

The Kathy

An in-the-hoop project

Main purse area features a flap with snap closing. The zippered pocket on the back opens to reveal more storage space and a credit card sleeve that holds 8 cards. Several variations included for attaching a shoulder strap. Requires a very large hoop (200 x 300mm).

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1Kathy_BTNG Batting Template	2Kathy_Flap Flap Template	3Kathy_Flap	4Kathy_Pckt
180.8 x 270 mm 7.12 x 10.63"	184 x 276 mm 7.24 x 10.87"	188 x 284 mm 7.4 x 11.18"	298 x 170 mm 11.73 x 6.69"
5Kathy_Credit	6Kathy_Front	7Kathy_Back	Finished size
298 x 198mm 11.73 x 7.8"	298 x 198mm 11.73 x 7.8"	298 x 198mm 11.73 x 7.8"	<i>Approximately 13 x 7.5"</i>

Cut the following pieces I recommend labeling each piece with the corresponding letter		
Name	Fabric	Size
A. Front	Fabric 1	12.75 x 8.75"
B. Lining Inside Zipper area	Fabric 1	(1) 12.75 x 8.75" <i>Cut 2 if not doing the credit card sleeve D</i>
C. Flap Lining	Fabric 1	12.25 x 8.5"
D. Credit Card Sleeve	Fabric 1	12.75 x 24.5"
E. Front Pocket	Fabric 2	12.75 x 14.5"
F. Back	Fabric 2	12.75 x 8.75"
G. Flap	Fabric 2 or 3	12.25 x 8.5"
H. Flap Stabilizer	Mid-weight cutaway stabilizer	12.25 x 8.5"
I. Flap Batting*	Fusible fleece	12.25 x 8.5"
J. Pocket Batting*	Fusible fleece	12.5 x 7.25"
K. Front Batting*	Fusible fleece	12.75 x 8.75"
L. Strap Tabs	Fabric 2	1" strap – 3.25 x 6"

Suggested fabrics: Cottons or quilting cottons for flap, pocket and linings. Linings may also be made from regular lining fabric to help reduce bulk. Flap may also be made from faux suede or leather, as well as pleather.



*Batting will make your purse firmer than using just stabilizer alone. I prefer to use a thin, fusible fleece instead of regular batting. Adding batting to all pieces makes a very thick purse and may not be advisable for single needle machines. It can cause the foot to ride too high to sew. Adding it to the back of only the FRONT (A) fabric will make the purse quite substantial. Add fleece to the backs of POCKET (E) and Flap (G) only if your machine can handle the additional thicknesses.

If using non-fusible fleece, remember to place it when you place the fabric during construction of the purse.

You can further reduce bulk by using polymesh stabilizer for all pieces except the BACK. You can also use a midweight faux leather or suede cloth for the flap front and skip the batting on that piece.

Other Supplies	<p>Tear-away or cutaway stabilizer – 2 pieces to fit hoop (<i>use for patterns</i>)</p> <p>Light-weight cutaway stabilizer (polymesh) – 3 pieces to fit in hoop</p> <p>Mid-weight cutaway stabilizer (2 oz.) – 2 pieces to fit in hoop</p> <p>Magnetic snap for flap closure</p> <p>14" zipper (#3 nylon skirt/dress zipper)</p> <p>1" wide poly webbing: cut to preferred length for non-adjustable strap; 60" for adjustable strap</p> <p>1" wide metal rectangular loops (2) for permanent strap. <i>See next page for pictures.</i></p> <p>1" wide gate clips (2) for removable strap. <i>See next page for pictures.</i></p> <p>1" wide metal 2 loop slider (1) for adjustable strap. <i>See next page for pictures.</i></p> <p>Masking tape</p> <p>Scotch tape or Dritz Wonder Tape double sided, water soluble, sew through tape</p> <p>I recommend using poly thread throughout this design.</p> <p>Solvly or plastic wrap (enough to cover hoop once)</p> <p>See page 26 for where I get some of my supplies.</p>
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 <p>D rings, rectangular or oval metal rings. This photo shows some I like to use. Use the correct size for the width of your strap. Try not to go too large as they still have to fit inside the bag and not be hit by the foot/needle as your machine sews the final seam.</p>	 <p>Sliders can be plastic or metal. Use the correct width for your strap. You don't want it too large, or your straps won't stay the length you set them.</p>
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Gate Clips. Come in several sizes and are great for removable purse straps.



Special Precautions

You will be hooping only the stabilizer. It needs to be tight in the hoop with no slippage. You do not want the project to start sagging part way through.

You will be taking the hoop on and off the machine a number of times. Be very careful not to disturb the project in the hoop. Place the hoop on a flat surface while working. This will help keep the project from shifting in the hoop while you work.

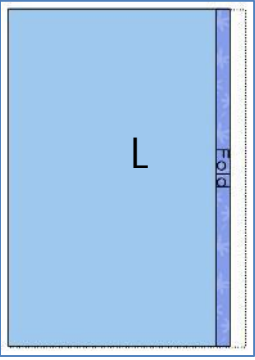
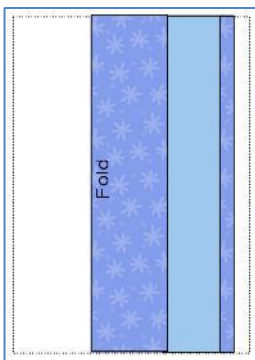
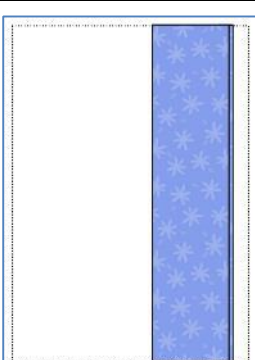

If you tape the pieces down, don't put the tape right against the seam allowance. Some machines do not behave well when the foot is running over tape. The foot will drag causing skipped stitches as well as broken threads and needles. You can tape across the corners instead of on the sides.

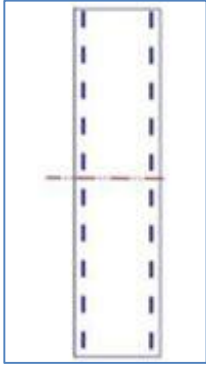
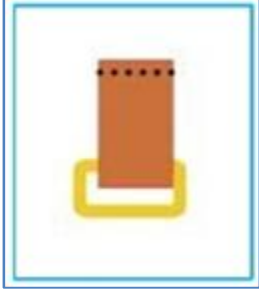
Please stay with your machine at all times. Watch that the foot does not become caught in the fabric layers.

If you must stop the machine and back up to redo a section of the design, remove the hoop first. Then back up to the desired position. If you return to the start of the color stop, be sure to advance the machine one stitch so the needle returns to the start position. Then and only then is it safe to return the hoop to the machine. *If your machine foot adjusts height according to what is under it when dropped, move to the thickest part of the project and restart from that position.*

Shoulder Strap Tabs

Requires careful placement so the foot/needle do not strike the metal rings during the final stage of sewing.

1	<p>Fold under $\frac{1}{4}$" on one long edge on strap fabric (L).</p> <p>Press.</p>	
2	<p>Fold under $\frac{3}{4}$" (1") on opposite long edge.</p> <p>Press fold.</p>	
3	<p>Fold in half lengthwise, so folded edges come together.</p> <p>Press fold.</p>	
4	<p>Insert a strip of mid-weight or heavyweight stabilizer between the layers to add support to the fabric and keep it from stretching.</p>	
5	<p>Stitch close to both folded edges using a straight machine stitch.</p>	

6	<p>Cut in half to make 2 strips, 3" long.</p> <p>Fold each tab in half, placing the raw edges together.</p>	
7	<p>Slide a metal loop or D-ring inside each loop.</p> <p>Using your sewing machine, stitch the ends of the tabs together about ¼" from the raw edges.</p> <p>Set aside.</p> <p>Continue with the 1-Batting, page 6.</p>	

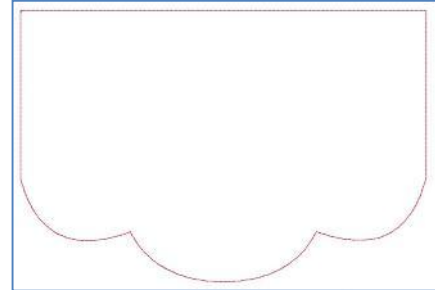
1 Batting

*You may print a paper template from your software, but it is too large to print on one sheet of paper. I prefer to stitch it out on cutaway stabilizer. You can use the pattern multiple times.
If you have already created this pattern, move on to 2 - Template on page 7.*

Hoop one piece of tear-away or cutaway stabilizer. *You will be using this as a pattern piece.*
Load 1Kathy_BTNG into your machine.

Place the hoop on the machine.
Stitch Color #1, the cutting lines for the batting pattern.

1



2A
Remove the hoop from the machine.
Remove the stabilizer from the hoop.

2B
Place the pattern on the batting (I). Pin. Cut on the stitching lines.
Lay aside. (Do not fuse to the fabric at this time.)
Continue with 2 Template, page 7.

2C
Keep this pattern for future use.
Label it Kathy Flap Batting (cut 1)

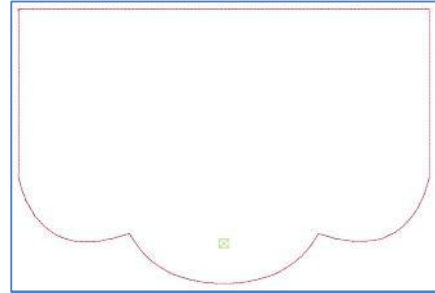
2 Template

*You may print a paper template from your software, but it is too large to print on one sheet of paper. I prefer to stitch it out on cutaway stabilizer. You can use the pattern multiple times.
If you have already created this pattern, move on to 3 Flap on page 8.*

Hoop one piece of tear-away or cutaway stabilizer. *You will be using this as a pattern piece.*
Load 2Kathy_TMP into your machine.

1

Place the hoop on the machine.
Stitch Color #1, the cutting lines for the flap pattern.
These are the seam lines of the finished flap.



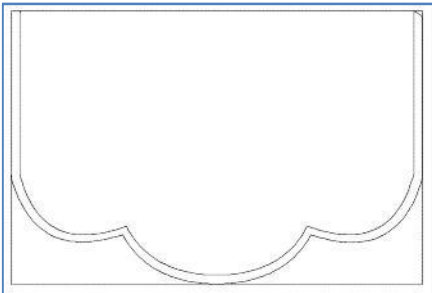
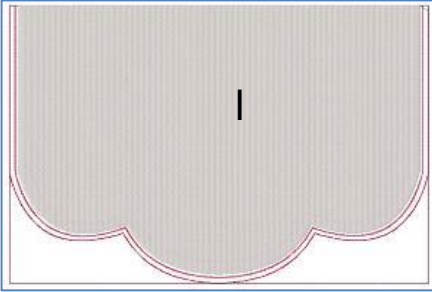
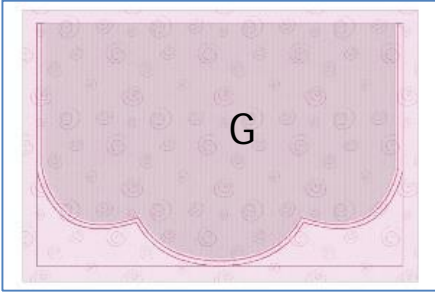
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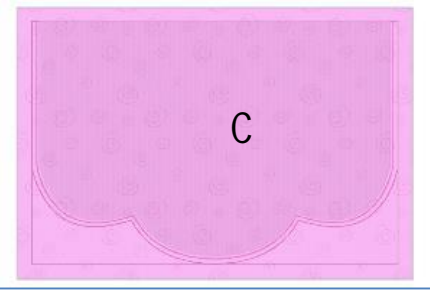
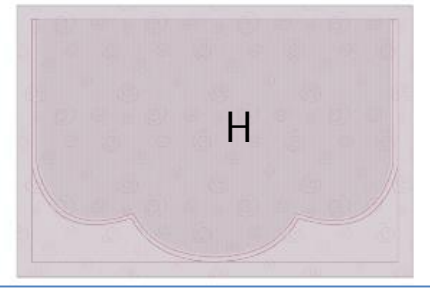

Remove the hoop from the machine.
Remove the stabilizer from the hoop.

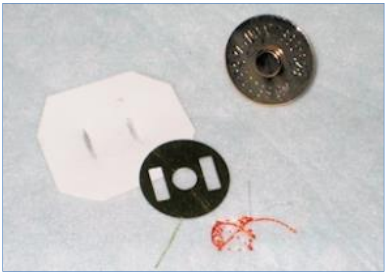

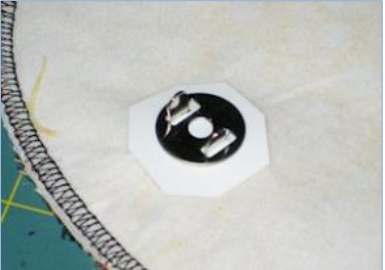
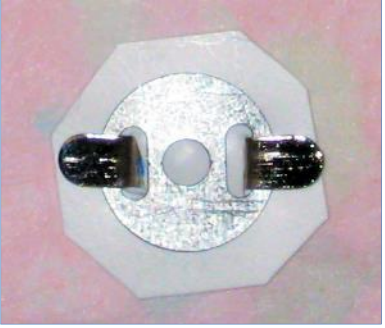

3

Cut the template out on the stitching lines. Lay aside. We will use this a bit later to mark the snap placement on the flap lining.
Continue with 3 Flap, page 8 .

Keep this template for future use.
Label it Kathy Flap Template – mark the small square, Snap Placement.

3 Flap <i>Includes quilting and "faux" topstitching edge</i>		
	<p>You may include monograms or an embroidered design on the front flap. You have about 6" on the flap (measured up from the curved seam line). Be sure to leave appropriate margins.</p> <p><i>Edit design file using your favorite software. Insert the design after Color #4, the faux topstitching, and before Color #5, the seam.</i></p>	
	<p>Hoop one piece of light-weight cutaway stabilizer. <i>Tear-away or wash-away would also work.</i></p> <p>Load 3Kathy_Flap into your machine. <i>The curve of the flap will be to the right in a vertical hoop and to the bottom in a horizontal hoop.</i></p>	
1	<p>Place the hoop on the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #1, the placement outline for the Flap Front and placement for the batting/front flap.</p>	
2A	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine. Place it RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>	
2B	<p>Place the prepared Flap Batting (I) so it lines up with the inner stitching line. The top of the batting will be right on the straight line.</p> <p><i>If using fusible fleece, place fusible side FACE UP.</i></p>	
2C	<p>Place the Flap (G) fabric FACE UP over the batting, centered over the outer placement stitches. <i>If the fabric is directional, place it so the bottom of the print pattern is pointed toward the curved edge.</i></p> <p>You may use a dab or two of washable glue stick, temporary spray adhesive, or tape to hold the fabric in place. <i>I prefer regular masking tape.</i></p>	
2D	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #2, tacking the fabric in place.</p>	
3	<p>OPTIONAL: Stitch Color #3, the quilting.</p>	

4	OPTIONAL: Stitch Color #4, the faux topstitching.	
Stitch your design or monogram here. Insert using your favorite software before loading design.		
5A	Place the Flap Lining (C) FACE DOWN over the project in the hoop, covering all stitching lines. <i>If the fabric is directional, the top of the print goes closest to the curved edge.</i>	
5B	Place the prepared piece of cutaway stabilizer, Flap Stabilizer (H), over the fabric in the hoop, covering the stitching lines. This will firm up the lining and reinforce it for the snap. Tape all layers securely to the hooped stabilizer or to the hoop. <i>You don't want it to shift while it stitches.</i>	
5C	Return the hoop to the machine. Stitch Color #5, stitching the seam for the flap.	
6	Remove project from the machine. Remove project from the hoop.	
7	Turn the project over so you can see the stitches better. Trim all layers close to the outer row of stitching on all 4 sides. <i>You can clip in to the 2nd row of stitching on the curves (my clips are marked with blue lines in the image).not to clip the stitching.</i>	

8A	<p>Lay the flap TEMPLATE you made earlier on top of the flap lining stabilizer. Line the seam lines up with the innermost lines of stitching. Mark the snap position onto the stabilizer using your favorite method.</p>	
8B	<p>Apply the male half of the magnetic snap to the outside of the flap lining.</p> <p>Here I have the snap, the metal washer that came with it, and an extra reinforcement piece that I cut from an inexpensive kitchen cutting mat (or plastic milk jug). It is about 1" square. Trim the corners off and cut slits in it using the washer as a template.</p>	
8C	<p>Lay the washer over the snap placement marking (inside flap). Using a pencil, mark the two slots onto the stabilizer.</p> <p>With a sharp pair of scissors, carefully snip the stabilizer and the Flap LINING on the marks, making slits just long enough for the prongs of the snap to go through.</p>	
8D	<p>Slide the snap inside the flap and push the prongs through the slits on the outside of the lining, right through the stabilizer.</p> <p>Push the extra reinforcement over the prongs, followed by the metal washer.</p>	
8E	<p>Push the prongs down snugly against the washer. You can use a flat-bladed screwdriver or a pair of pliers to push them down. Place a couple layers of batting underneath the snap on the other side, and give it a couple of taps from the back with a small hammer.</p>	
9	<p>Press seams. Turn right side out. Press again.</p>	
11	<p>Lay flap aside. Continue with the 4 Pocket, page 11.</p>	

4 Pocket

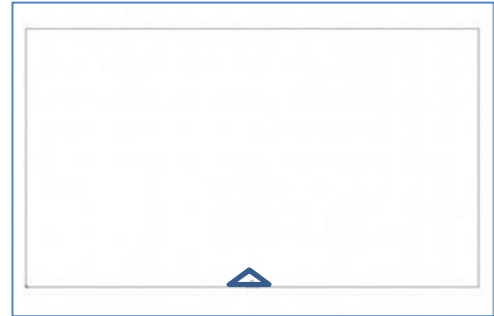
Hoop one piece of lightweight cutaway stabilizer. *Tear-away or wash-away would also work.*

Load 4Kathy_Pckt into your machine. Rotate the design in the hoop so the triangle on the long edge is to the open side of the machine. *That would be to the bottom on a multi-needle machine and to the left on a single needle machine.*

1

Place the hoop on the machine. Stitch Color #1, the placement outline for the pocket.

The pocket top is marked with a small triangle.



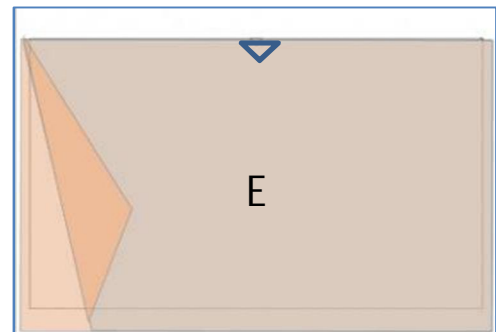
2A

Remove the hoop from the machine. Place it RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.

2B

Fold the pocket in half right sides together so it measures 12.75 x 7.25". Press a crease on the fold line.

Iron the fusible fleece onto the wrong side of the fabric, below the fold. *The fleece goes on the part that will be seen when the purse is finished.*



2C

Apply a light layer of washable glue stick to the stabilizer inside the stitched area.

Place the folded edge of the fabric on the stitching line at the top of the pocket (*marked with a small triangle*), fleece side against the stabilizer.

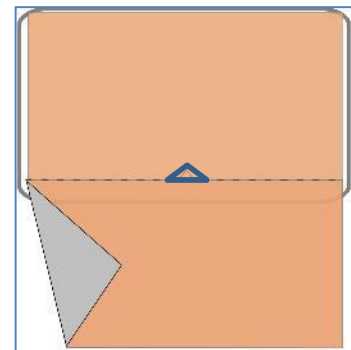
Center the edges over the placement stitching so they are about 1/2" beyond on both sides. The bottom edge should also extend

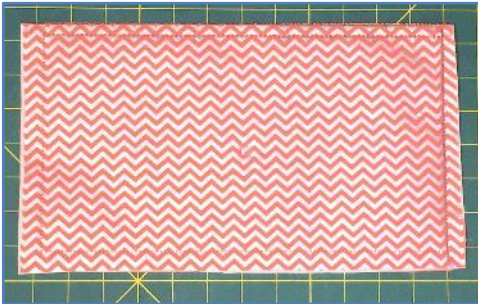


2D

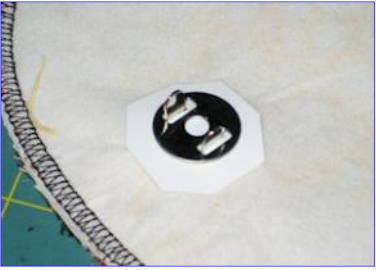
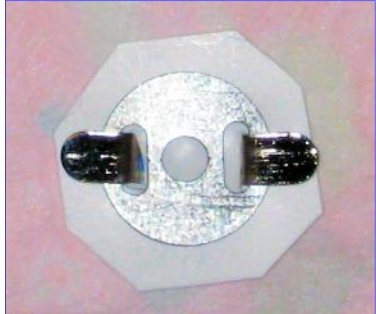
Unfold the pocket.

The top half of the pocket will extend over the edge of the hoop. Do not trim the extra fabric. It will become the pocket lining.

You may tape the edges along the lower half to hold fabric in place. *If taping the fabric pieces in place be sure to keep all tape at least 1/4" away from the stitching lines..*



2E	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #2, tacking the fabric in place.</p> <p>Remove tape.</p>
3	<p>OPTIONAL: Stitch Color #3, the quilting.</p>
4	<p>Stitch Color #4, the faux top stitching on the pocket top edge.</p>
5	<p>Stitch Color #5, the placement for the magnetic snap.</p>
6	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine.</p> <p>Remove the project from the hoop.</p>
7	<p>Fold the pocket right sides together so you can see the top stitching line on the stabilizer (the long line with the triangle).</p> <p>Carefully trim the stabilizer away from the top edge of the pocket, cutting right on or as close to the stitching line as possible. Take special care not to snip into the fabric fold.</p>
8	<p>Trim the rest of the stabilizer even with the sides and bottom edges of the pocket fabric. Do not trim any fabric away at this time.</p> 
9A	<p>Apply the female side of the magnetic purse snap to the front side of the pocket (the side with the placement stitching).</p> <p>Here I have the snap, the metal washer that came with it, and an extra reinforcement piece (see step 1B, page 9).</p> 
9B	<p>Lay the washer over the snap placement stitching. Using a pencil, mark the two slots onto the stabilizer.</p> <p>With a sharp pair of scissors, carefully snip the stabilizer and the pocket front/batting on the marks, making slits just long enough for the prongs of the snap to go through. <i>Do NOT snip through the lining.</i></p> 

9C	<p>Push the prongs through the slits from the right side of the pocket through the stabilizer.</p> <p>Push the extra reinforcement over the prongs, followed by the metal washer.</p>	
9D	<p>Push the prongs down snugly against the washer. You can use a flat-bladed screwdriver or a pair of pliers to push them down. Place a couple layers of batting underneath the snap on the other side, and give it a couple of taps from the back with a small hammer.</p>	
10	<p>Fold the pocket in half wrong sides together.</p> <p>Press flat. Lay aside.</p> <p>Continue with the 5 Credit Card Sleeve, on page 14.</p>	

5 Credit Card Sleeve

Skip to 6 Front, page 17, if not doing the credit card sleeve

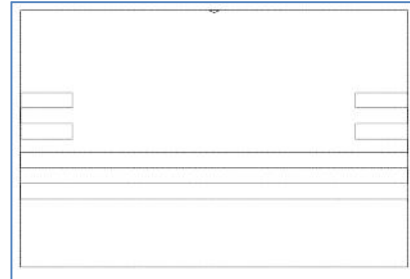
Hoop one piece of light-weight cutaway stabilizer. *Tear-away or wash-away will work too.*

Load 5Kathy_CRDT into your machine. In a vertical hoop, rotate the design in the hoop so the triangle on the long edge is to the right side. In a horizontal hoop, position it at the top.

1

Place the hoop on the machine. Stitch Color #1, the placement outline.

The small triangle indicates the top of the design.



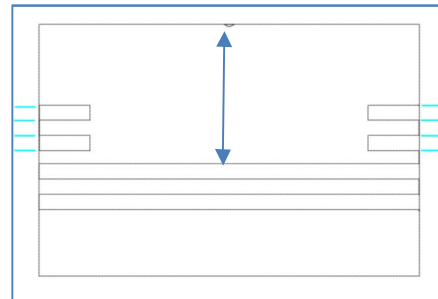
2A

Remove the hoop from the machine. Place it RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.

2B

Extend the 4 short lines at the edges onto the stabilizer using a pencil.

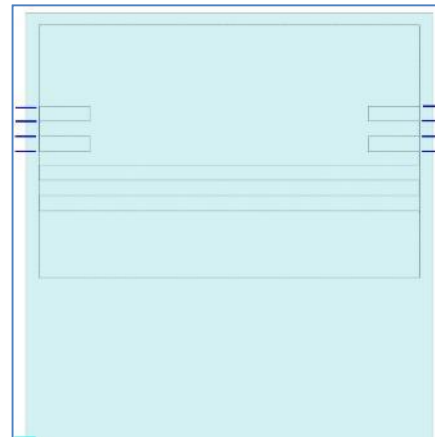
Apply a light layer of washable glue stick to the stabilizer between the two upper lines, indicated by the arrows in the example to the right.

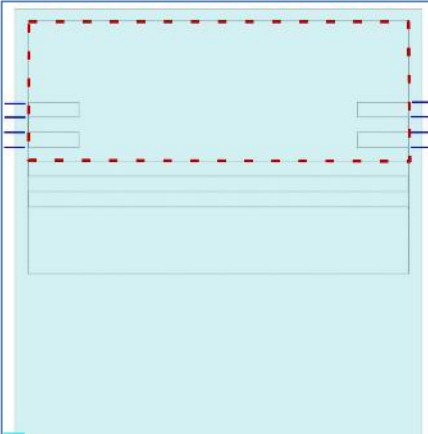
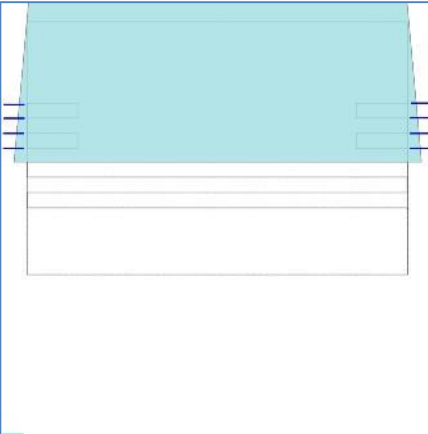
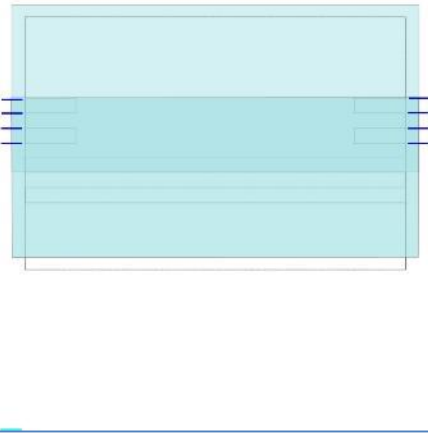




2C

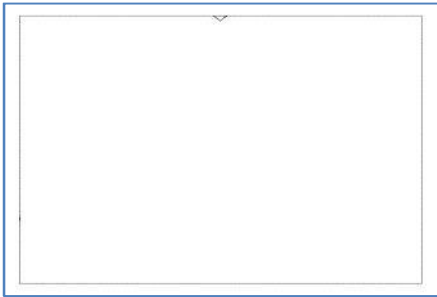
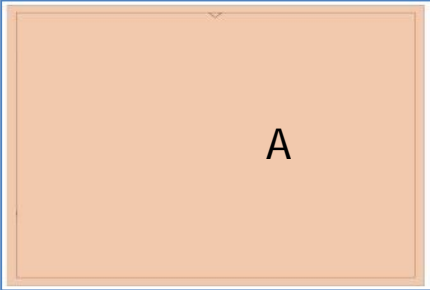

Place the Credit Card Sleeve (D) fabric FACE UP over the placement stitching. The top (short edge) should be about 1/2" above the long straight placement line and the long edges should extend about 1/2" beyond the placement stitching on the sides. *The remainder of the fabric will hang over the edge of the hoop for now.*

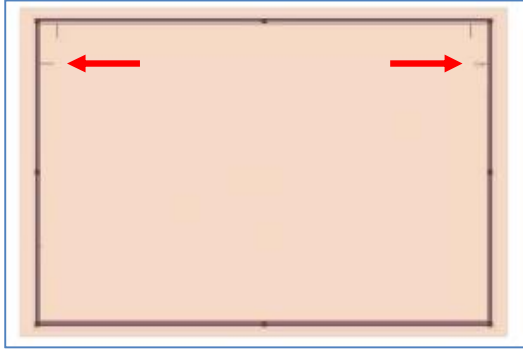

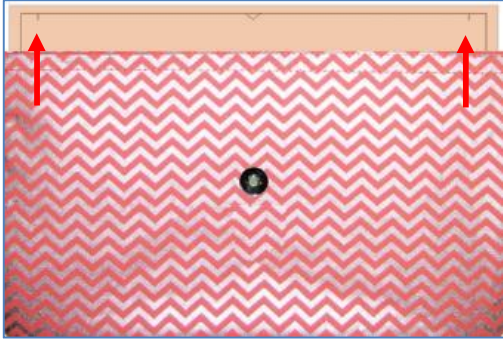
Smooth into place.


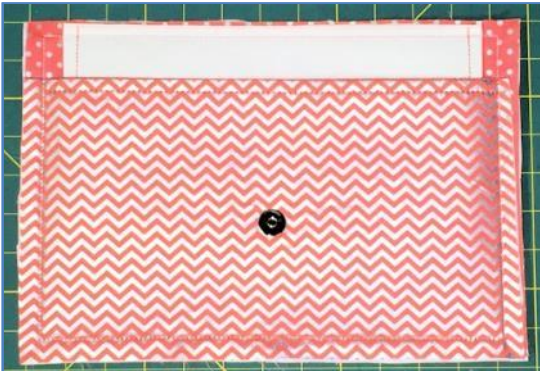



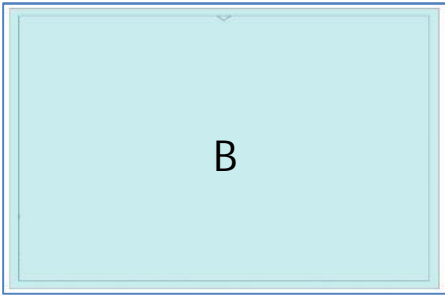
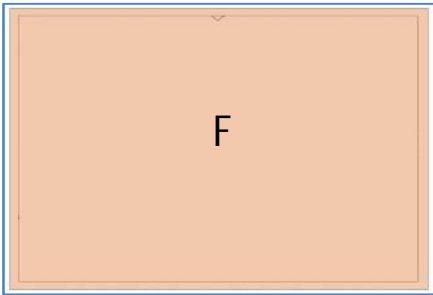
2D	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #2, tacking the fabric in place</p>	
3A	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine. Place it RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>	
3B	<p>We are now going to fanfold the slots for the credit cards.</p> <p>Fold the fabric upward on the lowest stitched line. Side edges should be kept even.</p> <p>Press crease in fabric.</p>	
3C	<p>Fold the fabric back down at the top side markings. Side edges should be kept even.</p> <p>Crease fold with iron.</p>	




3D	<p>Continue to fold fabric using the next lower stitched/marked lines for lower and upper fold lines.</p> <p>Crease folds with iron.</p> <p>You should have 4 "slots" (creased folds) showing on top when finished.</p>
3E	<p>Tape the side edges in place keeping tape outside the placement lines.</p> <p>Tape folds in place on either side of center. Do not let tape go below the lowest fold line.</p> <p><i>If your foot glides (doesn't hop) cover the entire piece with water soluble stabilizer (clear) or plastic wrap and tape corners in place. This will keep the foot from catching in the folds.</i></p> 
3F	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #3, stitching down the folds and creating a divider line.</p> <p><i>If you folded the pleats correctly the folds should be stitched down with the zigzag stitch falling either right below the fold or slightly covering the folded edge.</i></p>
4	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine.</p> <p>Remove the project from the hoop.</p>
5	<p>Trim stabilizer to match fabric edges on top and side.</p> <p>Trim stabilizer and fabric about 1/2" below the stitching lines on bottom.</p>
6	<p>Place to one side.</p> <p>Continue with 6 - Front, page 17.</p> 



6 Front	
	<p>Hoop one piece of mid-weight cutaway stabilizer.</p> <p>Load 6Kathy_Front into your machine. In a vertical hoop, rotate the design in the hoop so the triangle on the long edge is to the right side. In a horizontal hoop, position it at the top.</p>
1	<p>Place the hoop on the machine. Stitch Color #1, the placement outline.</p> <p><i>The small triangle indicates the top edge of the purse.</i></p> 
2A	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine. Place it RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>
2B	<p>Place the Front (A) fabric (fleece lined) FACE UP, centering it over the placement stitching. <i>Don't forget to lay down a piece of batting (K) first if using regular batting.</i></p> <p>Tape edges to stabilizer or hoop. <i>You can use washable glue stick to hold fabric in place instead of tape.</i></p> 
2C	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #2, tacking the fabric to the stabilizer. <i>It also stitches the placement lines for the pocket and flap.</i></p> <p>Remove the tape.</p>
3A	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine. Place it WRONG SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>
3B	<p>Place the prepared Credit Card Sleeve or the optional lining fabric FACE UP on top of the stabilizer.</p> <p>Line the four outer corners of the stitching on the sleeve up with the 4 outer corners of the stitching on the stabilizer, making sure you have the open slots towards the top.</p> <p>Tape edges to stabilizer or hoop.</p> 

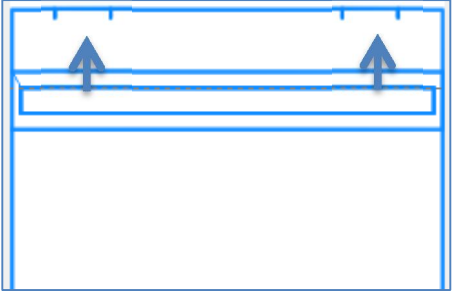


3C	<p>Turn the hoop over to the right side and return it to the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #3, stitching the credit card sleeve to the backside of the front.</p>
4A	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine.</p> <p>Remove the tape from the back.</p> <p>Place the hoop RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>
4B	<p>Note the two short lines coming in from the two short edges – the arrows in the example. These are the alignment lines for the top of the pocket.</p> 
4C	<p>Place the Front Pocket made in part 4 FACE UP on top of the inner pocket. The top edge of the pocket should be in line with the alignment marks on the front. The stitching on the sides and bottom of the pocket should line up with the stitching on the sides and bottom of the front.</p> <p>Tape securely in place.</p> 
4D	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #4, stitching the pocket to the front.</p> <p>Remove the tape.</p>
5A	<p>Note there are two short lines coming in from the top (left) edge –arrows in the example. These are the alignment lines for the sides of the flap.</p> 


5B	<p>Place the flap made in part 3 FACE UP in the hoop (lining against the pocket).</p> <p>Align the stitching line near the top edge of the flap with the stitching line at the top of the front.</p> <p>Center the flap between the two marks at the top of the case.</p> <p>Tape the bottom and sides of the flap securely. <i>There is usually not enough room to tape it at the top.</i></p>	
5C	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #5, stitching the flap in place.</p> <p>Don't worry if the stitching doesn't cover the entire width of the flap. It will be sewn more securely later.</p> <p>If you must stop the machine and back up to redo a section, remove the hoop first. Then back up to the desired position. If you return to the start of the color stop, be sure to advance the machine one stitch so the needle returns to the start position. Then and only then is it safe to return the hoop to the machine. <i>If your machine foot adjusts height according to what is under it when dropped, move to the thickest part of the project and restart from that position.</i></p>	
6	<p>Do NOT stitch Color #6. It is there to keep your machine from returning to center after finishing Color #6. Things are getting a little thick and this will keep your foot from running into something and getting out of alignment.</p>	
7	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine.</p> <p>Remove the project from the hoop.</p> <p>Remove the tape.</p>	
8	<p>Trim the excess stabilizer from the edges of the fabric. Do not trim the fabric at this time.</p> <p>Slide the flap inside the pocket.</p> <p>Lay aside.</p> <p>Continue with 7 Back, page 20.</p>	

7 Back	
	<p>Hoop one piece of mid-weight cutaway stabilizer. <i>Tear-away or wash-away will NOT hold everything together, so please do not attempt using them.</i></p> <p>Load 7Kathy_Back into your machine. In a vertical hoop, rotate the design in the hoop so the triangle on the long edge is to the right side. In a horizontal hoop, position it at the top.</p>
1	<p>Place the hoop on the machine. Stitch Color #1, the placement outline.</p> <p><i>The small triangle indicates the top edge of the purse.</i></p> 
2A	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine. Turn it over and place it WRONG SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>
2B	<p>Place the Lining (B) fabric FACE UP, centered over the placement stitches. Use washable glue stick, temporary spray adhesive, or masking tape to hold the lining in place.</p> <p><i>I use masking tape to secure the edges of the lining to the stabilizer. This keeps the edges of the fabric from flipping over when placing the hoop back on the machine. Try to keep the tape outside the placement stitching, as that is where the next stitching will go. Some machines do not like to stitch through tape.</i></p> 
2C	<p>Turn the hoop over and place it RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>
2D	<p>Place the Back (F) fabric FACE UP, centered over the placement stitching.</p> <p>Tape edges to stabilizer or hoop.</p> 

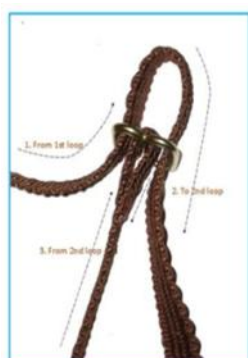
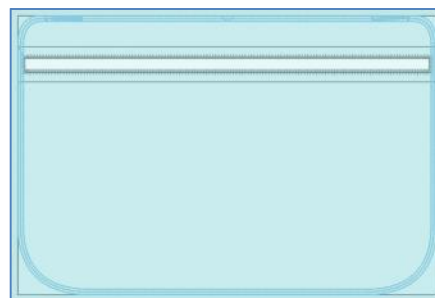
2E	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p> <p>Make sure that the lining is still lying smoothly underneath the hoop.</p> <p>Stitch Color #2, stitching the fabric and lining to the stabilizer. It also stitches the placement lines for the zipper.</p>	
3	<p>Stitch Color #3, the optional quilting.</p>	
4A	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine. Place it RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>	
4B	<p>Carefully trim away the fabric from inside the smaller rectangle inside the zipper placement stitching.</p> <p>Do NOT cut into the stabilizer. It must remain in place to help hold the zipper.</p> <p>Do NOT put the zipper down yet!</p>	
4C	<p>Turn the hoop over and place it WRONG SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>	
4D	<p>Carefully trim away the lining fabric from inside the smaller rectangle inside the zipper placement stitching.</p> <p>Do NOT cut into the stabilizer. It must remain in place to help hold the zipper.</p>	
4E	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p> <p>Stitch Color #4, zigzag stitching over the cut edges in the zipper area.</p>	
5A	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine. Place it RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>	

5B	<p>Place the zipper FACE UP, over the trimmed opening, centering the long edges between the outer placement stitching lines.</p> <p>The metal pull tab should be to the left (horizontal hoop) or to the bottom (vertical hoop). Place it and the metal stop at the end of the zipper well outside the stitching lines so the foot and needle will not hit them.</p> <p>Use strips of scotch tape to hold the zipper in place along both long sides, catching just the edge. <i>You may use Dritz Wonder Tape on the back of the zipper instead, if you prefer.</i></p> <p>Tape down the zipper pull tab so it points away from the case.</p>	
5C	<p>Return the hoop to the machine. Stitch Color #5, the decorative stitching on the zipper. Stop the machine at the end of the straight tackdown run to remove all of the scotch tape, just as it starts to do the fancy stitch.</p> <p><i>If you have to raise the foot at any time during this color stop, place a second zipper underneath the foot when you drop it again. Then slide the spare zipper back out. This will ensure that the foot is at the proper height and won't run into the zipper coils at the machine stitches.</i></p> <p><i>Try using a contrasting thread color for some cases and matching the thread color to the zipper for others.</i></p>	
6A	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine. Place it RIGHT SIDE UP on a flat surface.</p>	
6B	<p>OPEN THE ZIPPER HALFWAY! DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP!</p> <p>Take a sharp pair of scissors and poke a small hole through the stabilizer showing in the zipper opening. This will make it easier to trim the backing away later.</p>	

6C	<p>Note the short lines coming in from the top (left) edge – arrows in the example. These are the alignment lines for the strap tabs or loops.</p>	
6D	<p>Place one of the shoulder strap tabs (or cord loops) centered between the small alignment marks at the top left of the Back. The side you want seen when carrying the bag should be pressed against the bag.</p> <p>Place the raw edge of the tab (or loop) about 1/2" above the stitching line.</p> <p>Place the other tab (or loop) centered between the small alignment marks at the top right of the Back. The side you want seen when carrying the bag should be pressed against the bag. Place the raw edge of the tab (or loop) about 1/2" above the stitching line.</p> <p>Tape in place at raw edges, keeping tape away from the stitching line. Tape the metal loop down so it does not shift into the seam line.</p> <p><i>I do not recommend stitching the strap directly into the seam. There is too much going on there and it makes the center of the bag too bulky.</i></p>	
6E	<p>Tape the metal loops (if applicable) as far from the sides as you can get them. You don't want them getting under the foot.</p>	
6F	<p>Check that the zipper is open halfway.</p> <p>Place the prepared Front FACE DOWN on top of the Back. <i>Be sure the credit card slots face upwards.</i></p> <p>Match the 4 corners on both pieces as closely as possible.</p> <p>Tape securely on all four edges.</p> <p><i>Want to see how I match the pieces up perfectly? Visit my blog at http://tinyurl.com/PW-PutTogether</i></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">After Stitching</p>
6G	<p>Return the hoop to the machine.</p>	

6H	<p>Did I mention to double check that the zipper is open halfway?</p> <p>Stitch Color #6. <i>I usually match the thread to the outside fabric, not the lining so it isn't seen on the edges once the bag is turned right side out.</i></p> <p>It will go around once with a basting stitch. You can stop the machine if necessary and easily remove this round of stitches if you get a pucker or the fabric shifts</p> <p>The second round of stitching is a regular length sewing stitch.</p> <p>The third round is a zigzag to finish the case seam.</p> <p>If you must stop the machine and back up to redo a section, remove the hoop first. Then back up to the desired position. If you return to the start of the color stop, be sure to advance the machine one stitch so the needle returns to the start position. Then and only then is it safe to return the hoop to the machine. <i>If your machine foot adjusts height according to what is under it when dropped, move to the thickest part of the project and restart from that position.</i></p>
7	<p>Do not stitch Color #7. It is there to keep the foot from returning to the center of the embroidery.</p>
8	<p>Remove the hoop from the machine.</p> <p>Remove the project from the hoop.</p> <p>Remove all tape.</p>
9	<p>One last time, check that the zipper is open halfway. It is too late to fix it after you trim! If you forgot to open it, carefully open the seam; push the zipper pull through to the inside, then stitch the purse shut on your regular sewing machine.</p>
10	<p>Trim away all excess fabric and stabilizer trimming as close as you can to the zigzag stitching without cutting thru it. Cut right thru the zipper but don't use your best shears!</p> <p>Take this slowly. You may need to do it in several layers. The narrower your seam allowance, the better your curved seams will look without having to clip them.</p> <p>You may cut away the stitching at the corners that were used for placement stitching, but do not cut into any of the zigzag stitches.</p> <p>I also try not to cut the ends off of the case strap. I like to leave them a little longer to help prevent them from unraveling.</p> 

11	Steam press the stitching lines to set the seam.
12	<p>Carefully trim away the stabilizer from behind the zipper. Cut close to but do not cut into the decorative stitches.</p> <p>Tip: Find the zipper tab and push the point of your scissors or a seam ripper in at that point. It will protect your zipper tape from an accidental slit.</p>
13	<p>Reach in and open the zipper the whole way.</p> <p>Tip: If the zipper won't move, reach in and flip the tab upward. The zipper is locked when the tab is pointed down. It sometimes helps to push the zipper closed a bit and then push it open.</p>
14	Turn the case right side out through the opening in the zipper. Use a point turner to help push the edges of the seams outward.
15	Steam press the case being very careful not to melt the zipper. Use a pressing cloth to protect the fabric and zipper.
16	<p>Finish the cut ends of your strap using your favorite method. Loop the cut ends through the rings on two gate clips, and sew the loop shut across the cut end. Don't forget to add a slider to one side if you want to make your strap adjustable.</p> <p>Clip the gate clips to the metal rings on the purse.</p> <p><i>See below for pictures showing the slider attachment.</i></p>



Close-ups of slider



Where I get my "special" supplies:

Medium Cutaway and Lite and Sheer (polymesh) stabilizers, thread, needles, bobbins
www.terraddonembroidery.com

Webbing for straps and other items for purse making – www.countrybrookdesigns.com

Gate clips and sliders – www.usalanyards.com

Gate clips, D rings, magnetic snaps, etc.
<http://stores.ebay.com/ID-and-Purse-Supplies-R-Us>

Other hardware sites – www.thebuckleGuy.com www.strapworks.com

Snaps and Snap Setters: www.crystaleyecandy.com <http://www.kamsnaps.com/>

Zippers: www.wawak.com www.zipperstop.com *Purchase all zippers in the longest length you think you will need. You will be cutting them off when making the case. The extra cost is minute.*