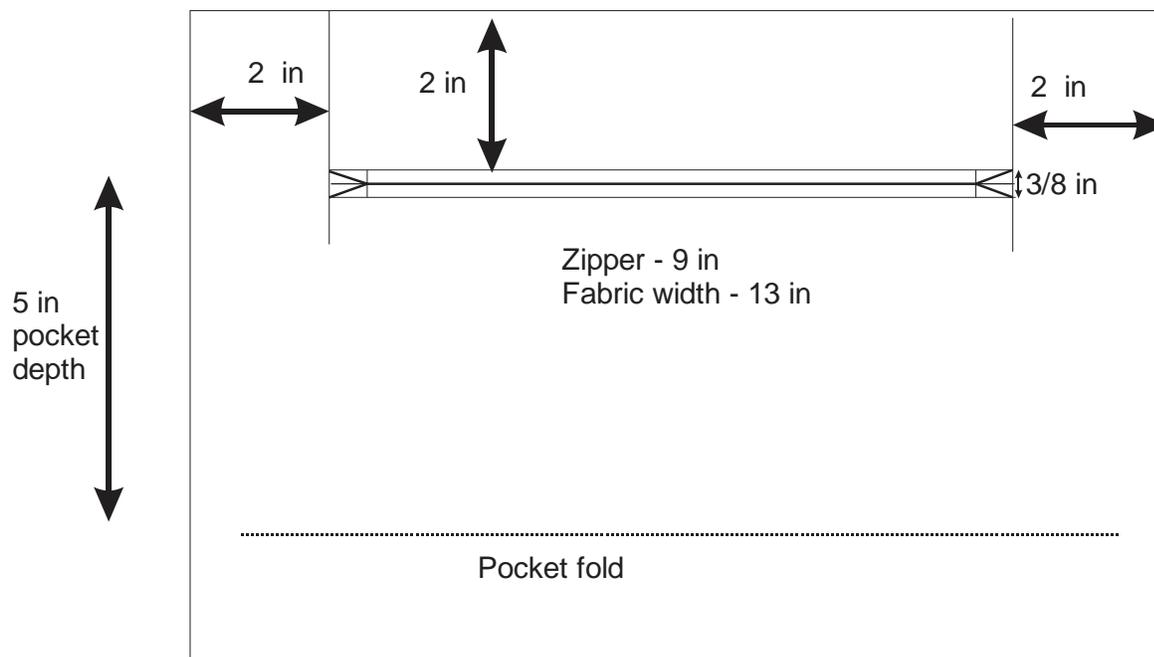
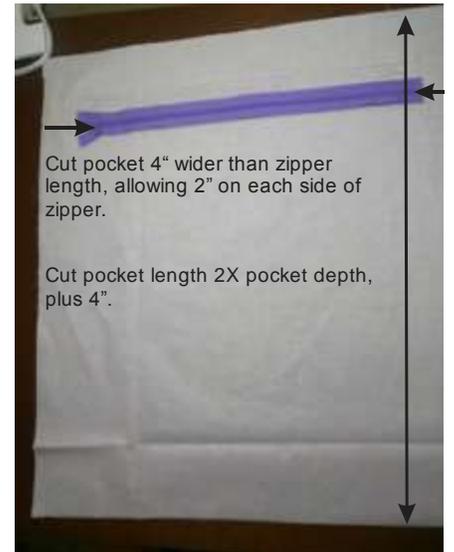


“Easy-Peasy” Zippered Pocket

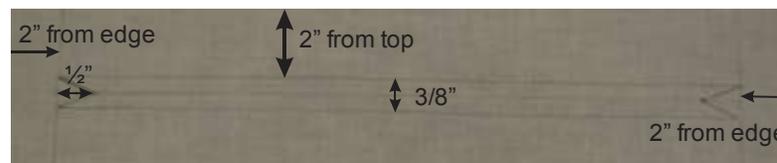
YouTube tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKAY8bVpAbs>

1. Cut your pocket fabric
 - Cut it 4 inches wider than the length of the zipper (not including the tabs) So, if you have a 14 inch zipper, cut the fabric 18 inches wide.
 - Cut it 2x the depth of the desired pocket, plus 4 inches. So, if you want a pocket that is 8 inches deep, cut the fabric 20 inches long.

Note: it is possible to get by with less margin around the pocket, but I find it easier to sew the pocket closed when there is more fabric around the edges. The YouTube tutorial recommends using lightweight interfacing on the wrong side (outside) of the pocket fabric.



2. On the pocket, draw a centered line as long as the zipper and 2 inches below the top of the fabric. Draw a parallel line $\frac{3}{8}$ " below the first line. Draw a third line midway between the two lines. Make a box, then draw arrows as shown in diagram.



3. Pin the pocket wrong side up on the right side of your tote bag fabric. Center the pocket on the tote bag fabric. The zipper will be placed along the middle line. Determine how far down you want the zipper to be. (Remember to allow for the two inches margin of pocket fabric.)



4. Starting in the middle of one of the outer long lines, stitch around the box, overlapping the starting stitches.
5. Use a seam ripper to start cutting through the pocket and tote bag fabrics along the middle line. Once you have some room to work, switch to scissors to cut along the line and to cut out the arrows.



6. Pull the pocket through the opening. Do your best to press the fabric out so that the opening is rectangular and the fabric lays flat.



7. Pin, tape (quilters' tape) or hand baste the zipper in place. *I find it helpful to pin the four corners of the pocket to the tote bag. This way it doesn't accidentally get caught up while sewing the zipper.*



8. Using a zipper foot, sew the zipper using about a 1/8" distance from the edge of the opening. Start in the middle of one long side and overlap stitches when done. It can be helpful to slightly open the zipper.



9. Now pin the top and sides of the pocket fabric together. Sew around the pocket, being careful to just sew the pocket.



10. You're done!

