

Zippers: Centered Zipper

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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/zippers-centered-zipper>



Uses: This is your standard zipper seam, generally used for zippers that run down the back or front of a garment. Can also be used in making bags, etc. Check out more techniques at: <http://sewhappyclothes.blogspot.com/search/label/Techniques>.

Step 1 — Measure and position



Place the zipper in position and mark the spot on the fabric where the metal stopper at the end of the zipper is. Sew a baste stitch along the seam at 5/8" where the zipper will be. When you get to the mark, secure the thread with a backstitch and continue down the rest of the seam with a regular stitch at 5/8" seam allowance (or what the pattern calls for).

Step 2 — Baste the zipper



Lay the zipper over the basted part of the seam so that the zipper teeth are directly over the seam. To baste in place, you have several options: 1) pin and machine baste, 2) secure with Steam-A-Seam 2 or other fusible tape, 3) secure with Wonder Tape or other wash-away basting tape. I used the fusible tape, but I think the wash-away tape might be your best bet. Whichever way you do it, attach the zipper to the selvage only.

Step 3 — Sew



With the zipper basted in place, flip the fabric over to the right side. Starting at the bottom of the zipper on the right side, sew across the bottom and up the left side, leaving a 1/4" margin (you can use 1/4" tape to help you sew at the right distance). Repeat with the other side, starting at the right and sewing across the bottom and up the left hand side. You do not need to backstitch when you start your stitch because you will be reinforcing it by sewing across the bottom twice. This eliminates bulk and unsightly extra stitches.

Step 4 — Remove basting



Rip open the basted stitches down the middle of the seam to reveal your zipper.

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