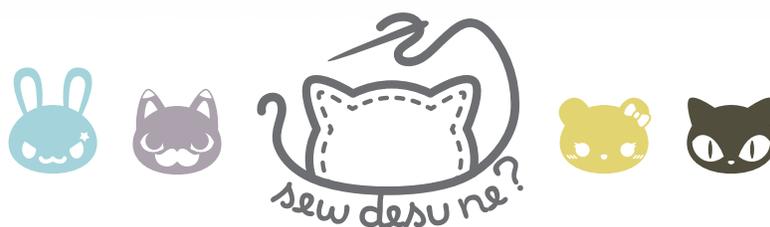


hardcover portfolio



A SEWING PATTERN BY



hardcover portfolio

This project is a sewn fabric version of a handy portfolio -- something of a compromise between a 3-prong folder and a business portfolio. It features two inside pockets, a pen holder, prongs for holding 3-hole punch paper, and mat board inside for stability.

DIFFICULTY: 

Some of the details can make a big difference in the finished product, but ultimately it is a fast project.

MAKES:

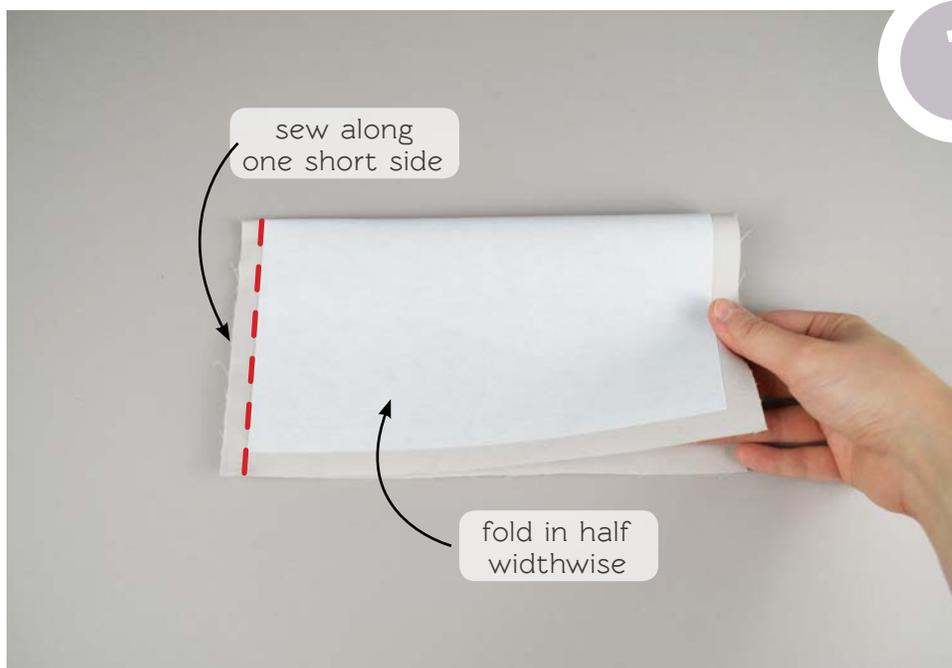
one portfolio that's 10" wide by 12" tall

MATERIALS & TOOLS

- 3/4 yd. of 45" wide or 1/2 yd. of 60" wide light to medium weight woven fabric for main portfolio (I used quilting cotton)
- 1/3 yd. of contract fabric for pockets (I used quilting cotton)
- 15" of 3/8" wide elastic
- 22" x 13" piece of cotton batting
- 1 1/3 yds. of 20" wide lightweight fusible interfacing (I used Pellon SF101)
- 1/3 yd. of 20" wide medium-heavy-weight fusible interfacing
- 2 pieces of mat board – 9 3/4" x 12"
- 3 small eyelets, about 3/8" (optional – see step 9)
- 3 brads (optional – see step 9)
- Heavy duty glue (I used Liquid Fusion)
- Matching sewing thread
- Basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)

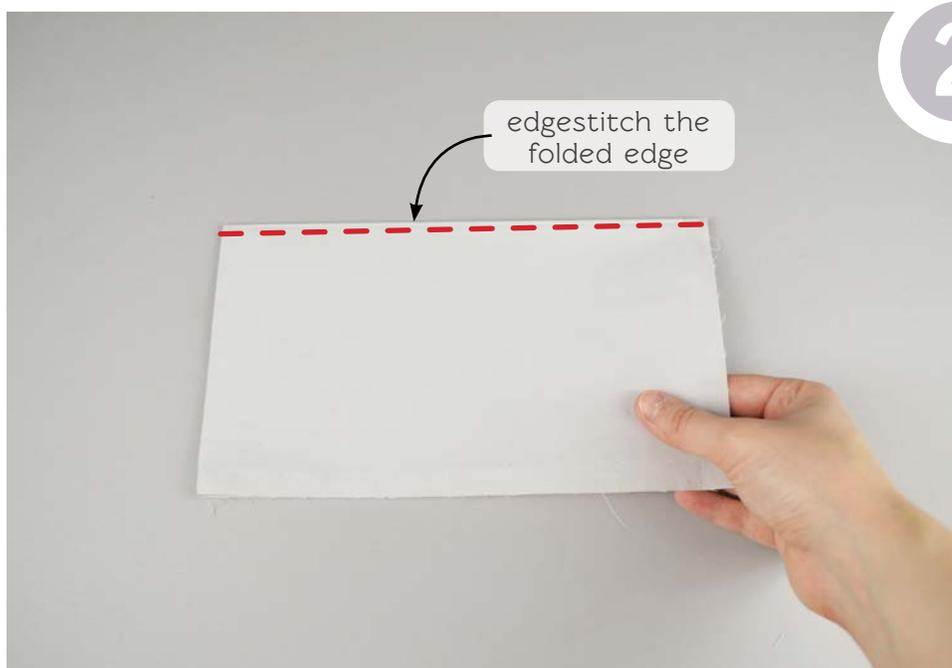
BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

1. Print out the project pattern, pages 11-19
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/batting and cut them out
4. Mark the fabric pieces with the guidelines from the pattern



1

First up is the pockets! To create these, begin by fusing your fusible interfacing to the wrong side of the fabric pocket pieces. These should be centered in the middle of the piece, leaving room for the seam allowances around the edge to avoid extra bulk. When you finish, fold it in half widthwise (matching up the short edges), and sew it together along one of the new short sides as shown. Repeat this with the other pocket piece for two pockets total.



2

When you're done, turn the pocket right side out and poke the corner a bit with a chopstick or other blunt tool. Press the seam and the folded edge, then edge stitch along the folded edge of the pocket. This will become the top of the pocket later.

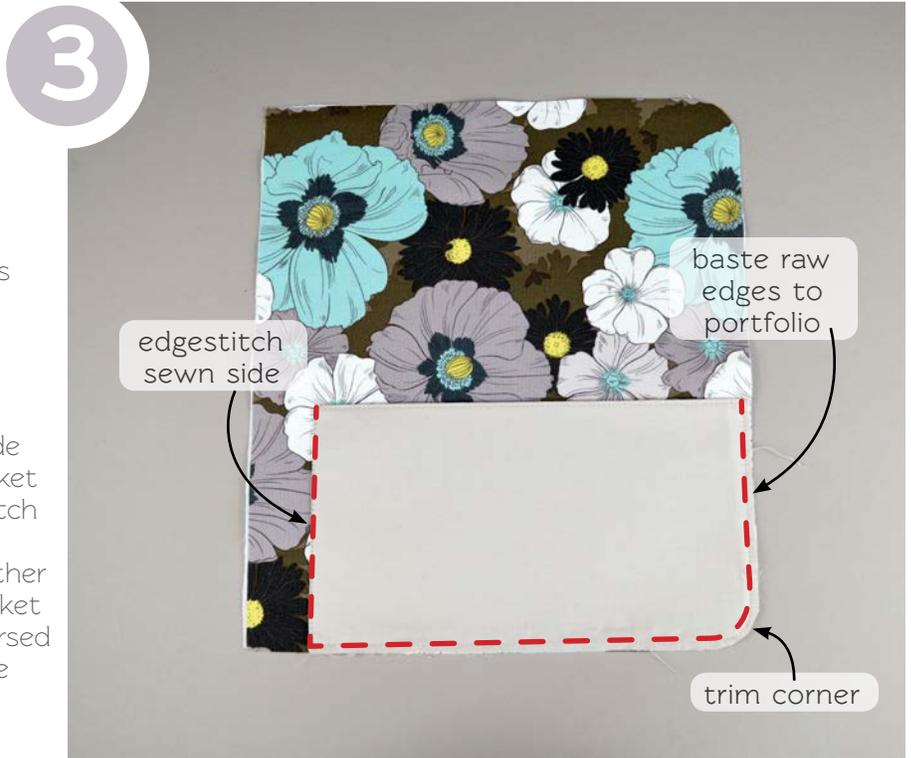
hardcover portfolio

SEWING TUTORIAL

Before we get into this step, take the opportunity to fuse the light-weight interfacing to your portfolio pieces if you're choosing to use it.

Take your newly edge stitched pocket and align it along one of the rounded corners of an inner portfolio piece. The raw edges should line up with the sides and bottom, and the sewn edge (from step 1) will point towards the square corner. There are guidelines on the pattern to help along with this.

Baste the pocket in place along the side and bottom, then trim the excess pocket fabric from the corner. Finally, edge stitch the sewn edge of the pocket to the portfolio fabric. Repeat this with the other inner portfolio piece and the other pocket piece – the other side should look reversed from the photo. That is, the sewn edge will be on the right side and the raw, basted edges will be on the left.



With both sides complete, sew them together along the edge with the square corners. You should end up with pockets on opposite sides of the inner portfolio.



sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



hardcover portfolio

SEWING TUTORIAL



5

Take your length of elastic and trim it down to 13" long, reserving the remaining bit of elastic for step 14. Then take your outer portfolio piece and lay the elastic on top of it as shown. Baste the elastic in place where the pattern guidelines indicate along the top and bottom raw edges.



6

Now we're finally sewing the body of the portfolio :D Take your inner and outer portfolio pieces and layer them as follows: inner portfolio (right side up, pockets on bottom), outer portfolio (right side down, elastic on right side), and lastly quilt batting. Pin all the layers together.

It should be noted that if you want the elastic connected on the back of your portfolio so it wraps to the front, make sure it's on the right side during this step. If you want the elastic on the front side of the portfolio so it wraps to the back, keep it on the left side.

With all of your layers pinned, you can now sew them together. Sew around the perimeter of the portfolio, leaving an opening in the top where the pattern guidelines indicate so you can turn it right side out and add the mat board. Be sure to notch the seam allowances in the rounded corner area to reduce all the extra bulk. When you're all set, turn the portfolio right side out and poke out the corners.

7



Now to add the mat board! From your 9 3/4" x 12" rectangles, round two of the corners along one long side (like the inner portfolio pattern piece). Insert one of the boards through the opening you left in the previous step and push it to the other side. The fit should be nice and snug, but not impossibly tight, so feel free to trim the board to make it fit. When it's all set, you'll find that the board does not quite reach the middle, which is great because it leaves the spine flexible for adding our pen slot!

8

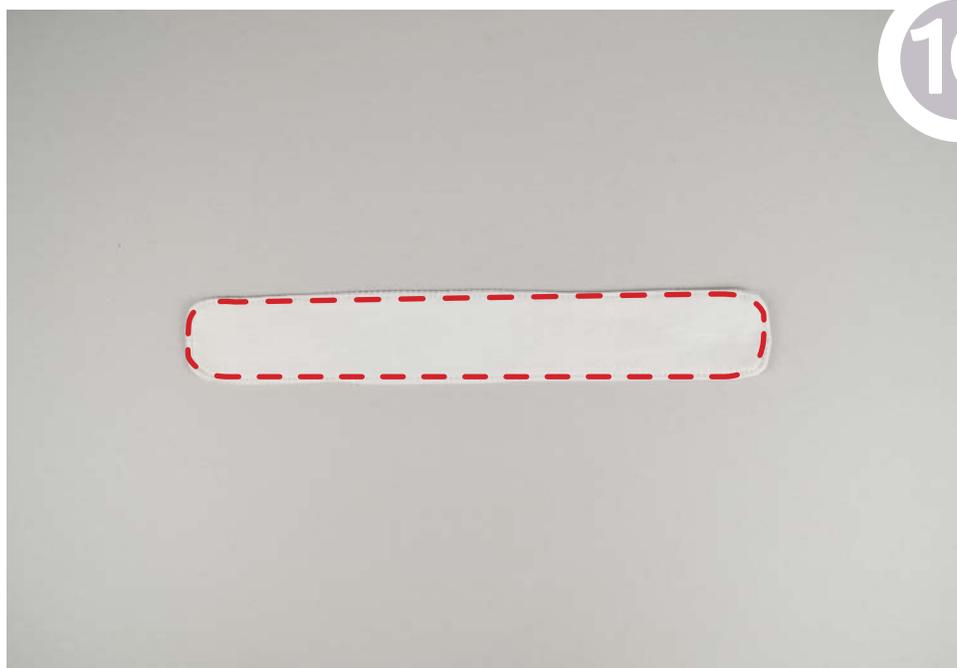


We'll be adding the second board later. Next up is the little bracket panel and the pencil slot. If you want to skip those, feel free to move onto step 15.



9

Take your page bracket piece and fuse the interfacing to the wrong side, centered in the middle of the piece so the seam allowances extend around all the sides. Layer the two pieces right sides together and sew around the perimeter, leaving an opening along one side for turning right side out later. Notch the seam allowances and turn the whole piece right side out.



10

Tuck in the seam allowances in the opening you left in the previous step and press the whole piece flat. Then edge stitch around the perimeter to close up the opening.

Install 3 eyelets along one side of the page bracket where the pattern guidelines indicate. We'll be doing the brads later to make sure the placement is just right.

11



Fold the page bracket piece in half and align the fold on the inside of the portfolio where the pattern guideline indicates. I have mine to the right of the center, while the pen holder will be to its left. Sew the bracket in place along the fold. This will also trap the mat board piece you placed in step 8, so be sure you still have your opening from step 7 ready for the second piece of mat board later.

12





13

Use your fabric marker to make dots on the page bracket opposite the eyelets. Make small slits in those dots and slide a brad through as shown, the prongs should fit through the eyelet, just as a pronged folder would. The paper pattern also provides guidelines for the brads, so you can check against those to be sure you have the best alignment. When everything's all set, glue the head of the brad in place.



14

Take the remaining 2" of elastic you had back in step 5 and align it next to the page bracket as shown. I have mine set a bit higher than the middle. If you'll be using standard size pens in your portfolio, you'll want to trim the elastic down to about 1 1/4". Larger pens might need about 1 1/2" and slimmer pens just 1". Either way, stitch it in place along both raw edges and leave it free in the middle for holding your pen when you need it.

hardcover portfolio

SEWING TUTORIAL

With all that extra stuff out of the way you can finally finish up your portfolio! Insert your second piece of mat board (being sure to round the corners like you did in step 8) into the opening at the top and push it against the remaining side. You'll see the spine of the portfolio has a gap so you have room for your pen and all that stuff.

With everything all snug, close up the opening with a ladder stitch and you're done!

15



sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

10



Hardcover Portfolio

P A T T E R N

WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM

BOTTOM POCKET

Cut 2 of contrast fabric

Cut 2 of mediumweight fusible interfacing
(sans seam allowances)

1/2" seam allowance



fold line

A1 A2

page bracket guideline

A3 A4

pocket guideline



Hardcover Portfolio

P A T T E R N

WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM

INNER PORTFOLIO

Cut 2 of main fabric

Cut 2 of lightweight fusible interfacing

½" seam allowance

A3 A4



opening for turning

brad placement

Hardcover Portfolio

brad placement

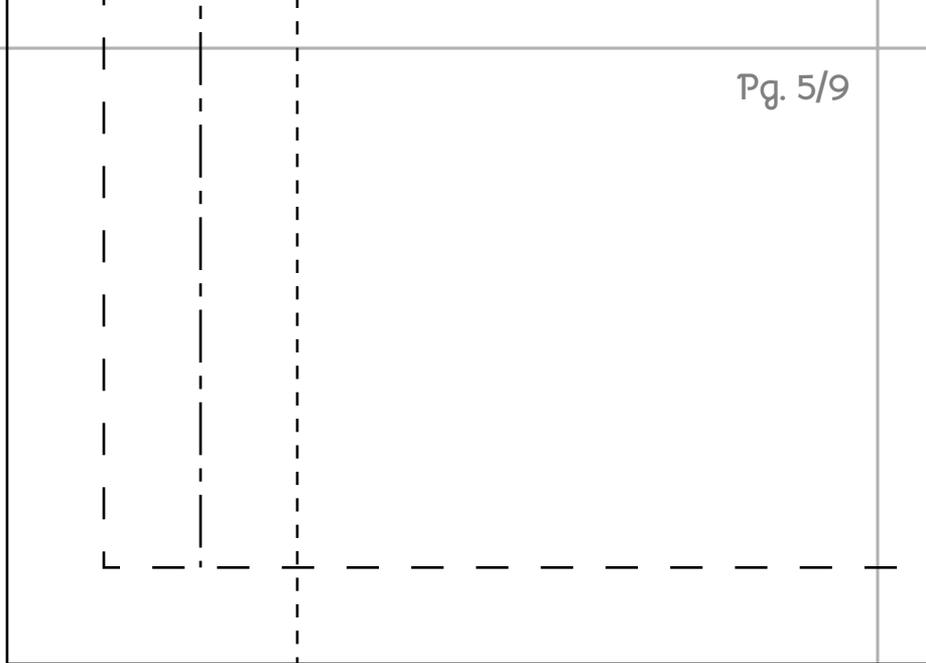
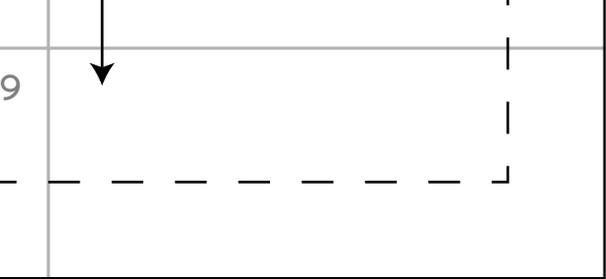
PAGE BRACKET

grommet placement

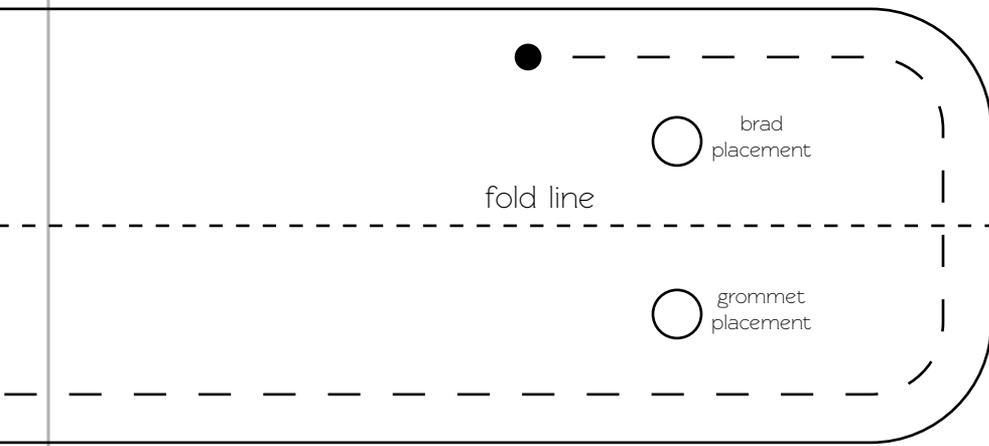
grommet placement

Cut 2 of contrast fabric
Cut 1 of mediumweight fusible interfacing
(sans seam allowances)
 $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance

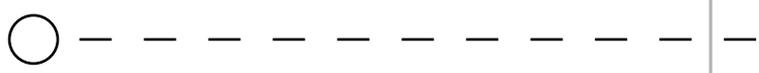
opening for turning



B1 B2



B3 B4



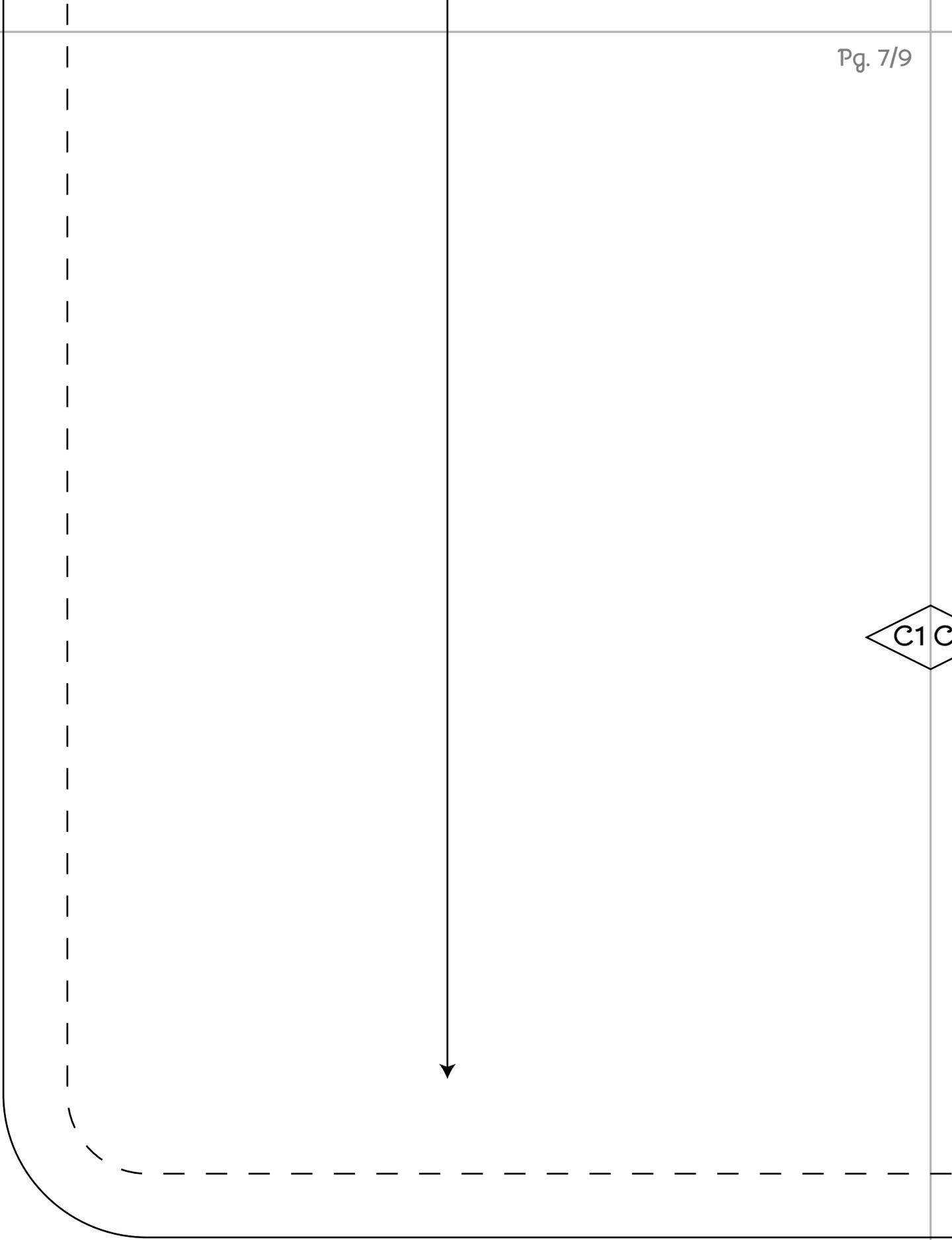


33 B4



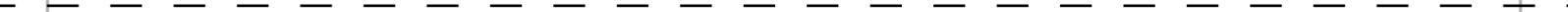
elastic
guideline

C1 C2



C1 C2

C3 C4





Hardcover Portfolio

P A T T E R N

WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM

OUTER PORTFOLIO

- Cut 1 of main fabric
- Cut 1 of cotton batting
- Cut 1 of lightweight fusible interfacing
- 1/2" seam allowance

C3 C4

elastic
guideline