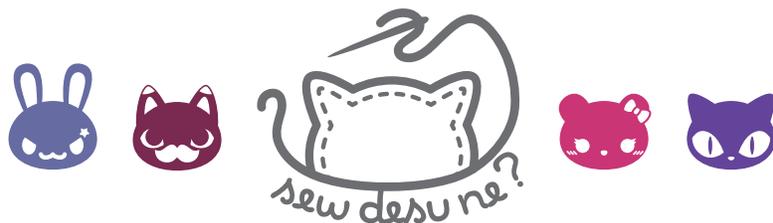


ruffled strip clutch



A SEWING PATTERN BY



ruffled strip clutch

SEWING TUTORIAL

ruffled strip clutch

This project is a simple zippered pouch but has an interesting textural twist. It features contrast corner patches and is also covered in an array of frayed and ruffled strips. You can use an assortment of prints for a patchwork look, or stick with one color for a subdued look.

DIFFICULTY: ■ ■ ■ ■ □ □ □ □ □ □

The pouch is easy, but all the little ruffles are slow-going

MAKES:

one clutch that's 8" wide and 6" tall

MATERIALS & TOOLS

- 1/4 yd. of medium to lightweight fabric for clutch base (I used quilting cotton)
- 1/4 yd. of lightweight fabric for lining (I used polyester lining fabric)
- 1/8 yd. of contrasting fabric for corner patches
- 1/8 yd. of lightweight fabric for ruffles (or 26 strips at about 3/4" x 7-14" - see step 3)
- 1/4 yd. of medium to lightweight fusible interfacing (I used Pellon SF101)
- **OPTIONAL:** additional 1/4 yd. of heavyweight fusible interfacing (I used Pellon decorbond)
- 6" 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 10-11
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

Up first is to apply all of the interfacing ^-^ I wanted my clutch to be super sturdy, so I used a layer of Pellon SF101 to cover the whole clutch, then another layer of Pellon Decorbond centered within the seam allowances. The corner patches just got a bit of SF101 within the seam allowances since you don't want too much bulk there.

So, depending on the thickness you want, you'll want to fuse your layers of interfacing at this point to both of the clutch pieces and four of the corner patch pieces (on the wrong side of the fabric).



2

Before we can start adding the little ruffles, we need to mark where they're going to go. So at this point, be sure you have the lines from the paper pattern transferred to both of the clutch sides (drawn on the right side of the fabric). The lines are 5/8" apart, and be sure to draw the placement lines for the corner patches too; these will be helpful during steps 5-8.

3

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3

Now it's time to gather up your patchwork strips! The paper pattern says your strips should be $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide and 14" long, but that's just a best case scenario. You can go as short as 7" for a few of them, and you can do a bit of fudging since gathering is involved next. So if your stash is haphazard, don't worry about everything being exactly right and just cut yourself a bunch of $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide strips – at least 26. I used some more so I had lots of choices.



TIP: A shortcut way of making lots of gathers quickly is to follow the gathering method used in this tutorial: <http://thegirlinspired.com/2010/06/party-hats-101/>

4

Next up is to gather up those strips in preparation for sewing them to the clutch. Take one of the strips and sew a seam down the middle with about a 4mm length (typically the longest the machine can do). Tug at the bobbin threads to cinch up the strip until it's about 7" long.

Depending on what's easiest for you, you might want to gather all of your strips at once or one at a time. There's a great tutorial for easy "cheater" gathering that I used to gather mine all at once. But if you prefer one at a time, move onto the next step to see about sewing them to the clutch.



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5

Take that freshly gathered strip and line up the stitching with one of the lines marked on one of your clutch pieces. Sew down the middle of the strip again through all the layers to anchor it in place.



6

If you don't already have it prepared, go back and get another ruffled strip ready to apply. Once again, line up the next one so the center matches up with one of the drawn lines on your clutch piece. Since the lines are $\frac{5}{8}$ " apart and the strips are $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide, the fabric should butt together nicely with no gap showing in between. Just like in the previous step, sew it in place down the middle.

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Here's where I got with more strips added. Once you reach the area where the contrast patches are marked, you can actually trim the strip about 1/4" past the line instead of sewing the strip all the way down to the bottom. This is where you can utilize any strips that are shorter than 14".

7



Aaand here's how it looks with all the strips added. Repeat steps 5-8 with the other side of your clutch so you end up with a matching pair.

8



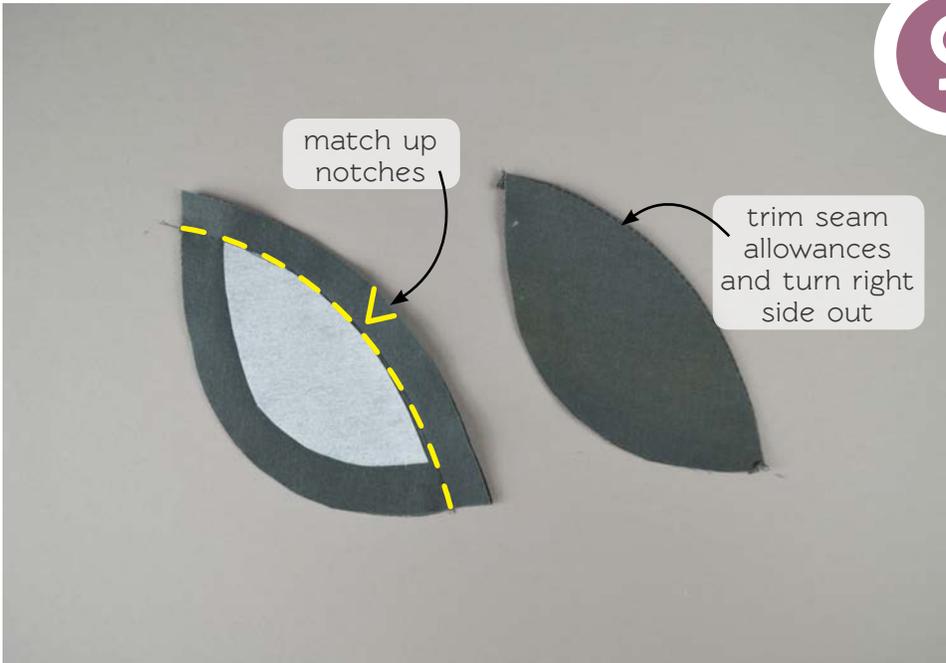
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9

To assemble the contrast patches, take two of the patch pieces (one with interfacing and one blank) and match up the edge that has the notch on it. Sew along this edge, then trim the seam allowance, and turn the patch right side out. Repeat this with the rest of your patch pieces so you should have 4 total - then give them all a good press.



10

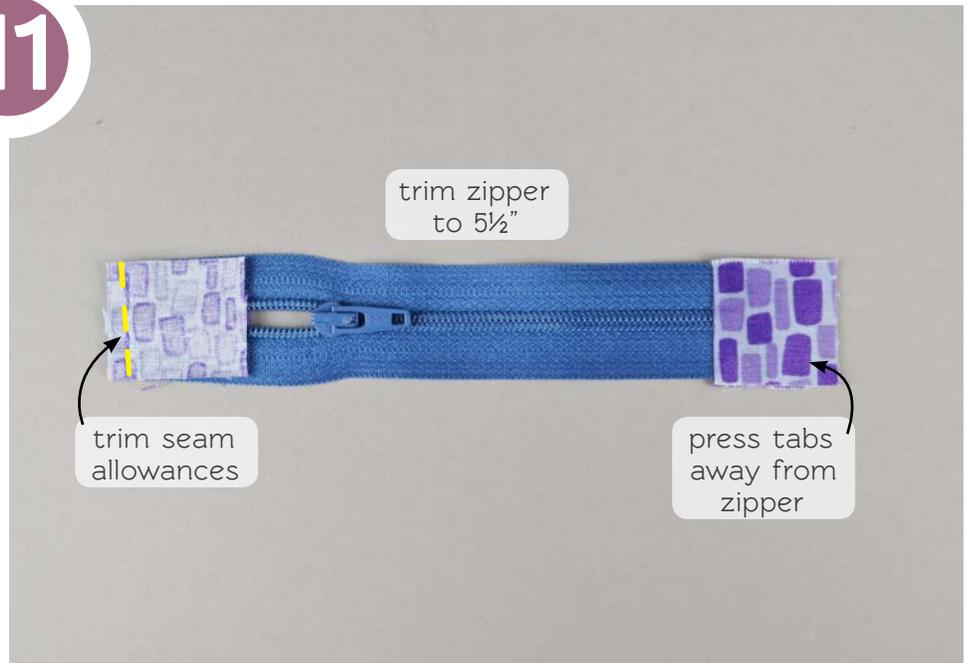
Take two of the finished patch pieces and line them up in the corners of one of your ruffle-covered clutch pieces. The raw edges should line up and the sewn edge should overlap the ruffles you sewed back in steps 5-8. With everything all aligned, edge stitch the patch in place along the sewn edge of the patch. Repeat this with the other clutch piece for a matching pair.

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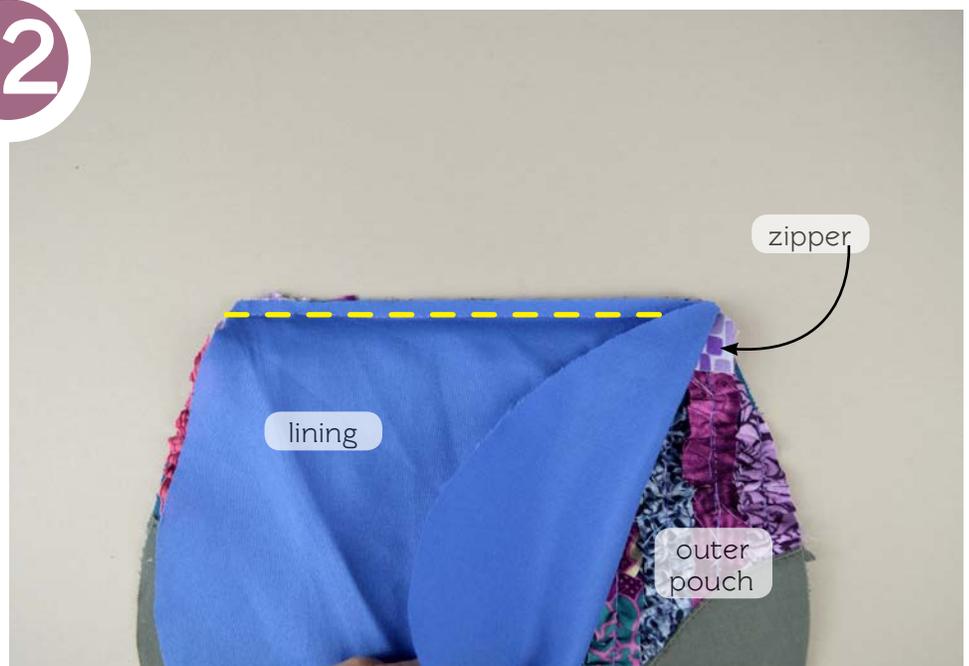
Now we're finally ready to start assembling the body of the clutch! First up is to prepare your zipper. Trim it to 5 1/2" long, then sandwich one of the ends between two of the zipper tab pieces with right sides facing. Sew through all three layers, then trim the seam allowance. Press the fabric away from the zipper, then repeat with the other end of the zipper and the remaining two zipper tabs.

11



To install the zipper, align it along the top edge of the clutch, sandwiched between one of the clutch pieces and one of the lining pieces (right sides facing). Sew the three layers together with a 1/4" seam allowance, then press the fabric away from the zipper.

12



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13

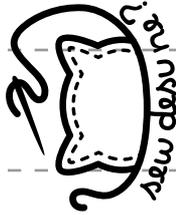
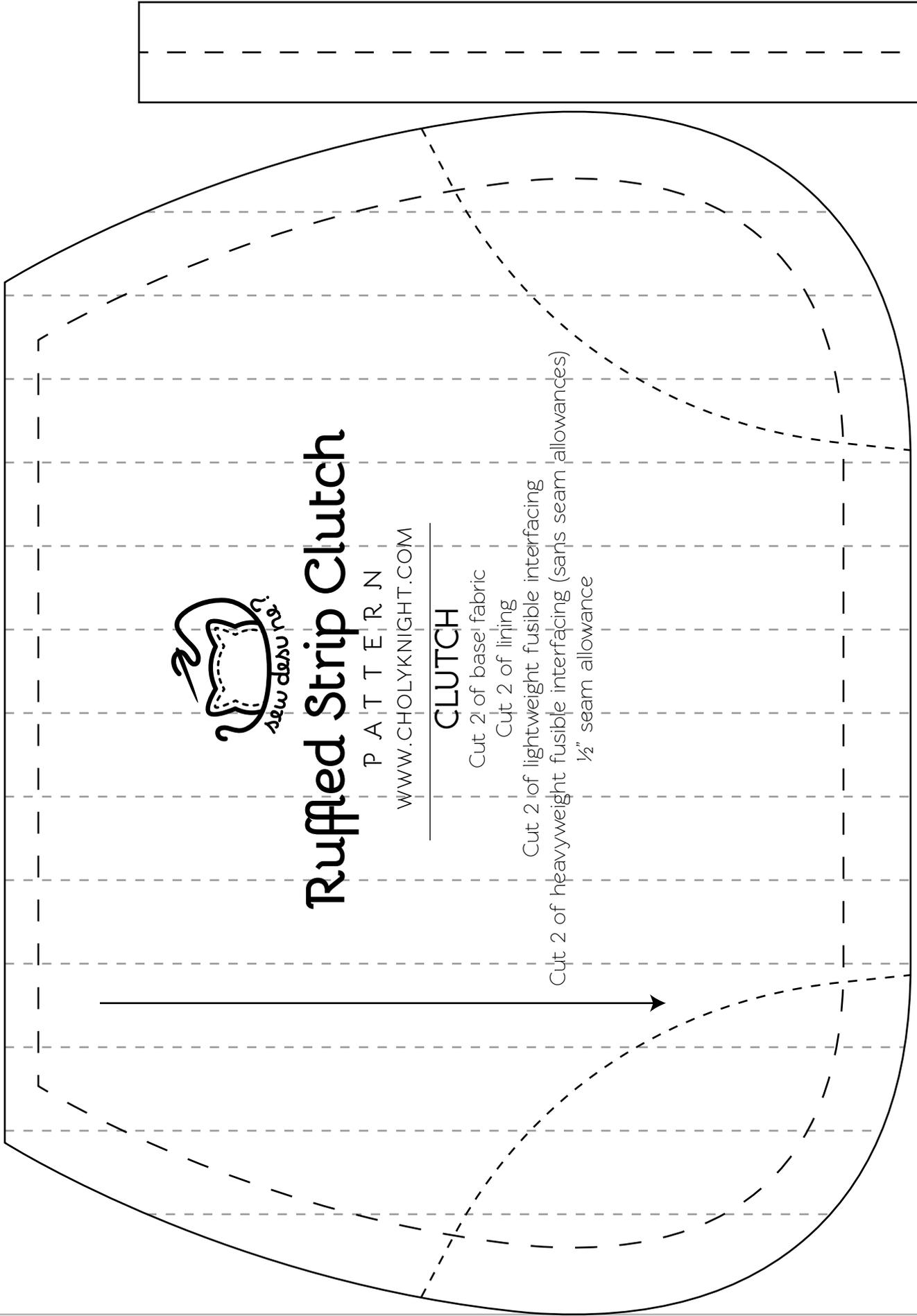
Repeat step 12 with the other side of the zipper, using the remaining clutch piece and lining piece. Once again, press the fabric away from the zipper and you should have something that looks like this.



14

To sew the body of the clutch, align the raw edges of the lining and outer clutch with right sides facing outward. Sew the sides and bottom of the clutch with about a 1/8" seam allowance for the first step of the French seam. Trim any frayed bits that are in the seam allowance and turn the clutch wrong side out.

Press the seam you've just sewn, then sew the same seam again, this time with about a 3/8" seam allowance to encase the previous seam. Once again, turn it right side out and press the seam. And that completes your clutch!



Ruffled Strip Clutch

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CLUTCH

Cut 2 of base fabric

Cut 2 of lining

Cut 2 of lightweight fusible interfacing

Cut 2 of heavyweight fusible interfacing (sans seam allowances)

1/2" seam allowance

A1 A2

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RUFFLE STRIP

Cut 26 of patchwork cottons

A1 A2

Ruffled Strip Clutch

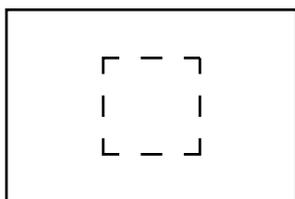
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ZIPPER TAB

Cut 4 from patchwork fabrics

½" seam allowance



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CORNER PATCHES

Cut 8 of contrast fabric

Cut 4 of interfacing (sans seam allowances)

½" seam allowance

