



... Free patterns



Mini Purses

flat & puffy

Information

Skill Level & Techniques Involved

Intermediate to advance

You only need basic sewing skills but as the purses are small, it can be a little fiddly.

Finished Size

W 9.5 cm (3.75") x H 6.5 cm (2.5")
(excluding the clasp)

Materials Required (for two purses)

1 x Exterior fabric W 38 cm (15") x L 25 cm (9.8")

1 x Interior fabric W 38 cm (15") x L 25 cm (9.8")

1 x [Vilene General Purpose Single-Sided Fusible Woven Interlining](#) W 38 cm (15") x L 25 cm (9.8")

1 x [Vilene Fusible Fleece Single-Sided: Light Loft](#) W 38 cm (15") x L 25 cm (9.8") (this is optional - use it if you would like the purse to have a little "puffiness")

2 x [Mini Round Purse Frame](#)

1 x [Paper cord for purse making](#) L 30 cm (12.0")

You will need

- Sewing machine (you can hand sew it too)
- Matching thread
- Pins
- Iron
- Something pointy (e.g. small flat screw driver or our [hand-held purse inserting tool](#)) for inserting the purse into the frame.
- Glue (in this example UHU textile glue was used - It's great for small purses as you can easily spread the glue in the frame gap using a stick. Also, you can easily clean the frame surface (not the fabric) using acetone. You can use other glue such as Güttermann textile glue.)
- Small piece of waste fabric



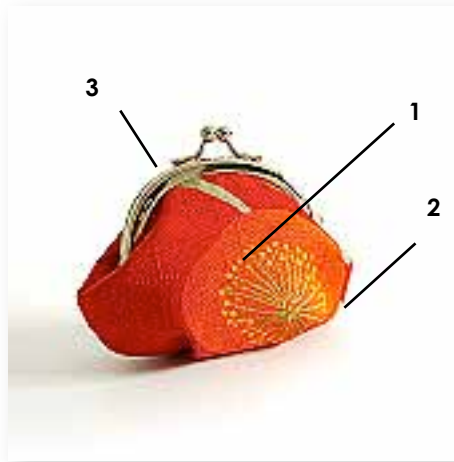
By Kyoko Nakayoshi

Order of Making

1. Preparation
2. Sewing
3. Assembly

Note:

The patterns provided are for **flat and puffy** styles. The image on the right is the puffy style. On page 4 you can see the differences between the flat and puffy purses.



Note:

RS - right side

WS - wrong side

1. Preparation

Before you cut the fabrics, Place the general purpose woven interlining with the glue facing up. Place the exterior fabrics with the WS facing down on top of the woven interlinings (**fig 1**). Using an iron, fuse the interlining onto the WS of the exterior fabrics.



Fig 1. For small purses, it is better to fuse the interlinings first before cutting out the pattern.

If you are also using fusible fleece:

Place the Vilene light loft fusible fleece with the glue facing up. Place the interior fabrics with the WS facing down on top of the fleece. Using an iron, fuse the interlining onto the WS of the exterior fabric.

**Do not iron the actual fleece as this will melt the fleece and stick to the iron!*

With the pattern provided, cut out the fabric. Make sure all the notches are transferred as this will make your life easier later! (**fig. 2**). Use half for one purse and the other for the second purse.

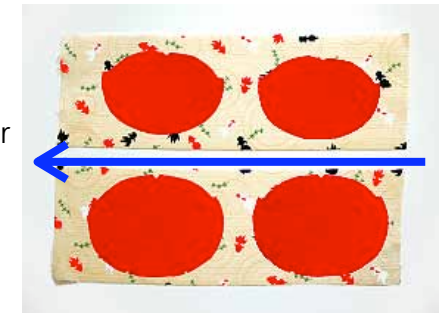


Fig 2. Cut the fabric horizontally (blue arrow). Each piece should be enough to make one purse (both puffy and flat)

You should now have two exterior and interior pieces per purse (**fig. 3**).

F1 & F2: Exterior pieces for the flat style.

F3 & F4: Interior pieces for the flat style

P1 & P2: Exterior pieces for the puffy style.

P3 & P4: Interior pieces for the puffy style.

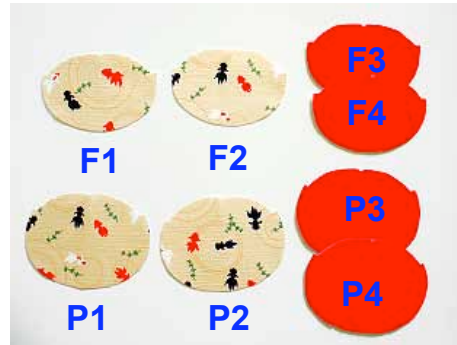


Fig. 3

2. Sewing

Puffy Style Only:

Fold the exterior piece with the RS facing together at one of the notches.

Pin and stitch 1 cm inwards with 1 cm from the edge (**fig. 4**).

Repeat for the other notch. Fold the two pleats inwards and baste 2.5 mm from the edge (**fig. 5**).

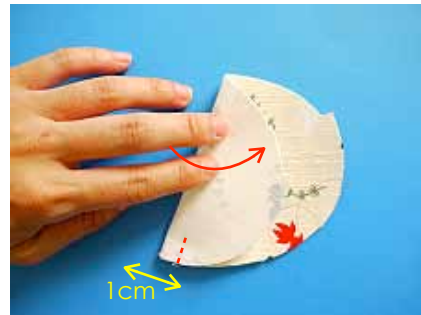


Fig 4.



Fig 5.

Repeat this process for all the exterior and interior pieces (P1 to P4) (**fig. 6**).

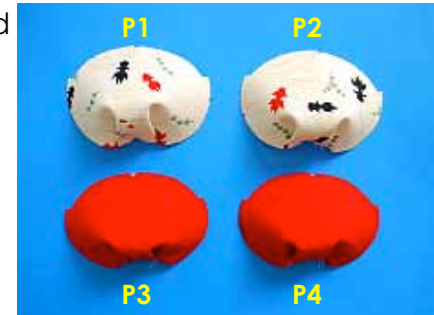


Fig 6.

Both Puffy & Flat Style

With the RS facing together, stitch the side seams for both interior and exterior (5 mm seam allowance). Make a few notches around the corner. This will make it easier to turn right side out later (**fig. 7**).

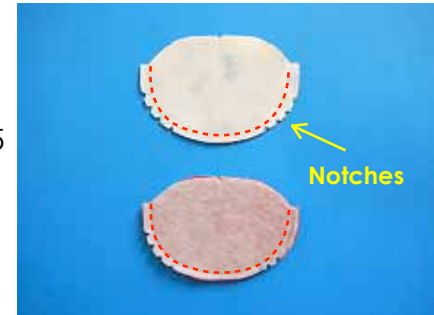


Fig. 7.

For the best result, turn the exterior piece right side out and finger-press the seam lines to let the piece get used to its shape (**fig. 8**). Then turn the exterior piece wrong side out once again.



Fig 8.

Turn the interior piece right side out. Insert the interior piece into the exterior with the right sides together. Ensure the seamlines are matched (red and yellow arrows) (**fig. 9**).

Stitch between the two notches via the seamline 5 mm from the edge (red dotted line) (**fig. 10**).

Lift the pressor foot while the needle is still down to turn the corner at the seamline if necessary (**fig. 11**).



Fig 9. Match the seamline for interior and exterior pieces.



Fig 10. Stitch the side 5 mm from the edge along the red dotted line.

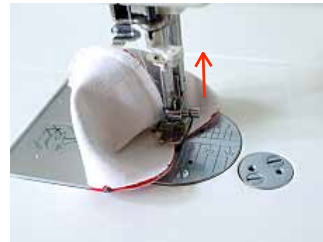


Fig 11. To turn the corner, lift the pressor foot if necessary.

Turn the work right side out. Make sure the seamline is pressed neatly (**fig. 12**).

Trim any excess interior fabric sticking out (if any).



Fig 12.

Match the top centre notches for the interior and exterior (yellow arrow) and place pins (**fig. 13**). Top stitch the raw edge with the interior side facing up (**fig. 14**) no more than 5 mm from the edge. Repeat for the other side.

This is how your purse should now look like (**fig.15**).



Fig 13.



Fig 14.



Fig 15. After top stitching the raw edges (yellow dotted lines)

See the difference between puffy and flat style purses!



Puffy style



Flat style

3. Assembly

* The frame used in fig. 16 and 17 is larger than the one used in the actual purse to help show the correct method of gluing more clearly.

Apply fabric glue into the gap of the purse frame (**fig. 16**). Do not apply too much as this may cause glue to overflow. Using something pointy, evenly spread the glue making sure all surfaces are covered (**fig. 17**).

Match the centre of the purse to the frame (**fig. 18**). Using something pointy (I used a small flat screw driver) push the purse into the frame. Use the sewn line as a guide for where to push in (**fig. 19**). I find it easier to start from the center and then work both sides as this allows me to adjust the position of the purse more precisely. For the best result, tighten the surface carefully (**fig. 20**).



Fig 16.



Fig 17.



Fig 18.



Fig 19.



Fig 20.

Slightly unwind the paper cord and push it into the gap of the frame (**fig. 21**). Trim the paper cord approx. 0.5 cm before the corner of the purse. Using something pointy, push the cotton thread all the way into the frame (I have use the hand-held purse inserting tool) (**fig. 22**). Make sure this process is done properly as it ensures bonding the purse to the metal frame.

Cover the corner of the frame with waste fabric. Squeeze gently to secure the purse into place with the pliers (**fig. 23**).



Fig 21. Inserting a paper cord ensures the purse held securely to the frame.



Fig 22.



Fig 23.

About Cotton & Cloud

Cotton & Cloud is a small UK-based online business with a big ambition. It is *the* place for knitters and sewers to nurture their creativity with Japanese inspiration.

There are loads of special patterns and kits with many Japanese craft books and fabrics. Part of our profit is donated to charity. Our ultimate goal is for everyone to enjoy making things and help craft a difference!



Come and join [Cotton & Cloud Flickr photo group](#) to show off your knitting! you can also e-mail me the photos for me to put to our gallery page. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for choosing my pattern!

Kyoko



Cotton & Cloud

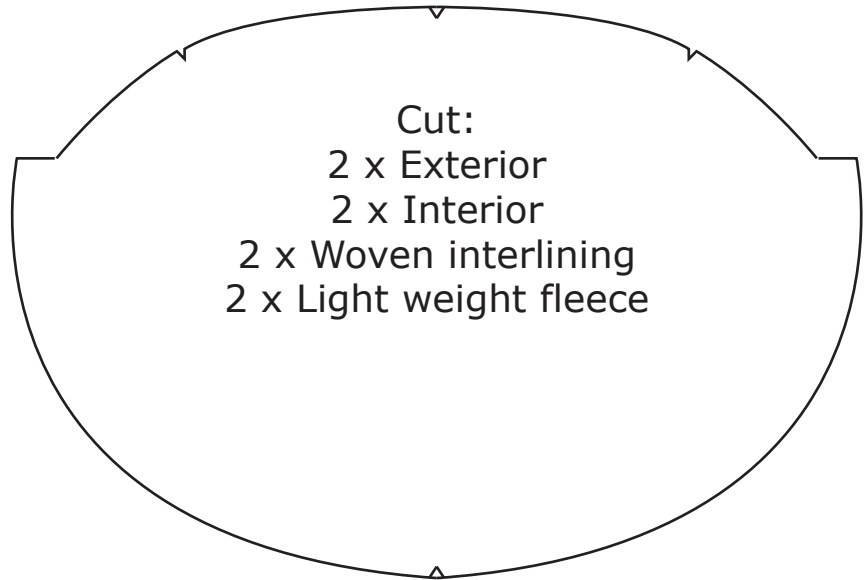
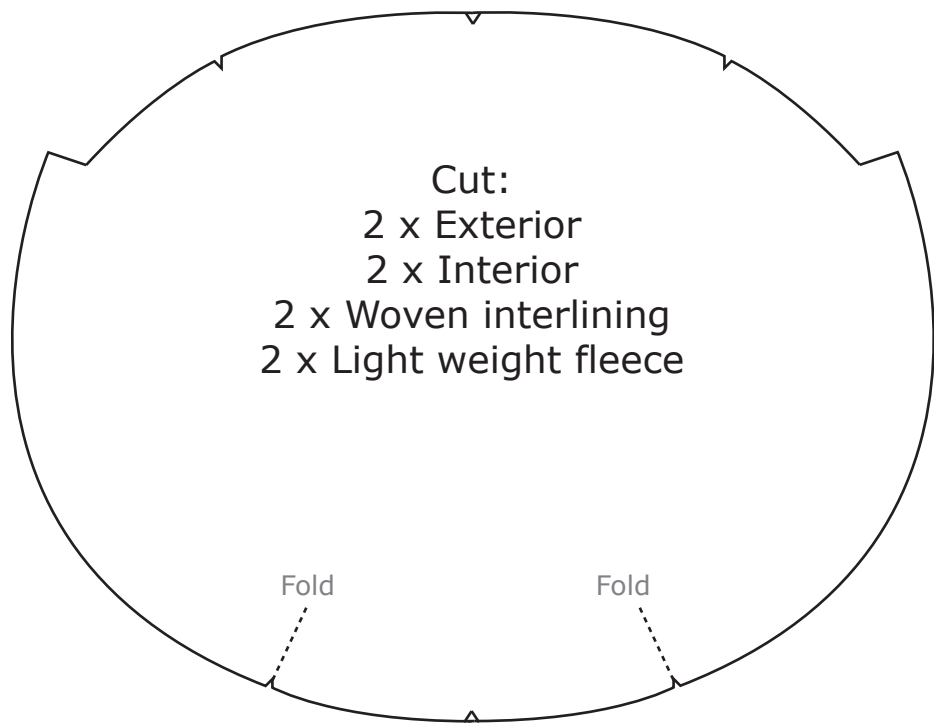
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Note

5mm seam allowance is included.

Make sure the print setting is marked as "DO NOT SCALE".

Using the light weight fleece is optional.