

## Peek-a-boo WINDOW BAG

### Materials for 3 Medium Window Bags

$\frac{3}{4}$  yard of double sided quilted fabric

$\frac{1}{2}$  yard of heavy weight Mylar vinyl

One (14") nylon zipper (\*Note: follow instructions below for shortening the zipper after you sew it onto zipper strips)

Notions: Thread to match, 13" nylon web (1 inch wide), ribbon bow and button

### Window Bag cutting instructions:

$\frac{3}{4}$  Yard of double quilted fabric will make 3 bags. Determine the width of the bag by measuring the width of the fabric less seam allowances and divide this number by 3. (Usually about 14")

Cut 1 piece of quilted fabric for the bag: 14" wide by 18  $\frac{1}{2}$ " long

Cut 2 pieces of quilted fabric for the zipper strips: 14" by 2  $\frac{1}{4}$ "

Cut 1 piece of heavy weight Mylar vinyl 14" by 9"

Use 13" of 1" wide nylon web with short ends melted to eliminate fraying

Cut and tie about 9" of ribbon. Fray check the ends

(Note: for a **large bag**, cut 1 piece of quilted 20  $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide by 26" long; cut 2 pieces for zipper strips 20  $\frac{1}{2}$ " by 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ "; cut Mylar Vinyl 20  $\frac{1}{2}$ " by 14"; use 14" webbing (1 inch wide) for handles and use a 22" nylon zipper\*)

**Assemble:** Before assembling, zig zag or serge all the edges of all quilted fabric pieces.

1. Pin the right side of one side of the zipper tape to the right side of one of the 2  $\frac{1}{4}$ " by 14" strips along the 14" side. Place the bottom metal stop of the zipper  $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the start of the zipper strip. \*Note: The zipper will be a little too long. Allow it to hang off the edge. Do NOT cut it off. Use a zipper foot. Stitch the first side about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from the zipper teeth. Finger press and pin the strip so the zipper strip folds and the zipper tape lays flat. Top stitch about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from the folded edge which is near the zipper. Repeat for the second side, making sure the short edges of the fabric strips are even at the beginning and ends. Zip the zipper so the zipper pull is within the fabric area and not beyond where the zipper extends over the edge. Whip stitch the zipper together so the whip stitching will be inside the seam allowance. This creates a new zipper stop. Now unzip the zipper at least 4". You will need this opening to turn the bag later. You will cut the extra zipper off later.
2. Put a pin in the center of the top of the 14" wide bag fabric. Center the web 2" on each side of the pin, so it loops down on the right side of the fabric. Baste in place  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from edge. Avoid sewing through the melted edge.
3. Sew one 14" edge of the large bag piece right sides together with the 14" zipper strip where the web is basted. Make sure the web hangs down (like a U) on the quilted fabric. Stitch with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Stitch twice.
4. Place a strip of scotch tape on the bottom of your sewing foot. Make the tape longer than needed and fold back a little edge to make it easier to remove. This will help the vinyl to move along better. Sew the other side of the zipper strip right sides together with the vinyl using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Fold the seam up so it is not seen through the vinyl and topstitch. Note: I have better luck sewing from the quilted side and letting the feed dogs move the vinyl along. Be sure to avoid sewing over the zipper metal stop. Try both ways to see what you prefer.
5. Sew the bottom of the vinyl to the bottom of the bag fabric along the other 14" side, using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Fold so the seam does not show through the vinyl and topstitch.
6. Position your bag so the bottom edge of the bag fabric turns up several inches which will happen if the top of the bag is the seam that has the handle in it. Pin and stitch the side edges with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Make sure to avoid sewing over the metal zipper stop. \*Note: You will be sewing over the zipper teeth on the other side. Make sure the zipper is open for several inches and that the whip stitch will be caught in the seam. Top stitch as described in step 5. Stitch side seams. At this point you may cut the excess length of the zipper off so it is even with the seam allowance edge. Turn the bag through the open zipper. Add a button and bow and you have a completed WINDOW BAG to enjoy!

## Information for FACS Teachers

**WINDOW BAG:** Instructors for Summer FACS Conference 2014: Grayce Rees [facsgraycerees@gmail.com](mailto:facsgraycerees@gmail.com) and Michelle Stott [lstott@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:lstott@alpinedistrict.org) . This class was previously taught by Carolyn Washburn from USU Extension, Washington County.

**Supplies:** JoAnn's has a good supply of double sided quilted fabric for about \$20 per yard, so use a coupon! Wal-Mart has the best prices on 1" Nylon web (if they have enough of it) and Mylar Vinyl. Be sure and get a heavy weight. JoAnn's has Mylar Vinyl too and with a coupon it might be cheaper. The best source for zippers is online at [sewtrue.com/Shop](http://sewtrue.com/Shop) or call 1-800-sew true (739-8783). They have all types of zippers. Standard nylon coil zippers range from \$ .44 to \$1.15 depending on length, plus shipping and handling. It took about 2 ½ weeks to get the order.

This project is an excellent project for more advanced Clothing I students, perhaps towards the end of the term. It is also a good project for Clothing II students. Below the Standards and Objectives are listed for each class:

### Clothing I

Standard 3, Objective 2: Discuss how fabric construction affects the selection of fabric. Identify correct fabric for a project. *(This project introduces students to double sided quilted fabric and nonwoven Mylar vinyl. Discuss their uses.)*

Standard 4, Objective 4: Correctly pin and cut out the fabric pieces. Use correct spacing and positioning of pins. *(Instruct students to pin in the seam allowances on the Mylar vinyl. Demonstrate the marks the pins leave in the vinyl if they are pinned in the main area of the vinyl.)*

Standard 5: Objective 3: Compare and select correct needles. *(Discuss why a larger needle (size 14 or size 90) is best suited for quilted fabric and heavy Mylar vinyl.)*

Standard 6, Objective 1: Complete appropriate seam finishes. *(Instruct student to either serge or zig zag the quilted fabric. Discuss pros and cons of each method. Instruct students that there is no need to add a seam finish to the Mylar vinyl fabric. Discuss why.)*

Standard 6, Objective 5: Attach a button by using a hand needle and thread

Standard 6, Objective 8: Complete the whipstitch

### Clothing II

Standard 1, Objective 3 c: Identify and use appropriate temperature settings for various fabrics with different fiber content.

*(Discuss with the students why it is important NOT to iron the Mylar Vinyl fabric since it will melt. Discuss how ironing quilted fabric flattens it. Use of a steamer on quilted fabrics is acceptable.)*

Standard 2, Objective 1: Students will distinguish the different types of fabric and fiber characteristics. *(This project introduces students to double sided quilted fabric and nonwoven Mylar vinyl. Discuss their uses.)*

Standard 4, Objective 6: Identify each of the following zipper applications and construct one or more: centered, lapped, fly, exposed/sport, invisible. *Students will apply the exposed/sport zipper in this project.*

**A Note about zippers:** The size of the bag can be adjusted but the recommended sizes utilize the fabric without as much waste. The recommended sizes do NOT coincide well with zipper sizes. If waste is not an issue, cut the smaller bag 14 ¾" wide and the larger bag 22 ¾" wide. These sizes will accommodate a 14" and 22" without having to cut off the end. Do not use a smaller zipper without adjusting the bag size because you will have a gap at the ends and will not be able to open the bag completely. In my opinion, learning how to successfully shorten a zipper is a good skill. When I am shortening a zipper where the top will be caught in a seam, I shorten the zipper from the top. If the top will not be caught in a seam (such as the top of a dress zipper), I shorten it by sewing a thread whipstitch or a machine bartack at the bottom.