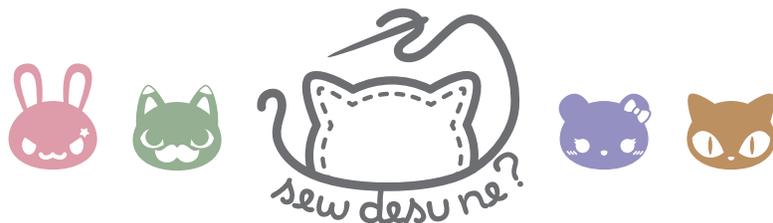


pleated clutch



A SEWING PATTERN BY



pleated clutch

SEWING TUTORIAL

pleated clutch

This project is for a small and simple clutch, assembled with a French seam, and a front decorated in lots of detailed pleats. It also features a wrist strap for holding onto. Made in satin, this would be perfect for a special occasion.

DIFFICULTY:

The concepts are pretty basic, but the pleats and French seam require some precision.

MAKES:

one 8" x 5" pouch

MATERIALS & TOOLS

- 1/2 yd. of light to medium weight fabric for clutch (light cotton would be great for a beginner – I used interfaced satin)
- 1/4 yd. of interfacing (optional – if you're using flimsy satin it's a big helper)
- 1/4 yd. of lightweight fabric for lining (light cotton would be perfect – I used polyester lining fabric)
- 8" (at least) zipper
- Matching sewing thread
- Basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

1. Print out the project pattern, pages 8-10
2. Assemble the pattern pieces by lining up the page markings (A1 to A2, B3 to B4, and so on)
3. Lay out the pattern pieces on your fabric/interfacing and cut them out
4. Mark the fabric pieces with the guidelines from the pattern



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1

First up we need to sew all the pleats in the clutch. If you're using flimsy satin like me, it'll help to apply some light to medium weight fusible interfacing to the back of the fabric before you begin.

To create one pleat, fold the fabric along one of the fold lines and match up two of the stitching lines. Sew along that stitching line and that creates one pleat. Keep repeating this with all of the fold lines and stitching lines a total of 8 times until you've worked your way across the entire rectangle of fabric.



2

When you finish, take the fabric to a nice steamy iron and press all the pleats in one direction.

3

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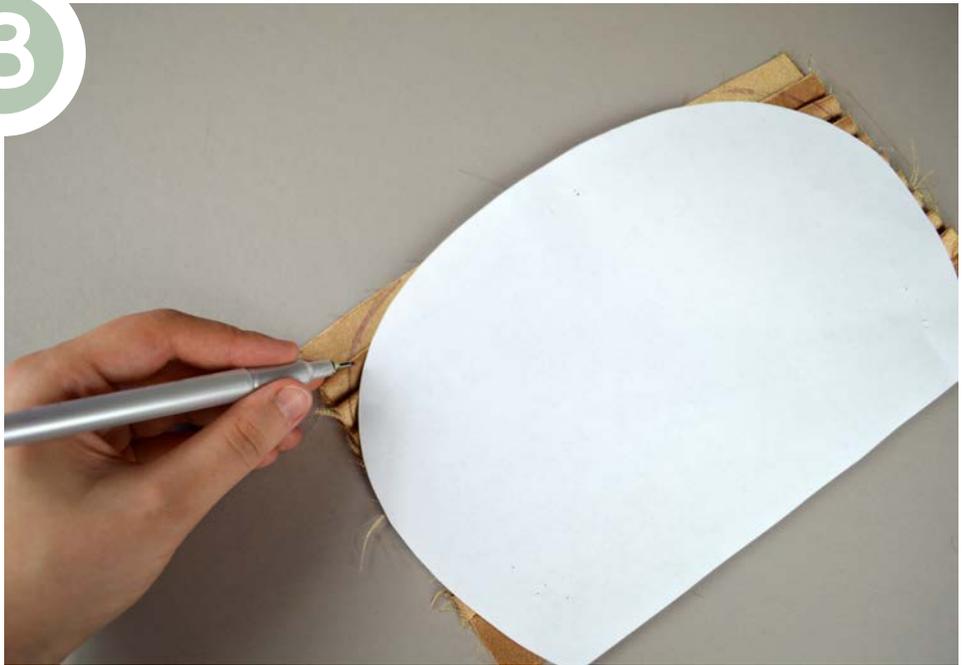
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Using the Outer Clutch - Back pattern, trace the pattern shape onto the pleated fabric. You'll want to place the pattern so the bottom of the clutch is where pleats are pointing downward. If done correctly, the rectangle of pleated fabric should be a little bigger than the outer clutch pattern, so you have some wiggle room to work.

3



Baste the pleats in place by sewing just inside the line you've traced. When you finish, trim the fabric along the traced line to create the front of your clutch!

4



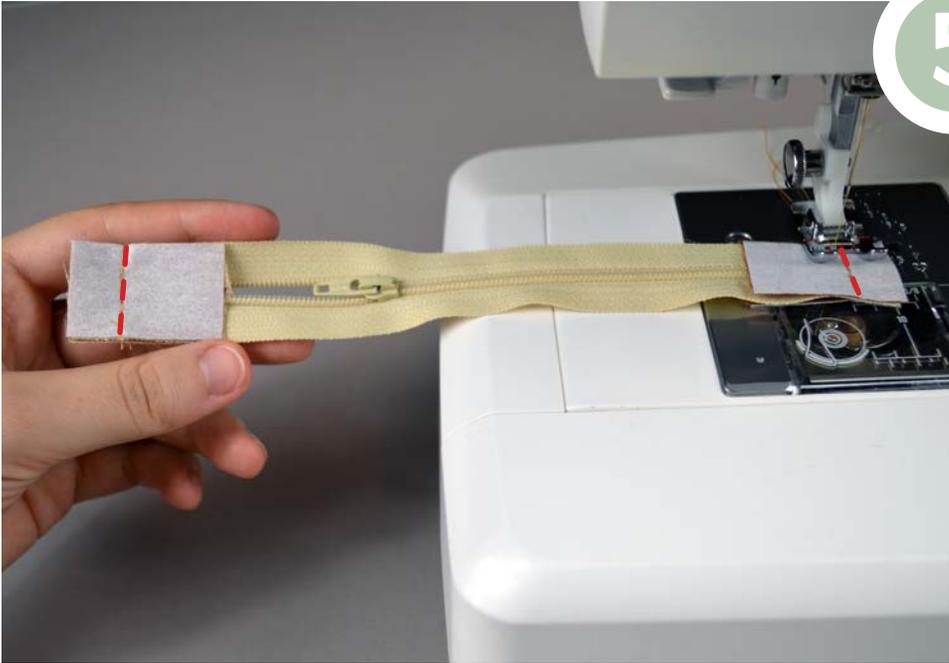
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5

Trim your zipper to 6 1/2" long, then sew the zipper tabs on the ends: sandwich the cut ends of the zipper between two of the zipper tab pieces and sew through all the layers. This will make the zipper much easier to install into the clutch later.



6

To install the zipper, layer the zipper between the outer clutch fabric and one of the lining pieces with right sides facing. Sew all three layers together with a 1/4" seam allowance. When you finish, press the fabric away from the zipper, then repeat the same step with the other side of the zipper and the remaining pouch pieces.

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To make the strap, fold the entire fabric piece in half lengthwise with wrong sides facing. Iron it in place to make a nice crease. Then, open out your strap and fold the raw edges inward toward the crease you've created. Iron those folds in place, then fold the entire strap in half lengthwise again as before. In the end you should have a strip of fabric with the side edges folded inward. Edge stitch the strap along these folds to complete it.

7



Fold the strap in half and baste it in place along the front of the clutch where the pattern guidelines indicate.

Layer all the case fabrics together with lining fabrics facing inward and outer fabrics facing outward - everything should be arranged as if the case were finished. Pin the edges together as precisely as you can, then sew the layers together with a medium width zigzag; a seam allowance at about 1/8". Go around the perimeter of the case, then clip any excess fabric along the sides, bottom, and corners when you finish.

8



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9

To complete the French seam, turn the whole case right side out and press it flat. The goal here is to sew a scant $3/8$ " seam that will encase your previous seam allowance, so it can be a bit tricky to make sure that seam is completely covered. Once you're sure you have it, sew along the perimeter of the case as before, and that finishes your pouch!



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Pleated Clutch

P A T T E R N

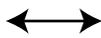
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OUTER CLUTCH - FRONT

Cut 1 from main fabric

Cut 1 from fusible interfacing (optional)
1/2" seam allowance

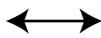
stitch



fold

stitch

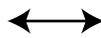
stitch



fold

stitch

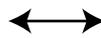
stitch



fold

stitch

stitch



fold

stitch

stitch



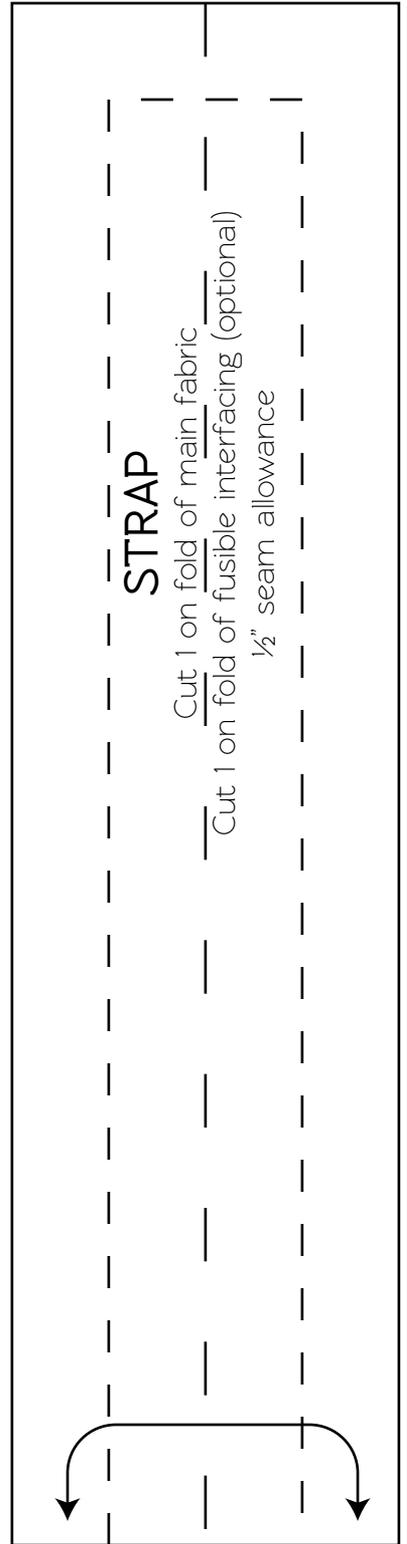
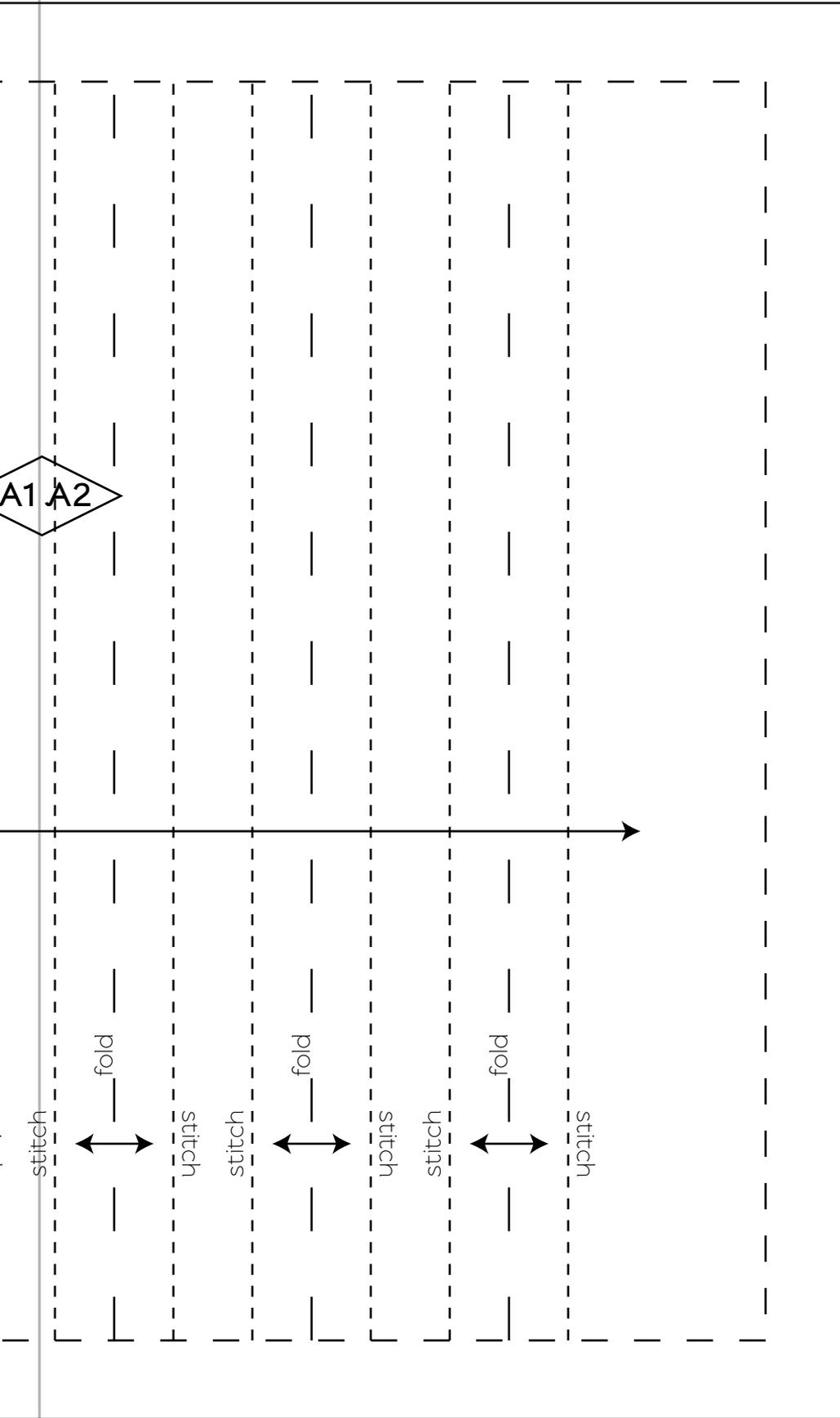
fold

stitch

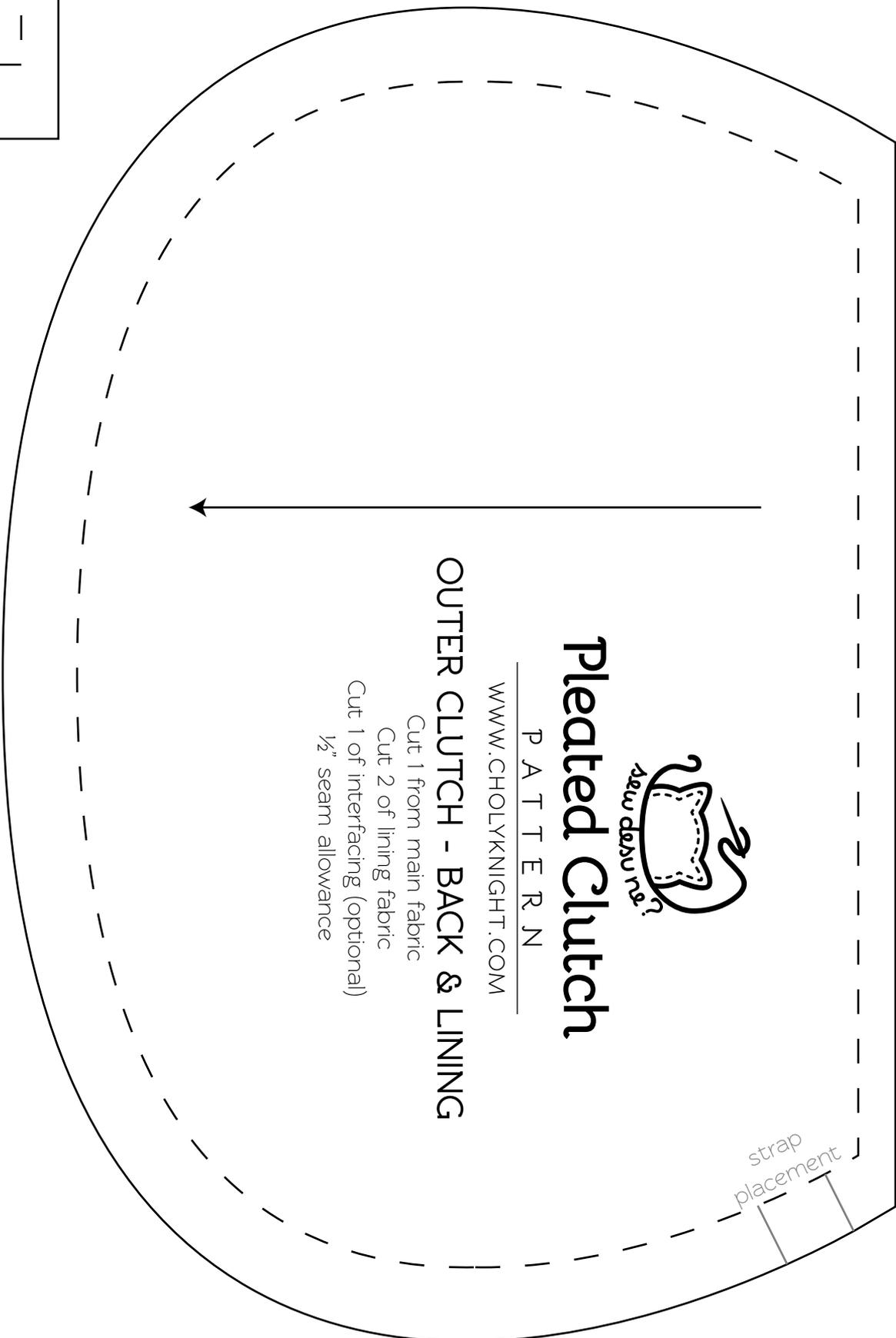
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A1 A2



strap placement



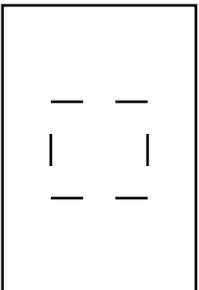
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OUTER CLUTCH - BACK & LINING

Cut 1 from main fabric
 Cut 2 of lining fabric
 Cut 1 of interfacing (optional)
 1/2" seam allowance



ZIPPER TABS

Cut 4 of main fabric
 1/2" seam allowance