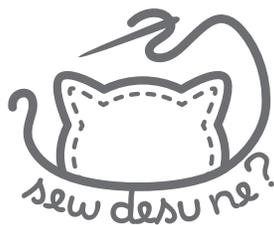


# quilt-as-you-go train case



A SEWING PATTERN BY



# quilt-as-you-go train case

SEWING TUTORIAL

## quilt-as-you-go train case

This project takes a basic train case pattern and adds a twist. It's constructed using a quilt-as-you-go technique, which adds some stability to the fabric. This allows you to just use batting as a stabilizer and no interfacing at all. The inside is constructed with French seams, so the inner seams are neatly finished and bound.

DIFFICULTY: 

The hardest part of this is likely the zipper, but everything else is really forgiving and easy to work with if you make little mistakes.

MAKES:

one case that's about 6½" wide, 5½" tall, and 5" deep

## MATERIALS & TOOLS

- 1/2 yd. of cotton fabric for outer case (preferably a collection of strips about 15" long)
- 1/2 yd. of cotton fabric for lining
- 24" Two-way zipper or two 14" regular zippers (see step 8)
- 24" x 11" piece of cotton batting
- 8" x 3" piece of medium-weight fusible interfacing
- 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 14-19
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

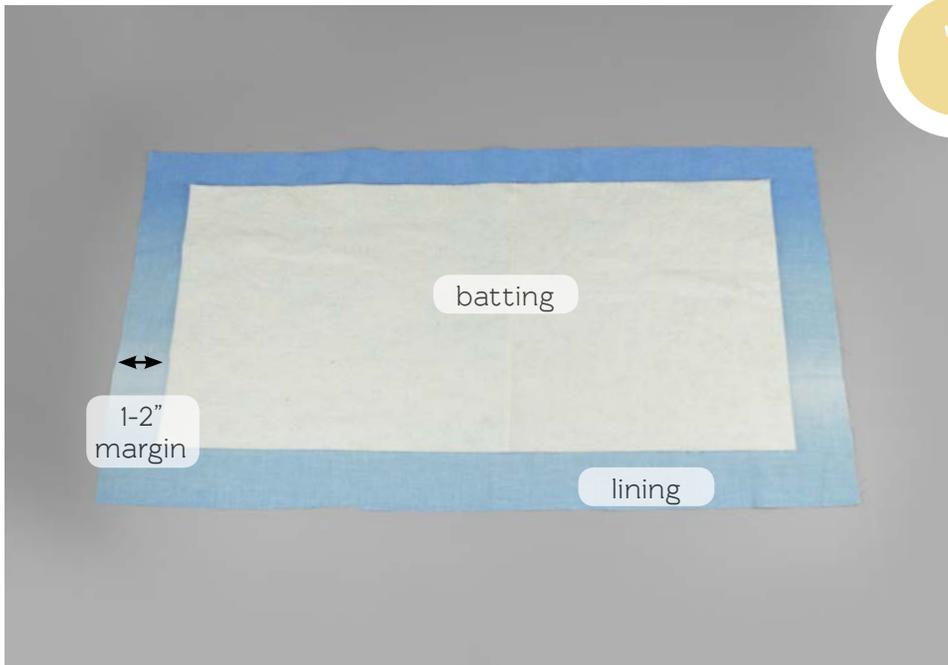


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1

Our project is built around the rectangle of batting I had you cut in the “Before you Begin” section. First off, lay your batting over your lining fabric with the wrong side facing up. Center the batting over the lining and trim around the fabric leaving a really wide margin, about 1” or 2” is good.



2

Now we’re starting quilt-as-you-go! If you haven’t heard of this method before, it involves making a quilt sandwich by sewing pieces onto your quilt batting and backing and working your way across the layers.

If you’re not using up your stash of fabric strips, you’ll want to cut strips from your outer fabric. Here, I used bits from a leftover jelly roll. I would trim your fabric down to 15” long strips with a width of about 2-5”. Don’t worry about being precise -- or even straight. If your edges are wonky, I’ll think it’ll add extra charm to the project, so go for it!

Lay one strip down on one edge of your batting/lining layer with right side facing up. Lay it down so it extends beyond the batting by at least 3/4”. Lay your next strip on top of it with right sides facing, matching up the edge on the right. Take this to your machine and sew the two strips together going through the batting and lining as well.

3

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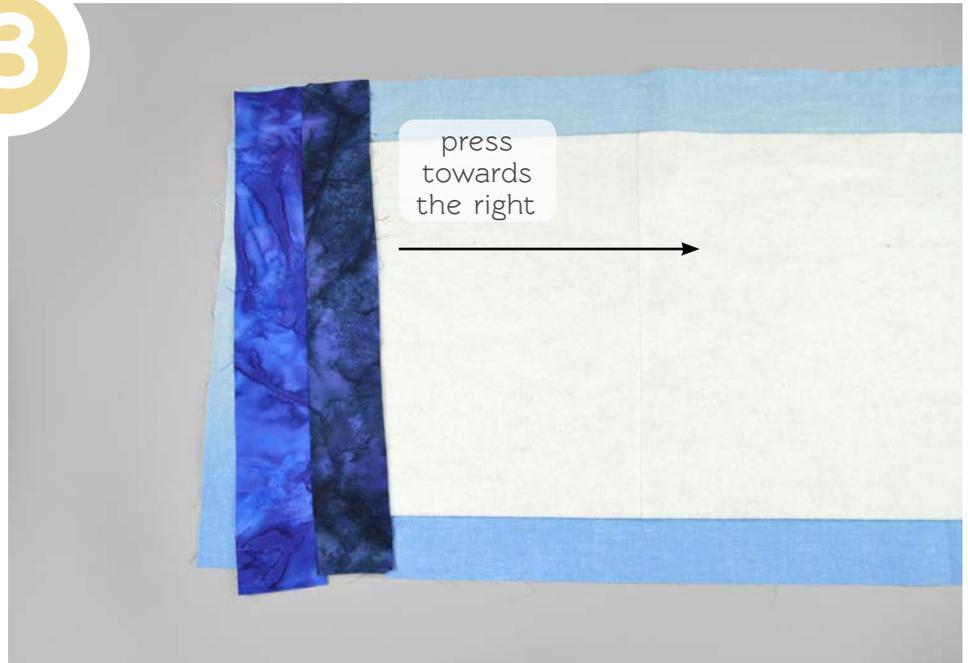
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# quilt-as-you-go train case

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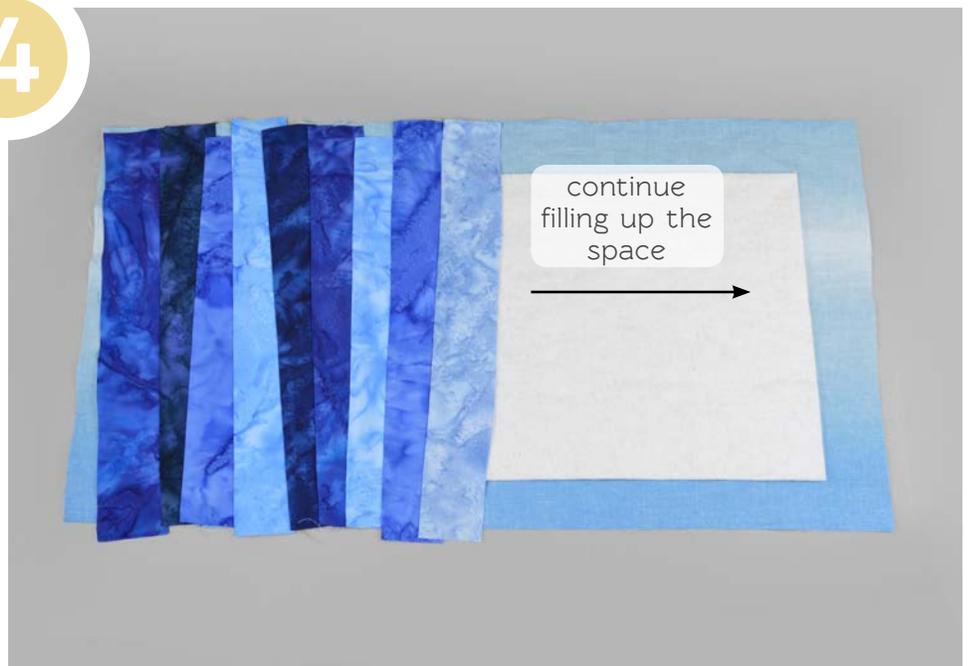
When you're done, press the top strip away from the bottom strip and it will look something like this! You see how it starts to cover the batting. Continue like this, adding another strip on top of the previous one, sewing along the edge, and pressing away from the previous strips. Again, notice there's lots of extra fabric above and below the batting for insurance - make sure you're extending at least 3/4" beyond the batting.

3



Here we are about halfway done! You'll see how if your pieces are imperfect and wonky it will add to the charm of the project. Just keep layering strips, sewing, and pressing towards the other end of the batting.

4



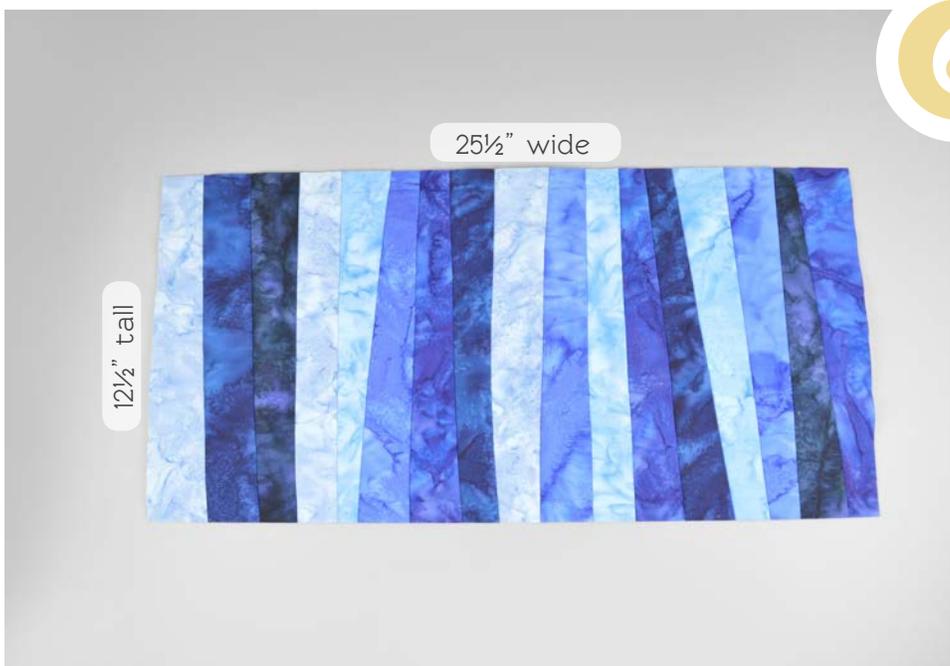
# quilt-as-you-go train case

SEWING TUTORIAL



5

Keep sewing and covering that batting until you get to the other end. When you reach that end, be sure the fabric extends at least  $\frac{3}{4}$ " beyond the other end of the batting.



6

When you finish, measure out  $\frac{3}{4}$ " all the way around the batting and trim along those lines. You can usually feel where the batting is and be able to measure out from there. The rectangle should measure about  $25 \frac{1}{2}$ " x  $12 \frac{1}{2}$ ", but if it's not exact you're still fine, just be sure your edges are straight and your corners are 90 degrees :D



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To make room for the zipper, cut the rectangle along its length 4 1/2" in from one edge. You should have two pieces as shown, one a bit skinnier than the other. The skinnier half will become your case top, and the wider half will become your case bottom.

7



As mentioned in the materials list, you have an option of using a two-way zipper or two 14" zippers. I didn't have any two-way zippers on me so I improvised and sewed together two of my 14" zippers xD

You can do the same by matching up the top ends of both of your zippers and sewing them together through the teeth and tape. This way the zipper pulls come right together when the zippers are zipped up. I would suggest sewing them together by hand, as the teeth will always slip around if you try to shove them under your machine. When you're done, be sure to trim the excess zipper tape. Press the zippers open and then you can treat it like one long zipper!

8



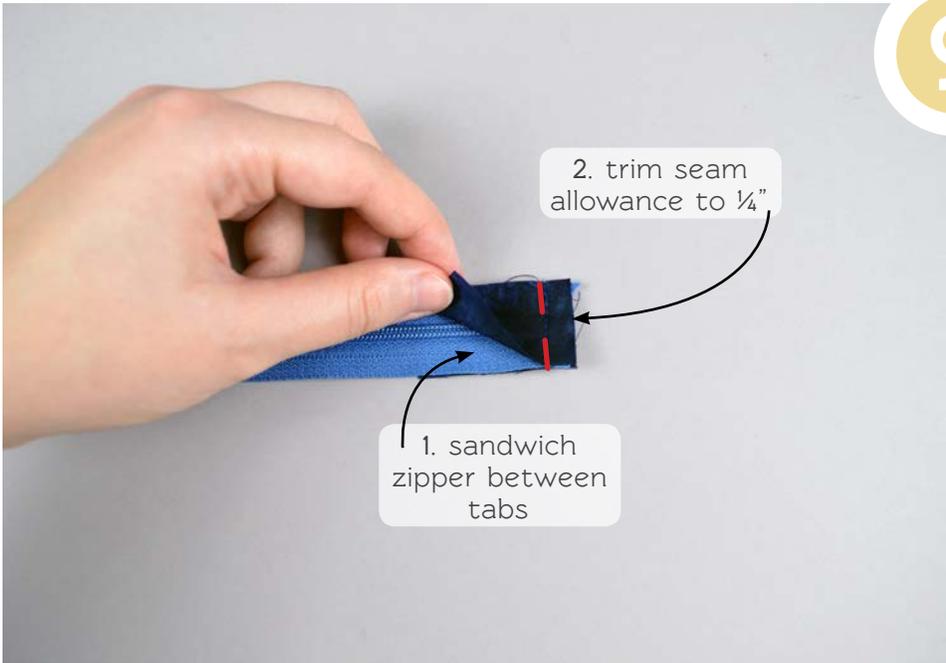
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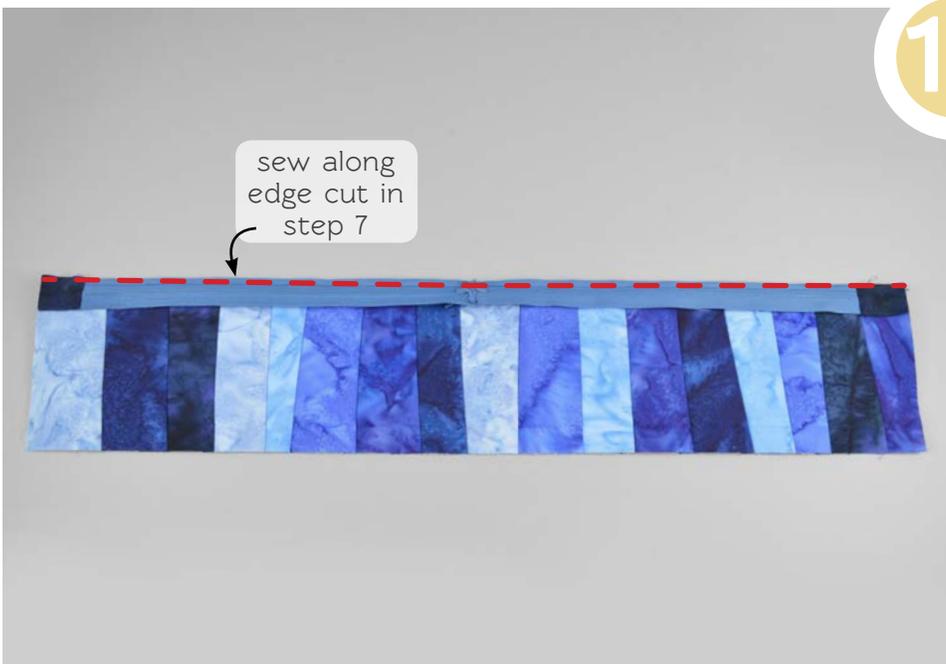
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9

Trim your zipper so it's 24 1/2" long (or 1" shorter than your case pieces). Be sure to trim it so the seam (if you joined your zippers) stays in the middle.

To get the zipper ready to insert, we have to add some tabs to each end. Sandwich one end of the zipper between two of the tabs and sew through all the layers. Then trim the seam allowance down to 1/4" and press the tabs away from the zipper. Repeat this with the other end of the zipper when you finish.



10

Attach the zipper to the case by lining up the tape along the cut edge of one of the case pieces – that is the edge that has all three layers of outer fabric, batting, and backing. Don't sew along the edge that's just fabric and no backing, we need that edge for your side and top/bottom seams.

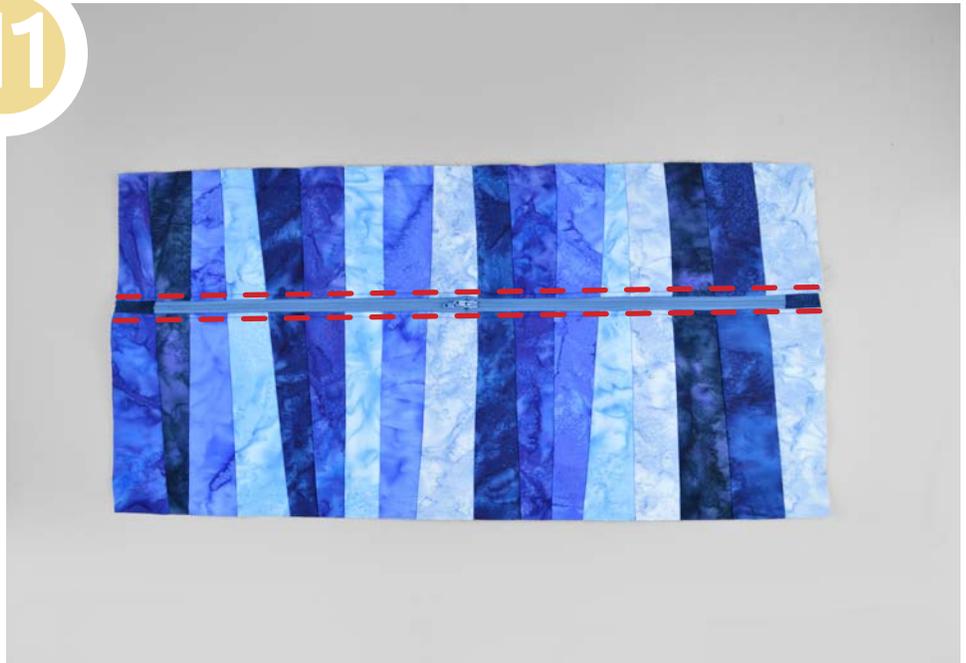
Sew the zipper in place using a 1/4" seam allowance.

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Repeat the stitching on the other side of the zipper with the bottom half of your case. When complete, press the fabric away from the zipper and top stitch about 1/8" away from the zipper to keep everything nice and flat.

11



Now for a quick detour to do the handle! Take your handle interfacing and fuse it in the middle of your handle fabric piece (on the wrong side).

12



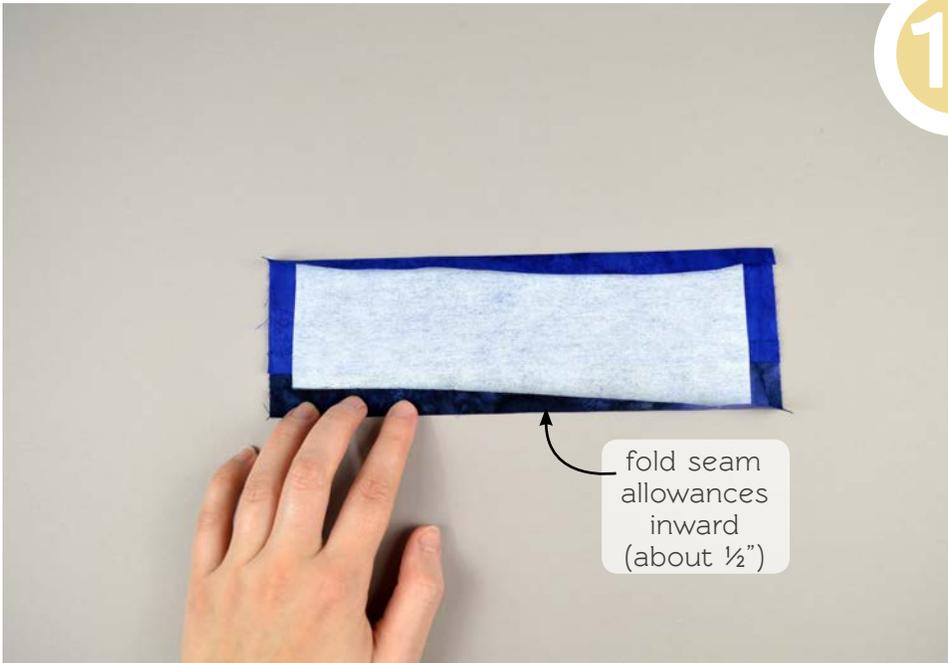
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13

Fold the long edges of the fabric against the interfacing and press the folds in place. Leave the short ends alone for now.



14

With the edges pressed, fold the entire handle in half with wrong sides together, lining up the folded edges. Edge stitch around both sides of the handle for a finished look.

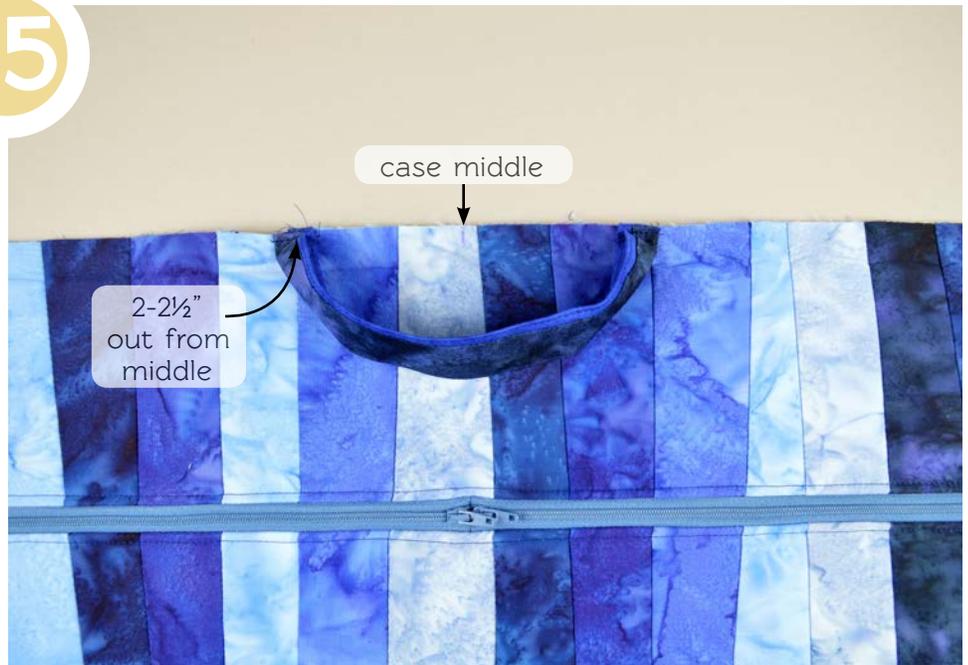
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To attach the handle, copy the markings from the paper pattern by centering it on the case and transferring the markings found on the top. If your case isn't quite the same size as the paper after adjustments, basically you begin by finding the middle of your case along the long edge. Then measure out about 2 to 2 1/2" out from the middle and mark it.

Then take your handle and fold the short ends in half. Align the short ends along the markings you made and baste them in place with the folds pointing outward.

15



Now we're finally making the body of the case! First up is the back seam which we're doing with a French seam. So fold the case in half, matching up the short edges with WRONG sides together. Sew the edge together with a 3/8" seam allowance.

16



# quilt-as-you-go train case

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17

Trim the seam allowance from your previous seam down to about 1/4". Turn the case wrong side out and press the seam. Now we're going to sew that seam again with another 3/8" - this should completely encase the seam from the previous step. Press the finished seam and you should have a kind of tube with the zipper going down the middle.



18

The top and bottom seams are next. Match the wrong sides together again while flattening out the case as shown. The center front of the case should match up with the back seam on the back. You can follow the fold lines found on the paper pattern if it helps. Line up the upper and lower raw edges and sew them together with a 3/8" seam allowance just like in step 16. Then trim the seam allowance, turn the case right side out, and sew the seam again like in step 17.

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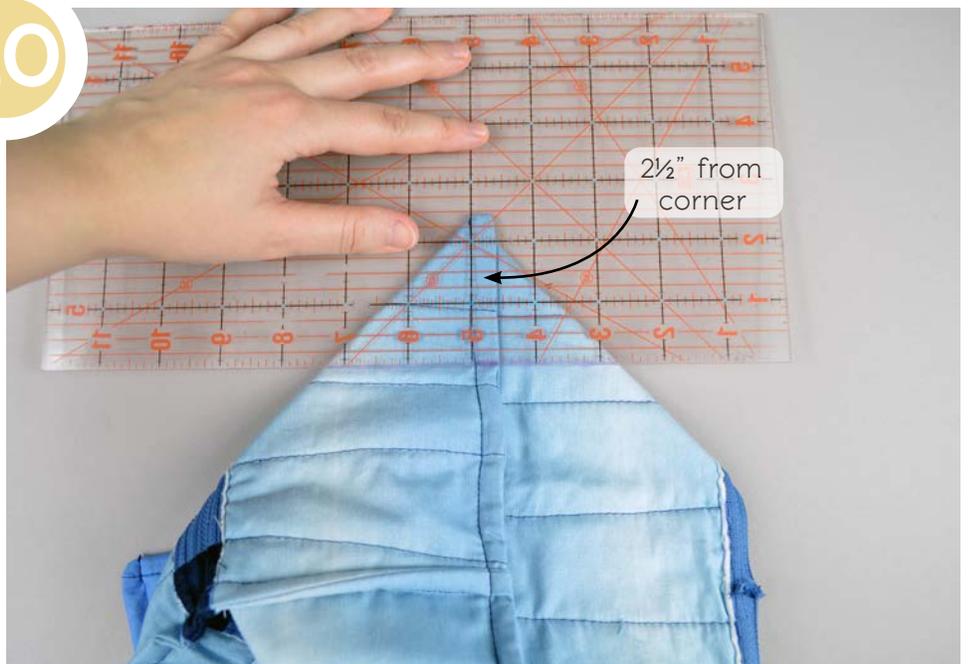
Almost done! Now we're making the corners of the case. Do this by folding one corner of the case at a diagonal as shown above.

19



With your corner folded as in the previous step, measure down from the corner by 2 1/2" and mark across the corner. Then take the case to your machine and sew across this line as it's folded. Repeat this with the other 3 corners of your case.

20



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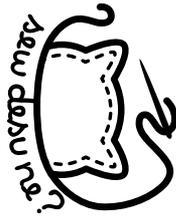
# quilt-as-you-go train case

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21

To finish up, take those big flappy corners and anchor them down along the bottom and top of the case by whip stitching it to the lining. This will also help add some stability to your case.



# Quilt-as-you-go Train Case

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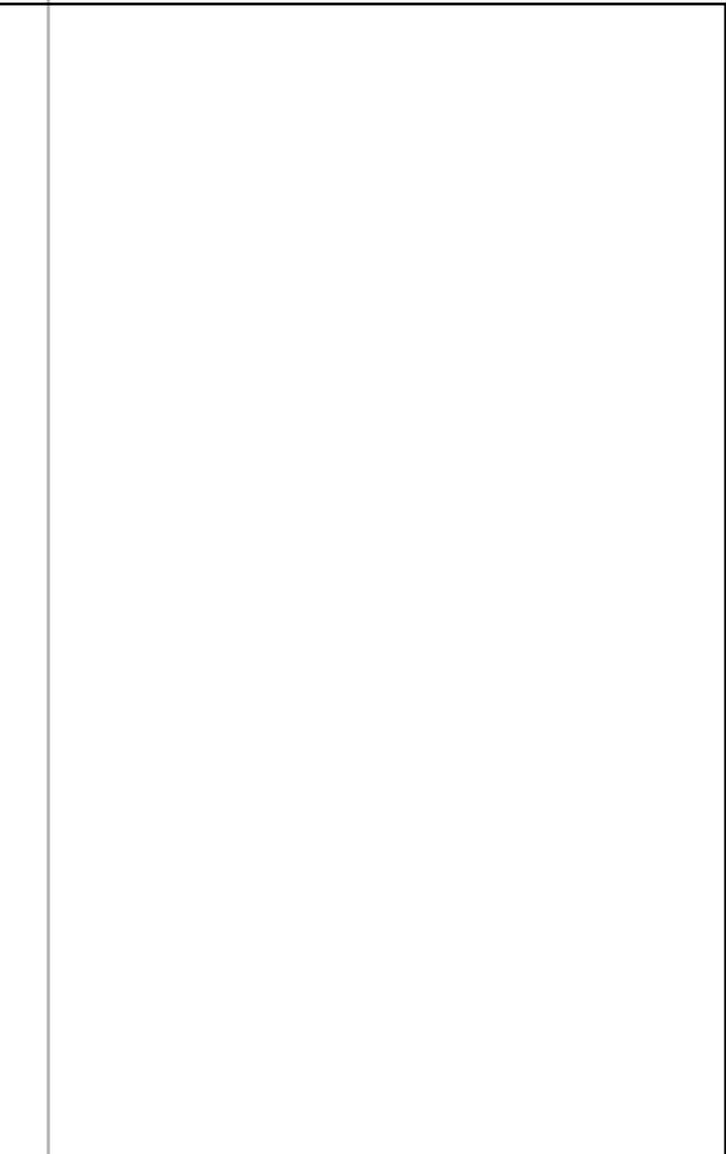
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CASE

Cut 1 of cotton batting

fold line (step 18)





A1 A2

handle  
placement

B3 B7

B1 B2

cutting line (step 7)

C1 C2

fold line (step 18)

D1 D2

33 B4

6

C1 C2

handle  
placement

D3 D7

6

# Quilt-as-you-go Train Case

P A T T E R N

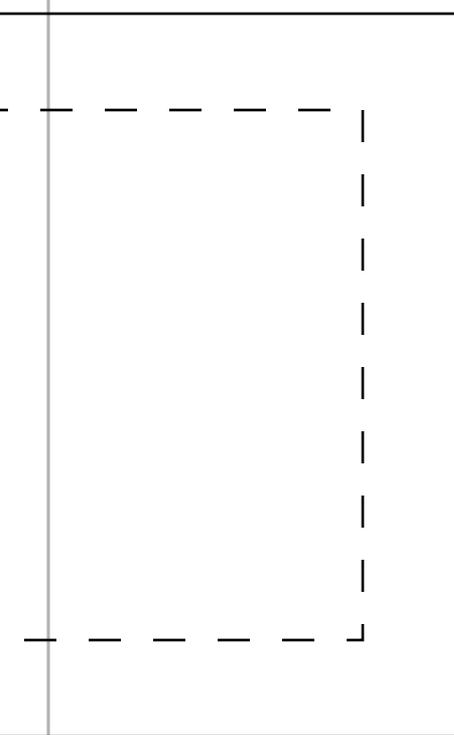
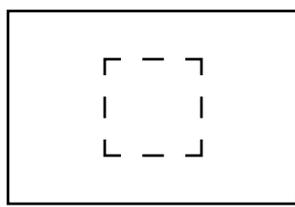
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## HANDLE

Cut 1 of cotton

Cut 1 of fusible interfacing (sans seam allowances)

½" seam allowance



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## ZIPPER TAB

Cut 4 of cotton  
1/2" seam allowance