

THE Quilter's PLANNER



Zippy QUILTER'S PLANNER COVER

By Amanda Hines of *What the Bobbin* and Stephanie Palmer of *Late Night Quilter*. Photos by Kitty Wilkin and Stephanie Palmer.

Thank you for joining in the fun and making a Zippy Quilted Planner Cover of your own!

Amanda Kattner originally developed this fantastic pattern; it has been a go-to favorite on her blog, *What the Bobbin*. We have updated the pattern for you so that it includes the correct measurements for the 2020 Quilter's Planner.

The pattern includes instructions for a deep zipper pouch, pockets, an elastic closure, a ribbon bookmark, and a pocket for business cards.

Be sure to share your creations with us on social media with the hashtag #quiltersplanner.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

All measurements listed as width x height (length). We recommend that you pre-wash your fabrics to avoid shrinkage later in case you needed to wash the cover.

SUPPLIES



A – 18¾" x 10¼" Exterior fabric (try making up a fun patchwork version for your exterior piece!)

B – 18¾" x 10¼" Lining fabric

C – 18¾" x 10¼" Fusible Fleece (such as Lazy Girl's Dreamy Fusible Fleece or Pellon 987F)

D – (2) 7½" x 10¼" Zipper pouch lining fabric

- E – (2) 5¼" x 6¼" Pocket fabric
- F – (2) 5¼" x 10¼" Notebook Sleeve
- G - 4" x 5" Business card pocket
- H - 10¼" Piece of elastic
- I - 11" Nylon coil zipper
- J – (2) 3" x 2" – Zipper Tabs (not pictured)
- K – Ribbon for bookmark (not pictured), ⅝" wide x 13"

CONSTRUCTION

1. Following the manufacturer's instructions, press your exterior fabric to the fusible fleece.

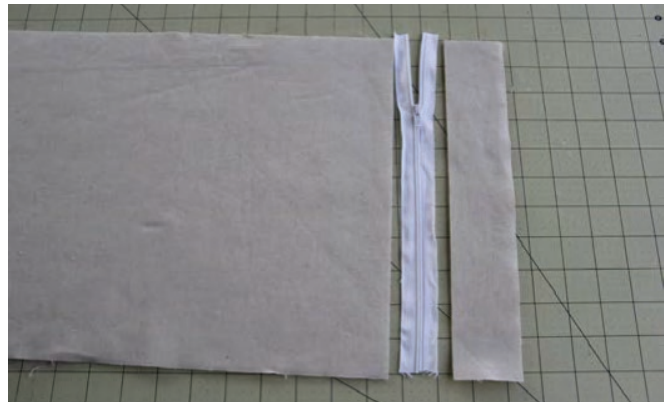


You can use a solid piece of fabric for the exterior, or you can create a patchwork cover. Find other patterns to customize your cover panel at QuiltersPlanner.com.

If you choose to embellish or piece your exterior before fusing, here is a diagram of a completed cover to show you approximately where the front and back of the planner falls on the exterior fabric.



2. Cut a 1½" strip off the right side of your fused exterior fabric. This is where you will insert the zipper for the pouch.



(OPTIONAL: You can still decide to add embellishments like a topstitched ribbon, embroidery, or applique to your exterior fabric piece after fusing; see my example below where I topstitched a ribbon onto the front.)



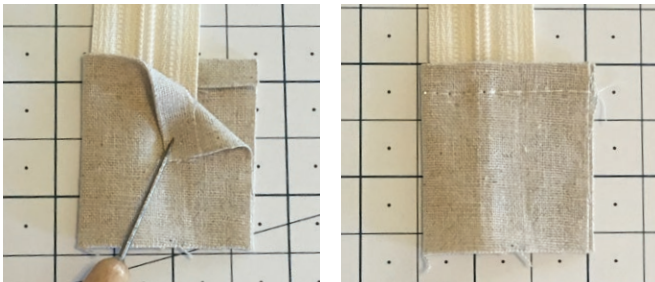
3. With scissors, trim the zipper to 10¼". Make sure you pull your zipper to the middle before you do. Be careful not to pull the zipper off after you have cut off the metal stops. (Not that we have ever done this.)



4. Make zipper tabs. Fold the 3" side of each of the 3" x 2" Zipper Tabs under $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press. With wrong sides together, align edges and press.



5. With the folded ends toward the zipper, place the zipper inside a tab on both ends of the zipper, overlapping the edges by about 1". Stitch the zipper tabs to the zipper, sewing about $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from the folded edge. Trim the excess fabric to the width of the zipper tape.



6. Place the exterior fabric right side up, and the zipper on top, right side down, with the zipper on the left. Try to center it on the exterior a little better than you see here in this picture.



Then place one of the zipper pouch lining fabrics on top, right side down. Clip or pin the three layers together.



7. Stitch with $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance using a zipper foot as needed. Make sure you're sewing both the exterior and the pouch lining to the zipper's edge.



8. Flip the pouch lining over, wrong side facing the fleece fused on the wrong side of the exterior fabric.

Press flat at the top near the zipper.



9. Topstitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from the zipper. This will keep the pouch lining from getting stuck in the zipper when in use.



10. Lay the second pouch lining fabric right side up, then place the exterior fabric on top, with the zipper right side up. Now, place the $\frac{1}{2}$ " strip of exterior fabric on top, right side down. Clip or pin all three layers together.



11. Sew together with $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



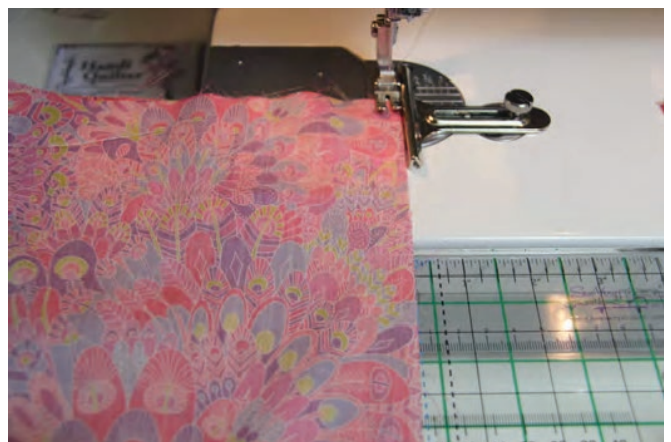
12. Flip the lining out and press flat with an iron.



13. Stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from the zipper.



14. Place the two sides of the pouch lining right sides together, and sew the bottom edge with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



15. **OPTIONAL:** To make the business card pocket, take the 4" x 5" piece of fabric and fold it in half, so it is now 2½" tall. Stitch ¼" around all 3 open sides, leaving a 2" hole for turning.



Clip the corners, turn right-side out and press out corners with a chopstick.



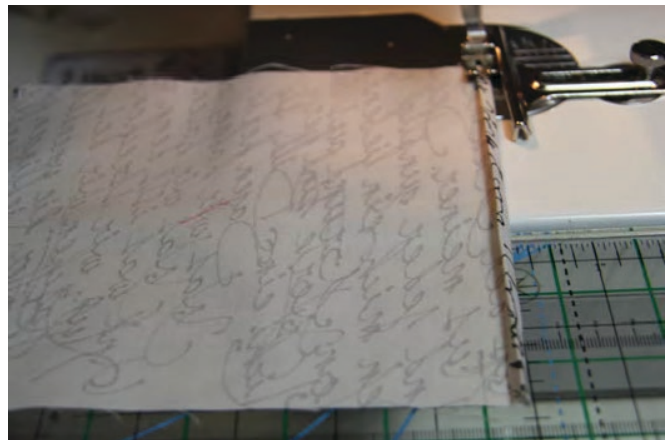
OPTIONAL: Hand stitch on an embellishment like a button or charm. Set the pocket aside to attach later.



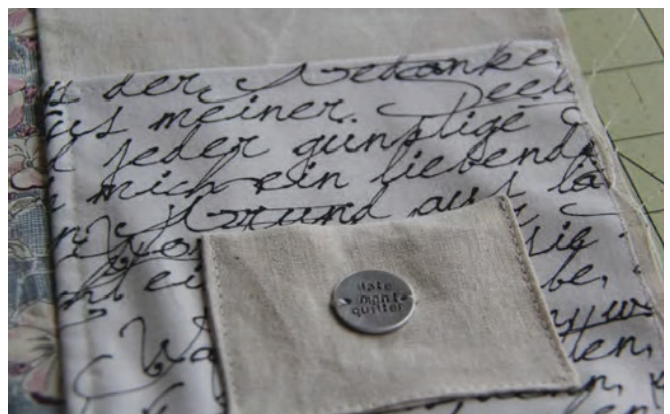
16. Lay out your interior piece, sleeve pieces, and pockets as shown below.



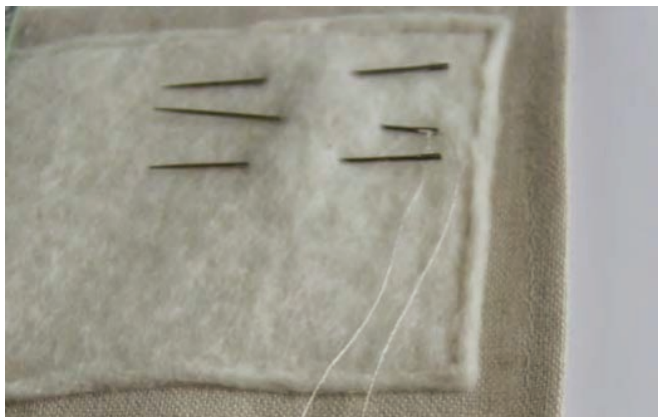
Next, we will finish the interior pockets. Sew a hem along the top of each interior pocket piece. Fold the fabric under ¼" and again another ¼". Press. Sew close to the folded edge to finish the top edge of each pocket.



17. **OPTIONAL:** Center the business card holder on the right side, on one of the pockets. Place the opening (where you turned the pocket) at the bottom, so it's less noticeable. Pin in place, and sew ⅛" away from the edge, around the sides and bottom, closing the open seams.



18. **OPTIONAL:** Stitch a small square of batting or colorful felt to the top of one of the sleeve pieces (this will serve as a needle minder).



Clip or pin the pockets you finished in Step 16 to the sleeve pieces.



19. As in Step 16, Sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ " hem on the inside edge of the pocket/sleeve pieces for a finished look.



20. **OPTIONAL:** To add a simple holder for mini scissors, center and stitch down the short sides of a 2" piece of ribbon on the right sleeve lining. Then with your fingernail, mark the center of the 2" ribbon. Sew two diagonal lines in a v-shape, as shown in the picture.

Notice that the seams come to a v at the bottom of the ribbon, but they don't touch— they are about $\frac{3}{8}$ " apart, leaving room for the tip of the scissors. You may also choose to attach a 1" piece of elastic instead of ribbon.



21. Lay down the interior fabric lining, right side up. Place the completed sleeve pieces (with pockets attached) on top, right side up. Clip or pin around all sides, and sew with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam allowance. This will tack the sleeves to the interior lining so that things do not shift in the final stages. These stitches will be in the seam allowance and will not be seen.



22. Place the elastic band approximately 1½-2" away from the left-hand edge of the sleeve. Tack the top and bottom of the elastic down, $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from the edge. Again, these stitches will be in the seam allowance.

As an alternative to using ribbon, you can use a strip of coordinating fabric to create a bookmark. Cut a strip of fabric, 2" x 13½" long. Fold one short end under $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press. Fold the strip wrong sides together so it measures 1" x 13¼". Press. Open the piece and fold the raw edges toward the center. Press. Re-fold on the original pressed edge to create a piece that measures ½" x 13¼". Topstitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge on all sides. Note: make sure you insert the end with the RAW edges into the top of the planner before sewing the gap left for turning closed in Step 25.

23. Lay the exterior piece on top of the interior lining, right sides together. The zipper should fall directly over the elastic. Pin or clip the two pieces together. Place a pin 6" in from the right side, at the top, to remind you to leave a 4-inch opening for turning. This pin also marks the placement of the bookmark ribbon. Sew around all 4 sides using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam leaving a 4" opening on top for turning.



24. Clip corners, trim zipper ends even with the edges of the cover, and turn right side out, gently pressing the corners out with a chopstick.

25. Insert 1" of the ribbon into the opening at the top of the cover, approximately 6" away from the right side. Sew across the top with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam allowance.



Sew an identical $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam across the bottom for a symmetrical appearance.



At last! Put the beautiful cover on your planner!



Enjoy the handy zipper pouch to store your pencils, highlighters, and binding clips!



I love the pockets for keeping a ruler handy for my sketches on the graph paper. And it's wonderful to have so many pockets for cards, and a place for my scissors and favorite needles.

I can't wait to see what you make! Show me pictures on Instagram or Facebook with the hashtag #quiltersplanner!

Stephanie

