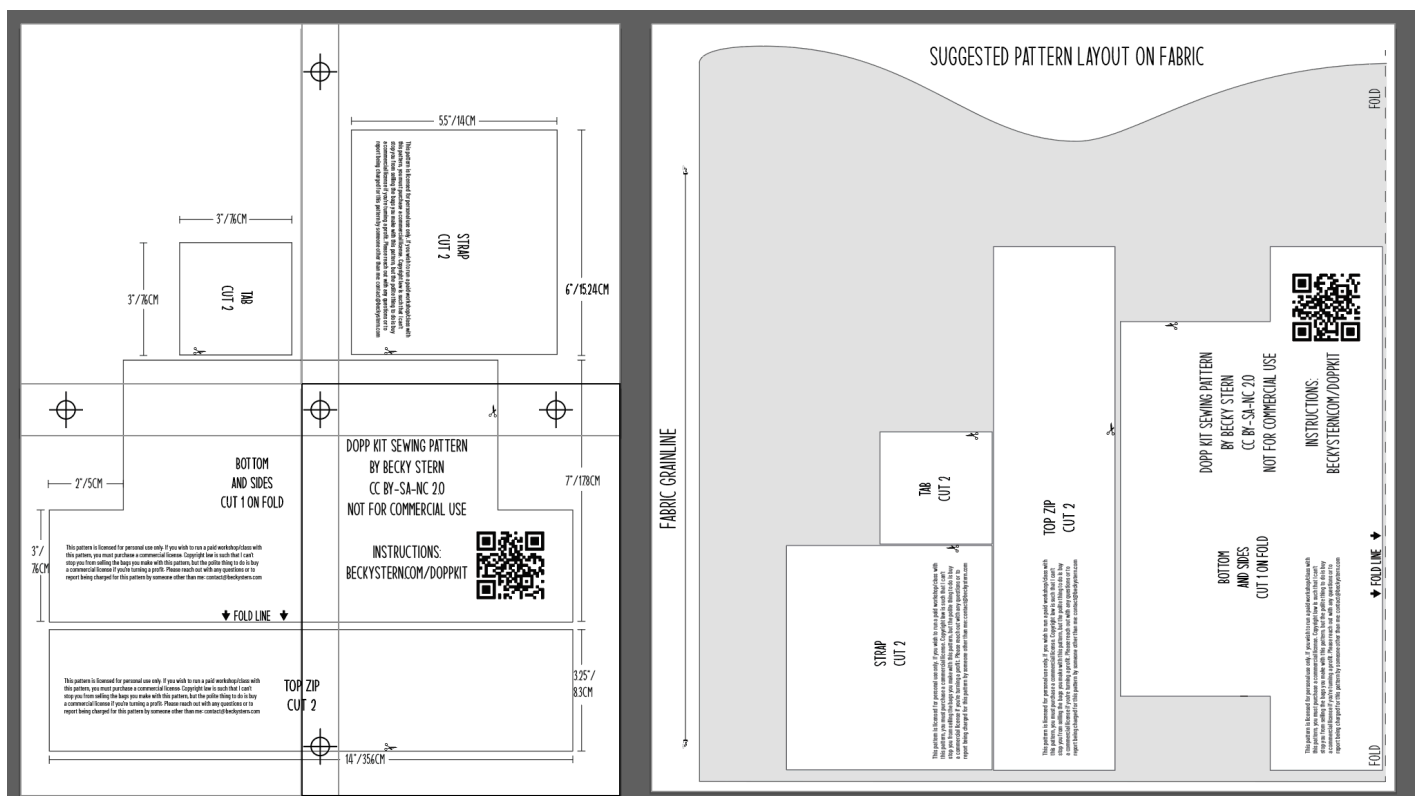
Cotton canvas fabric (10 oz weight) or other material of your choice, about one half yard/meter of 58/60" wide fabric or one yard/meter if 45" wide  
Cut-your-own zipper (15 inches / 38 cm) with add-your-own zipper pulls (2x)  
Matching thread  
Fabric scissors  
Sewing machine

Printer and paper for pattern  
Paper scissors  
Tape (scotch or masking)  
Iron  
Ironing board  
Sewing pins or clips  
Fabric wax (optional)



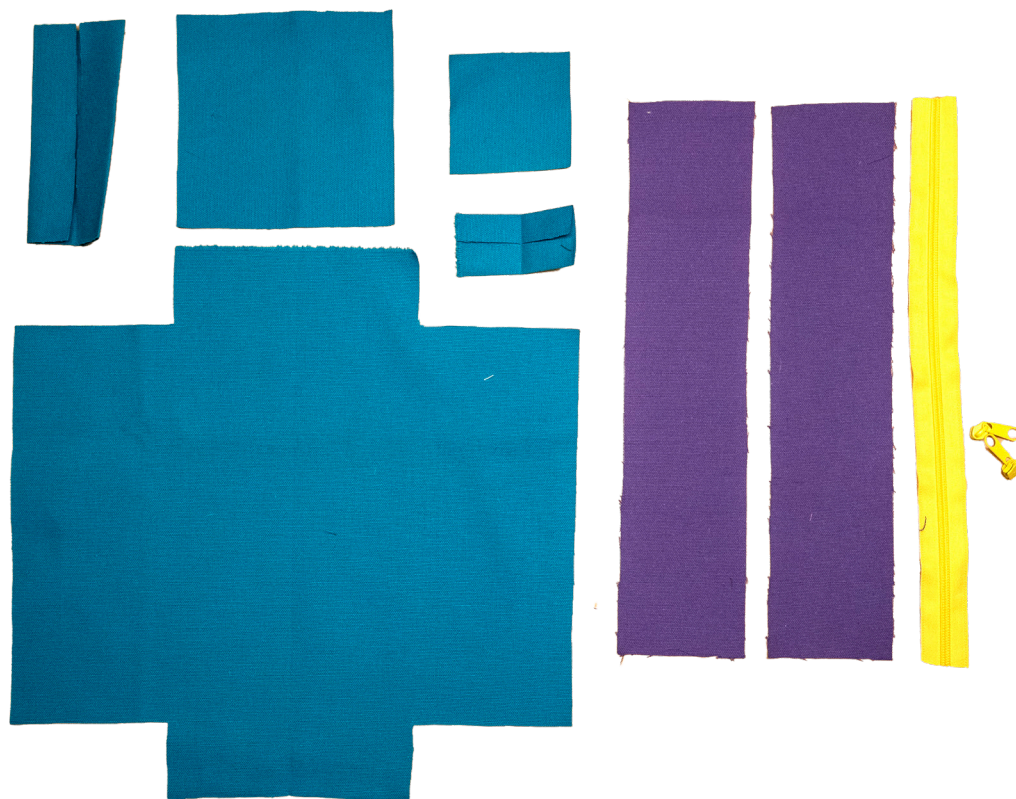
## PRINT AND TAPE TOGETHER PATTERN

Print the tiled pattern file at 100% scale on US letter or A4 paper. Use the registration marks to line up the pages as shown in this layout diagram, and tape them together. Cut out pattern pieces on folded fabric. You can skip this step if you're using a sewing projector, with which you can use the included layout file.



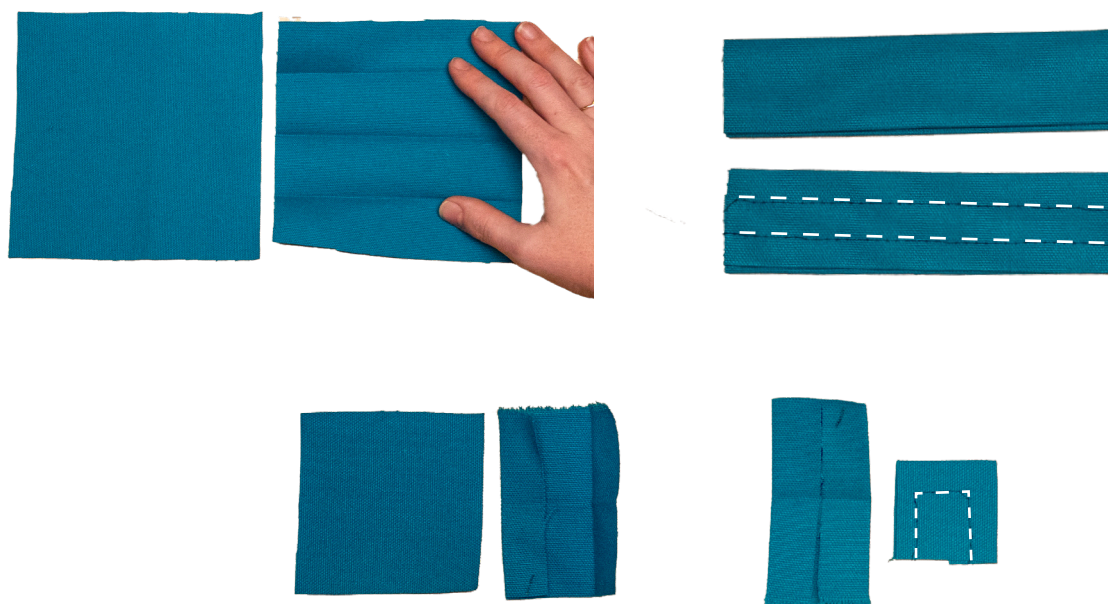
# CUT OUT PIECES

Fabric should be at least 45 inches / 115cm wide. 3/8" / 10mm seam allowance is already included. Fold fabric in half and pin pattern pieces to the fabric, with marked pieces along the fold. You'll have two rectangular pieces that frame the zipper and form the top of the bag, one piece shaped like a plus sign that forms the bottom and sides of the bag, and two pieces for the strap handles and two more for the zipper tab.



# MAKE THE STRAPS & TABS

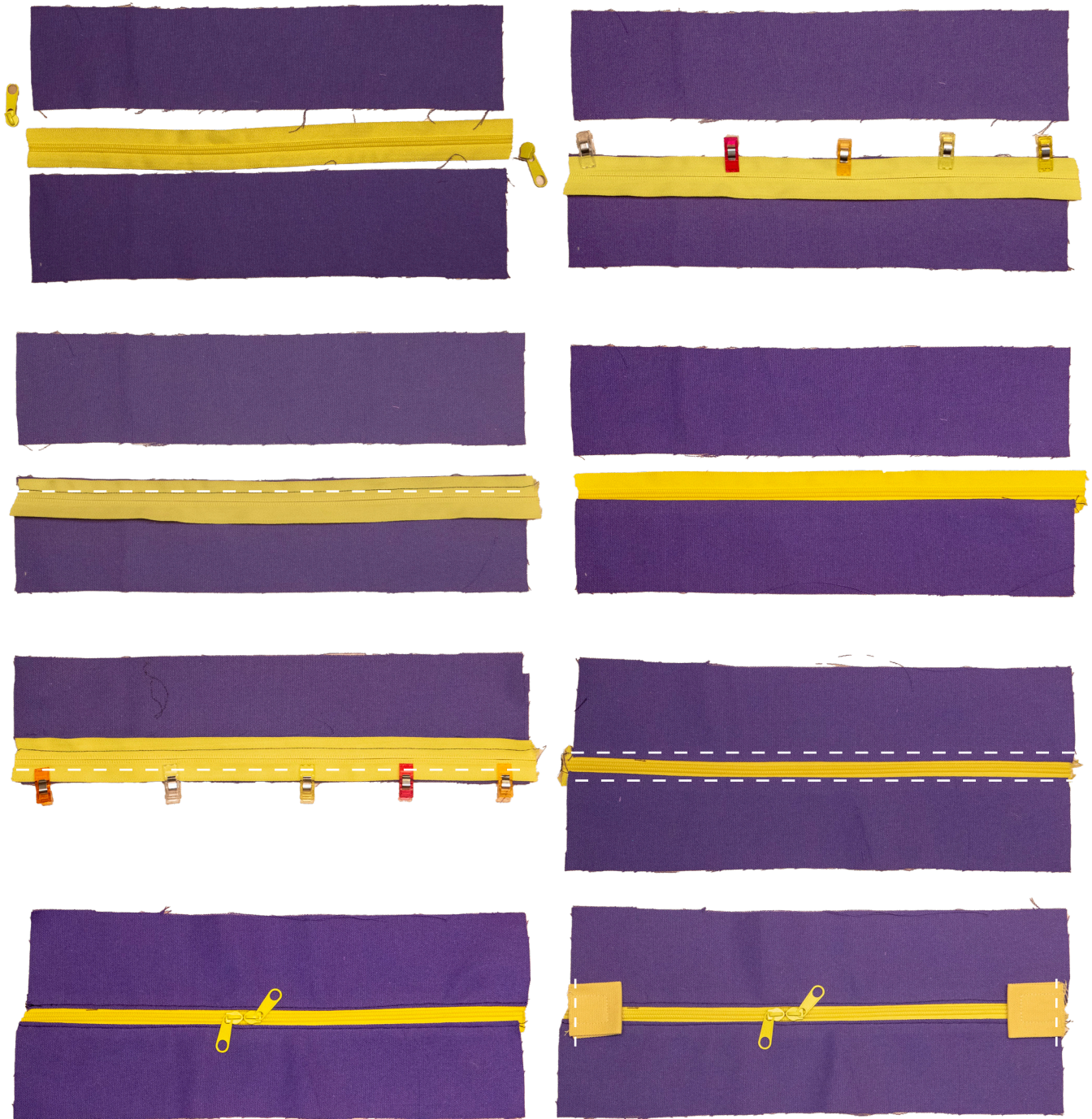
Iron the strap handles in half, then fold the edges to the center and iron again. Fold the straps again in half lengthwise and topstitch twice as shown. Repeat with the zipper tabs, but they are folded slightly differently: the final fold should be crosswise, so that the resulting tab is square and only has one raw edge. Topstitch tabs as shown.





# INSTALL THE ZIPPER

I buy zipper in a big roll, then cut it and add a zipper pull for each application. Because of this, I can easily sew the right side of the bag fabric to the right side of the zipper using a zipper foot, which only puts pressure on one side of the needle. Repeat on the other side, and iron the seams away from the zipper coil. I also added a topstitch for extra strength and a more finished look. Seam allowance is  $\frac{3}{8}$ " or 10mm. After that, I add the zipper pulls. If you're using a zipper with a pull already installed, you'll need to stitch each zipper seam in two sections and move the zipper pull out of the way between sections. Switch back to the normal presser foot, then stitch to tack the zipper tabs in place as shown.

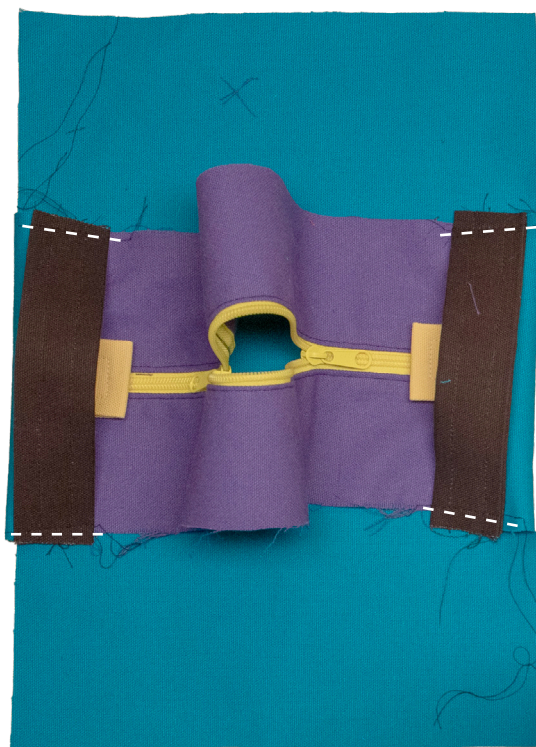
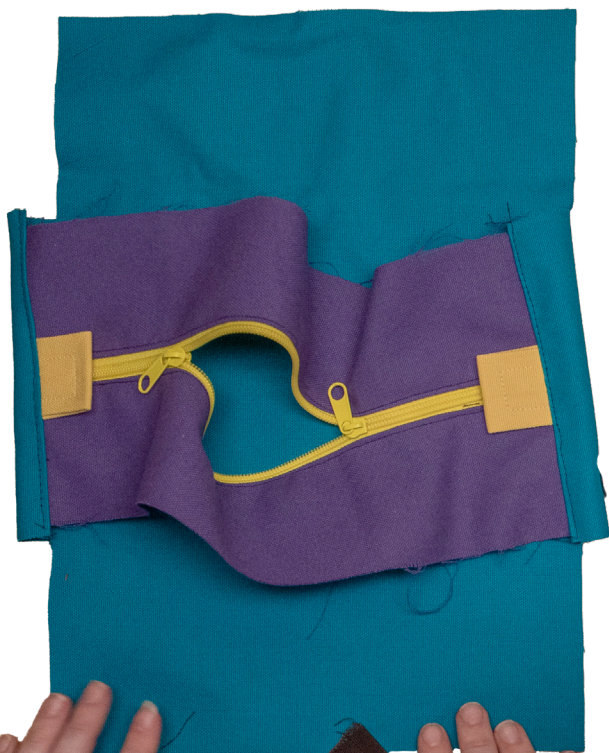
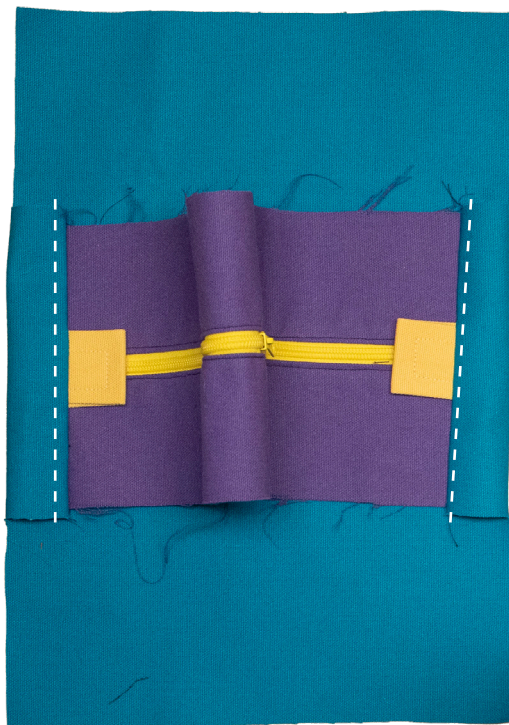


If you're an experienced sewist and/or your fabric isn't very slippery, you can wait to add the zipper tabs in the next step, as part of the joining seam.



# ASSEMBLE THE BAG

Now it's time to pin and stitch these pieces together, starting with the seams across the ends of the zipper. Use a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " or 10mm seam allowance. Pin the right sides together, add a tab in between the layers at the center where the zipper is, if you haven't already, then sew a straight stitch across. Repeat at the other end of the bag. Then, iron the seams away from the zipper, turn right-side out, and topstitch to secure the seam allowance and add extra strength. Next, tack on the strap handles- it can be helpful to stitch them in place at either end of the seam you just finished before sewing up the long side seams, so they don't move around.

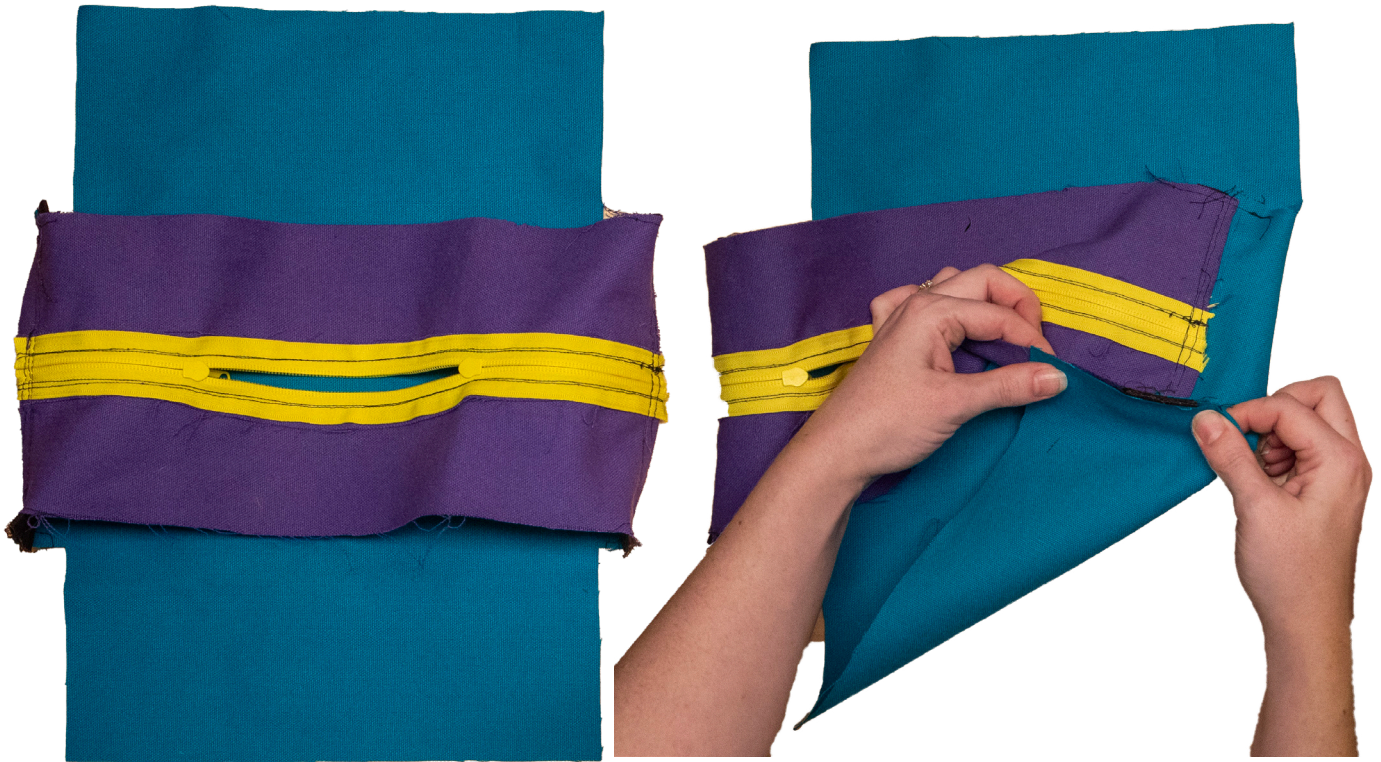




The easiest way to pin up the side seams is by first lining up the bottom corners of the "u" shape, and then spreading out the rest along the top edge.

Depending on your fabric and preference, you may want to use sewing clips instead of pins for this part.

Sew a straight stitch along this entire seam, backstitching at the start and end. To pivot at the corners, put the needle down, then raise the presser foot, pivot the fabric, put the presser foot back down, and keep sewing.





Once you've sewn both side seams, you can turn the bag right side out and admire your handiwork.





# ADD WAX (OPTIONAL)

To add more durability and water resistance to your Dopp Kit bag, waxing is an optional step that elevates this bag to another level.

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First, cover your work surface with a thick protective material, like a double layer of cardboard. Heat up your wax until it's a liquid consistency- I'm using a blend of half beeswax and half paraffin. I'm also using a hot plate to heat my wax, although you could also use a double boiler on the stove.

I follow the same process I used for my [Waxed Canvas Tool Roll](#): I brush melted wax onto the bag. But since I made the Tool Roll video I've learned a new trick that saves a bunch of time- after applying the first round of wax, I'll just pop these in the oven on a covered baking sheet at its lowest temp for a few minutes, until the wax has all soaked in. This is way less work than melting it in with a heat gun, though you may find you still want to touch up some spots with the heat gun after they come out of the oven.

If you spill your wax (like I did), provided it's on a hard surface, you can just wait for the wax to cool and solidify, then scrape it up with a scraper or a metal ruler. Sweep or vacuum up the big chunks of wax, then come back with your heat gun or blow dryer and a dry paper towel. Melt the wax and wipe it up as you go.

I've made dozens of these, both from canvas and from recycled grocery bags, which already have some amount of water resistance because they are made from plastic.





# ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

If you're using the poly webbing that comes with recycled grocery bags, you'll want to melt the ends with a lighter before sewing so the strap doesn't fray and come apart where you stitched it.



You can also accessorize your bag by stitching on some patches.

Thread a sewing needle with thread that matches the perimeter of your patch, then double it over and tie a knot at the ends. Starting from the inside of the bag, make small stitches perpendicular to the edge of the patch to secure it to the bag. You can stitch small sections on opposite sides to make it easier to hold the patch in place while you stitch everywhere else. You can even hide an AirTag behind a patch to ensure your bag doesn't get misplaced.

After a while, the waxed canvas will relax a bit, since all that moving around will create creases and soften the overall look and feel. If you want to bring it back to crisp newness, you can hit it with the heat gun or hair dryer. Personally, I'm a fan of the worn-in texture.

And there you have it! Your very own handmade waxed canvas Dopp Kit, perfect for traveling or as a unique gift for someone special (Like Xyla and her plane, shown to the right).

