



*The Magic
in the Middle*

The Hot Mess Casserole Carrier

Skill Level: Intermediate

Designed By
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Sewn By
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This casserole carrier is the perfect companion to your on-the-go meal. It conveniently holds a 13" x 9" baking dish. Sturdy straps and an insulated lining make this bag the perfect treat for yourself, or awe-inspiring as a hostess gift. Your handmade casserole carrier will outshine any dish. Finished size is 13-1/2" x 9-1/2" x 5".

Fabrics Needed

Exterior fabric	1 yard
Lining fabric	1 yard
Strap fabric	1/4 yard

Materials Needed

Pellon® SF101 Shape-Flex®	1-1/2 yards
Pellon® TP971 Fusible Thermolam® Plus	1 yard
Pellon® 520 Deco-Fuse™	3/4 yard
Pellon® 975 Insul-Fleece™	1/2 yard
Pellon® 810 Tru-Grid™ (optional)	1-1/4 yards
Zipper	One 36"
Double-fold bias tape	One package
Thread	

Tools Needed

Sewing machine and related supplies
Rotary cutter and related supplies

<http://www.pellonprojects.com>

Graphic Artist Alexandra Henry

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Cutting and Assembly Instructions

Seam allowances are 1/2" unless otherwise noted.
Follow manufacturer's instructions for all fusing.

See the Tru-Grid™ Layout Page for cutting instructions.

Fuse the Thermolam® Plus to the wrong side of the exterior side panel. Repeat this step for both exterior main panels and the exterior zipper panel.

Center and fuse one piece of the Deco-Fuse™ to the wrong side of one exterior main panel. Repeat for the remaining exterior main panel.

Fuse the corresponding piece of Shape-Flex® to the wrong side of one of the handle pieces. Repeat for the remaining handle piece, the lining side panel, and the lining zipper panel.

Using a kitchen glass for a template, round out the corners of the fused exterior main panels and the lining main panels. Trim.

Baste the Insul-Fleece™ to the wrong side of the lining main panels using a 1/4" seam allowance. The metallic side of the Insul-Fleece™ should be facing the wrong side of the fabric. After basting in place, quilt the fabric if desired.

Attach the Zipper

Trim the zipper to 36" if necessary. Draw a horizontal line 1" from one long edge on the exterior zipper panel. Cut along this line. Repeat for the lining zipper panel.

Place the larger piece of the exterior zipper panel right side up. Place the zipper right side down along the top edge as shown. Pin in place. Stitch the zipper in place using a 1/4" seam allowance along the entire length of the zipper.



Place the larger piece of the lining zipper panel right side up with the long edge at the top. Place the exterior piece right side down onto the lining fabric piece with the zipper at the top. Pin in place. Sew directly on top of the stitching from the previous step, except stop and start 1/2" from each end.



Turn the fabrics from the previous step so the wrong sides are facing. Press. Top stitch along the edge of the exterior fabric pieces from one end of the zipper to the other, 1/8" away from the zipper tape. Start and stop 1/2" from each end.

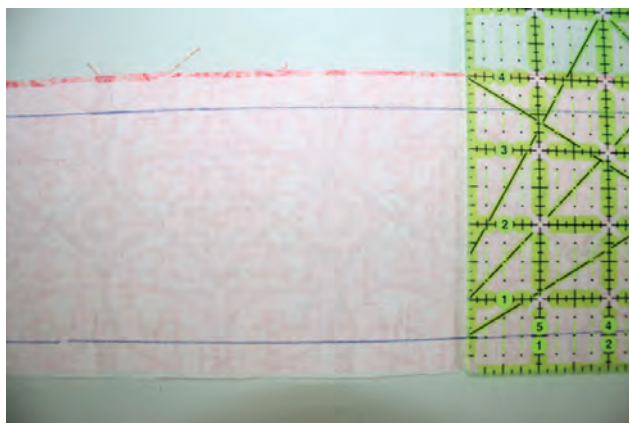


Repeat these steps for the other side of the zipper and the small pieces of the exterior zipper panel and the lining zipper panel.



Making The Handles - Make two

To make two handles, complete the following steps twice. Press one handle in half lengthwise, with wrong sides together. Measure and make two marks. One mark will be $\frac{1}{2}$ " down from the top long edge and the other $\frac{1}{2}$ " up from the bottom long edge. Press along these marks toward the wrong side of the fabric.



Press the handle in half again, enclosing the long raw edges. Topstitch the long edges of the strap using a $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam allowance.



Make a mark that is in $10\frac{1}{2}$ " from each short end of the handle. Fold the handle in half lengthwise between those marks. Pin in place.



Sew on top of the folded area on both edges using a 1/8" seam allowance between the marks.



Make two marks on the exterior zipper panel that are 14-1/2" in from each short edge. Place the completed handle to the inside of the marks on the exterior zipper panel. The raw edge of the handle should be even with the raw edges of the exterior zipper panel. Pin in place.



Draw a horizontal line on top of each handle that is 4" up from the bottom of the exterior zipper panel.



On top of the previous line of stitching and starting at the bottom edge, sew on top of the handle using a 1/8" seam allowance. Pivot at the drawn line and stitch across on that line. Pivot again and stitch back down the handle to the raw edge.



Place the exterior side panel and the lining side panel wrong sides together. Pin to hold the pieces together. Make marks 2" in from each short edge on the exterior fabric.

Using the remaining handle piece, repeat the steps to stitch the handle to the side panel through both layers.



Move the lining fabric on the zipper panel and side panel out of the way. Sew the completed exterior zipper panel and the exterior side panel right sides together along one short edge. Repeat with the remaining short edge of the exterior zipper panel. Only the exterior fabrics will be sewn.

Fold the lining fabric on the short side of the lining side panels in 1/2". Press. Overlap the lining fabric on the lining zipper panels by 1/2". Pin. Either handstitch the lining down or top stitch the edge in place.

Align the raw edges of the exterior and lining both on the top and bottom edges. Baste together using a 1/8" seam allowance.

Assemble The Carrier

Place one exterior main panel and one lining main panel wrong sides together. Baste in place using a 1/8" seam allowance. Repeat for the remaining exterior main panel and lining main panel.

Draw a line on all four corners of both main panels in the same place. This will help align the panels when sewing the second main panel to the zipper panel.

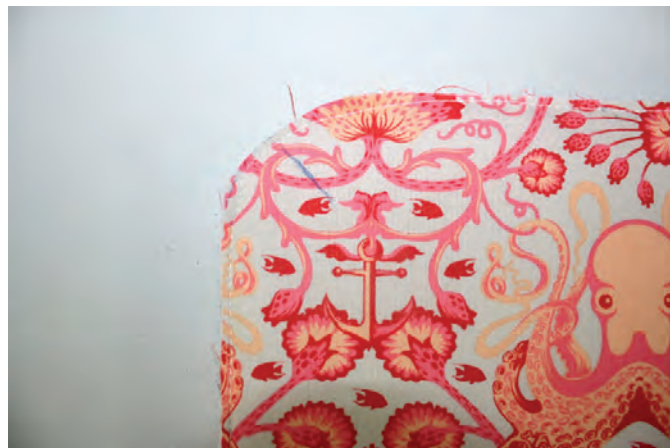
Place the long edge of zipper/side panel against the raw edge of the main panel exterior sides together. Pin in place. All handles should be 3-1/2" in from each respective corner. Ease gently through the curve. Make sure the handles are placed inside so they are not sewn over. Sew along the pinned edge. Press the seam toward the zipper/side panel.

Unzip the zipper at least halfway. Repeat the previous step to attach the remaining main panel to the zipper/side panel.

Turn the bag so that the lining side is facing up. Gently push out the corners so the raw edges are exposed. Open up the bias tape. Press in one short edge 1/2". Beginning with one panel, pin the pressed edge of the tape, ease the tape all along the entire raw edge of the panel. The long edge of the tape should be aligned with the raw edge of the zipper/side panel. When pinned all around, trim the tape 1/2" past where the two edges of the tape meet. This will enclose the raw edge of the tape. Sew on top of the bias tape, along the first pressed edge to secure it in place.

Fold the bias tape over to the other side. Tuck the raw end of the tape inside the folded end. Pin in place. Stitch on top of the bias tape using a 1/4" seam allowance.

Repeat these steps for the raw edge on the other panel. Turn bag right side out and press gently on low heat. Prolonged exposure to 400° and above temperature can cause Insul-Fleece™ to melt.



Tru-Grid™ Layout for The Hot Mess Casserole Carrier

Use Tru-Grid™ to make pattern pieces or cut out the required pieces using rotary cutter equipment.

