

PATTERN
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PROJECT: Cute Keeper

Stitch an organizer that holds a small notebook, writing utensils, and additional stationery items.

INSPIRED BY: *Jot It Down* from designer Heidi Staples of Fabric Mutt (fabricmutt.blogspot.com)

PROJECT TESTER: Jan Ragaller



FABRICS are from the Sunkiss collection by Tilda Fabrics (devonstonesquare.com).

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ORGANIZER

Finished size: 9½×12" (open),
6×9½" (closed)

MATERIALS

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

- ❑ 9×21" piece (fat eighth) lime green floral (exterior)
- ❑ ½ yard muslin (interfacing)
- ❑ ½ yard blue linen (exterior, interior lining)
- ❑ 18×21" piece (fat quarter) light pink floral (large pocket)
- ❑ 18×21" piece (fat quarter) aqua print (small pocket)
- ❑ 9×21" piece (fat eighth) dark pink floral (pocket flaps)
- ❑ 9×21" piece (fat eighth) light green floral (pocket flaps)
- ❑ ¼ yard white floral (binding)
- ❑ 11×13½" batting
- ❑ Basting spray
- ❑ 2"-long piece ⅞"-wide yellow polka dot ribbon (optional)
- ❑ 3—¾"-diameter buttons: aqua
- ❑ Clover Hera marking tool (optional)
- ❑ 2 elastic hair bands
- ❑ 2—5½×9" rectangles extra-firm sew-in interfacing

CUT FABRICS

Cut pieces in the following order.

From lime green floral, cut:

- 1—5½×9½" rectangle

From muslin, cut:

- 1—9½×12" rectangle
- 1—6×12" rectangle
- 2—4½×6" rectangles
- 1—4×12" rectangle

From blue linen, cut:

- 1—9½×12" rectangle
- 1—7×9½" rectangle

From light pink floral, cut:

- 1—12×12½" rectangle

From aqua print, cut:

- 1—8½×12" rectangle

From dark pink floral, cut:

- 2—5×6½" rectangles

From light green floral, cut:

- 2—5×6½" rectangles

From white floral, cut:

- 2—2×42" binding strips

ASSEMBLE EXTERIOR

- 1) Referring to **Diagram 1**, use basting spray to adhere wrong side of lime green floral 5½×9½" rectangle to right-hand half of batting 11×13½" rectangle ½" from top and right-hand edges.
- 2) Turn Step 1 unit over. Referring to **Diagram 2**, use basting spray to adhere muslin 9½×12" rectangle to batting rectangle ½" from top and left-hand edges. Turn unit so lime green floral rectangle is up.
- 3) Quilt lime green floral rectangle as desired. Project tester Jan Ragaller machine-quilted horizontal straight lines 1½" apart (see photo on *page 1*).
- 4) If desired, fold yellow polka dot ⅞×2" ribbon in half crosswise with wrong side inside. Stitch ⅛" from raw edges. Align ribbon raw edges with left-hand edge of lime green floral rectangle ¾" from bottom; baste.
- 5) Referring to **Diagram 3**, place blue linen 7×9½" rectangle right side down on quilted lime green floral rectangle; align left-hand edges. Sew ¼" from left-hand edges. Fold blue linen rectangle open; press. Use basting spray to adhere blue linen rectangle to batting.
- 6) Quilt blue linen rectangle as desired. Jan machine-quilted vertical straight lines spaced 1½" apart. Trim unit to 9½×12" to make exterior (**Diagram 4**).

ASSEMBLE INTERIOR

Interior Flap Pattern is on *page 6*. To make a template of the pattern, see "Make and Use Templates" on *page 7*.

- 1) With wrong side inside, fold light pink floral 12×12½" rectangle in half widthwise to make a 6¼×12" large pocket (**Diagram 5**); unfold. Repeat with aqua print 8½×12" rectangle to make a 4¼×12" small pocket.
- 2) Use basting spray to adhere muslin 6×12" rectangle to wrong side of half the large pocket; refold. Topstitch ⅛" from folded edge (**Diagram 5**). Repeat using muslin 4×12" rectangle and small pocket.
- 3) On folded small pocket, make a mark ¾" from left-hand edge and 1¼" from top edge (**Diagram 6**). Make a second mark ¾" from right-hand edge and 1¼" from top edge. Sew an aqua button on each mark.
- 4) Referring to **Diagram 7**, layer large and small pockets on blue linen 9½×12" rectangle; align bottom edges. Baste ⅛" from side and bottom edges (do not baste top edge) to make pocket unit. Use a Hera marking tool to mark a vertical line down center of pocket unit. Topstitch crease.
- 5) Use basting spray to adhere a muslin 4½×6" rectangle to center of wrong side of a dark pink floral 5×6½" rectangle to make a flap unit. Repeat to make a second flap unit.
- 6) Cut an elastic hair band into two equal pieces. Align cut ends of one half to form a loop (**Diagram 8**). Center cut ends on bottom edge of a flap unit with loop pointing toward top of flap. Baste ⅛" from edge. Repeat with second elastic hair band half and remaining flap unit.

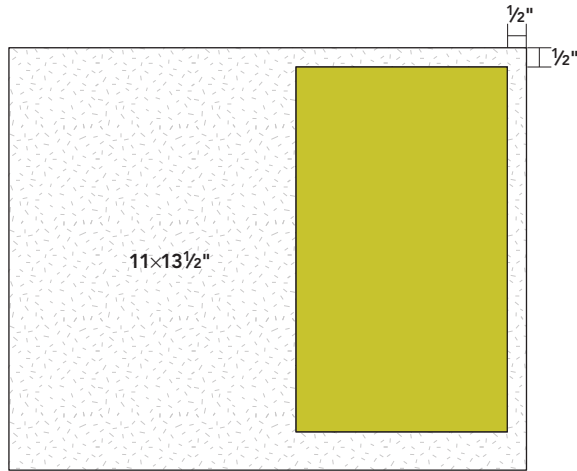
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- 7) Place a light green floral 5×6½" rectangle on a flap unit with right sides together. Use interior flap template to trace rounded bottom corners; cut on traced line (**Diagram 9**). Pin or clip pieces together. Stitch together side and bottom edges; leave top edges open. Clip into curved seam allowances.
 - 8) Turn flap unit right side out, carefully pushing out rounded corners; press. Topstitch ⅛" from previously sewn edges to make a pocket flap.
 - 9) Repeat steps 7 and 8 to make a second pocket flap.
 - 10) Align top of pocket flaps with upper edge of Step 4 pocket unit so each flap is ½" from stitched centerline (**Diagram 10**). Adjust as needed so elastic hair band loops line up with buttons. Baste flaps in place ⅛" from top edges to make interior.
- 5) Sew remaining aqua button to center of right-hand edge of exterior, being careful not to stitch interior large pocket closed. Be sure button is just to left of binding and lines up with elastic closure. Fold on centerline. Slip loop over button to complete organizer.

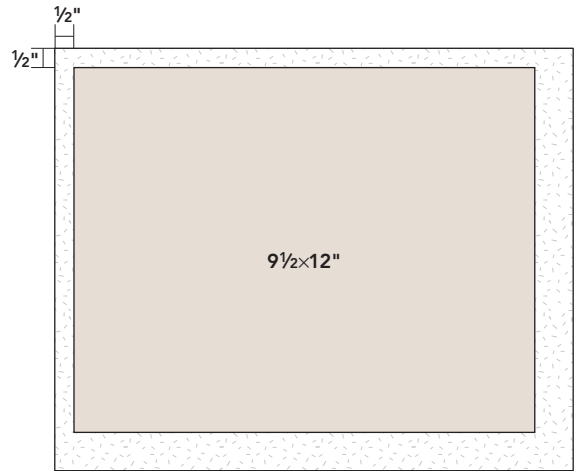
FINISH ORGANIZER

- 1) Layer exterior and interior with wrong sides together. Zigzag-stitch around side and top edges, leaving bottom edge open (**Diagram 11**). Topstitch centerline.
- 2) Insert interfacing 5½×9" rectangles into Step 1 unit through bottom openings (**Diagram 12**). Zigzag-stitch along bottom edges.
- 3) Cut remaining elastic hair band once; align cut ends to form a large loop. With exterior right side up, center cut ends of loop on left-hand edge of organizer; baste ⅛" from edge (**Diagram 13**).
- 4) Bind with white floral binding strips.

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Exterior Front
DIAGRAM 1



Exterior Back
DIAGRAM 2

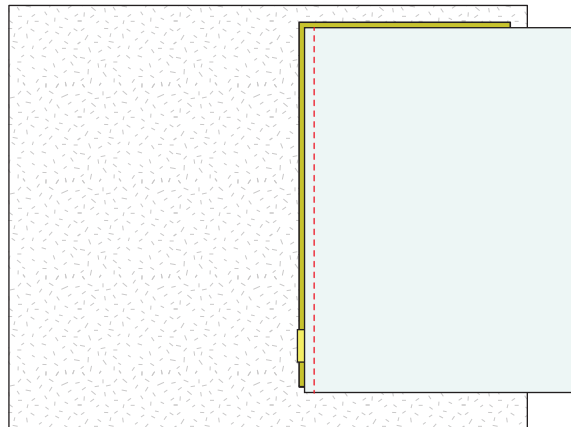


DIAGRAM 3

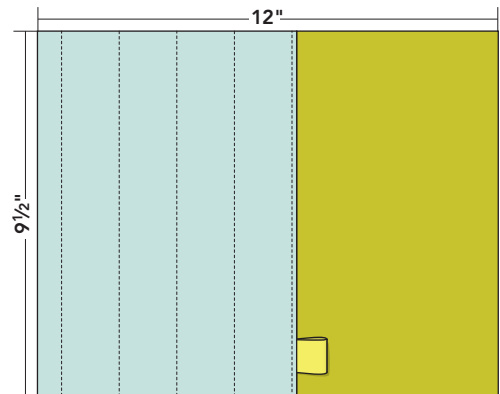


DIAGRAM 4

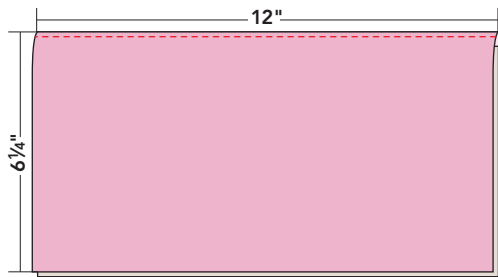


DIAGRAM 5

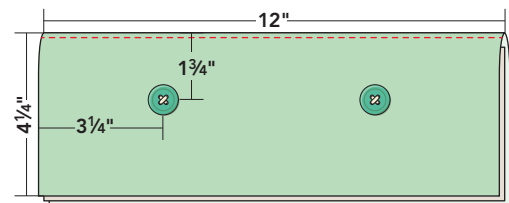


DIAGRAM 6

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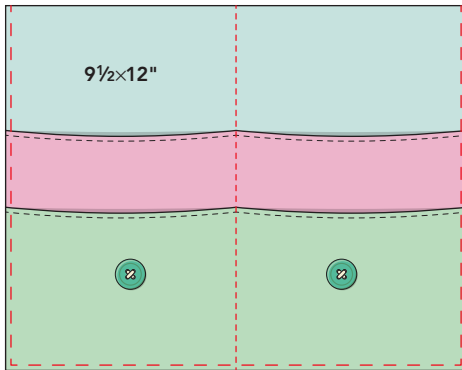


DIAGRAM 7

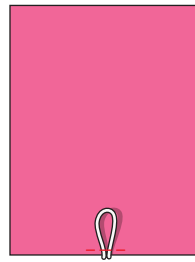


DIAGRAM 8

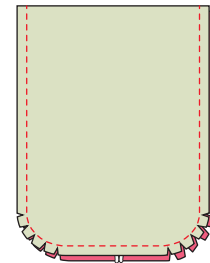


DIAGRAM 9

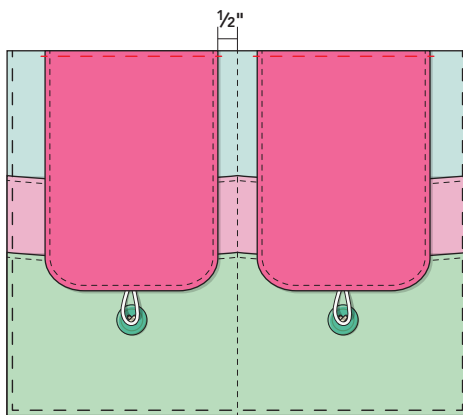


DIAGRAM 10

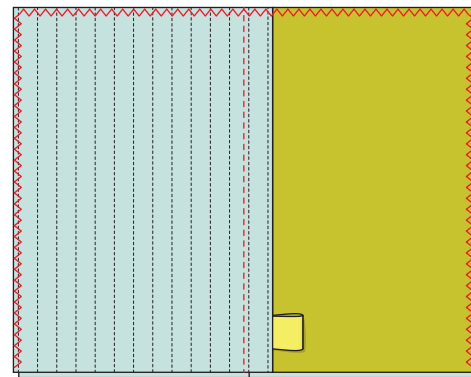


DIAGRAM 11

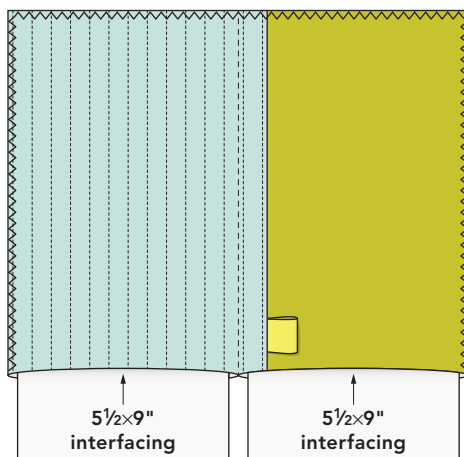


DIAGRAM 12

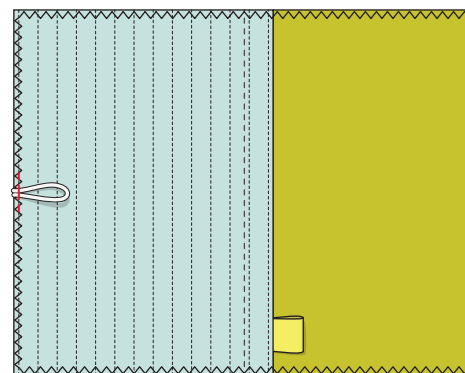


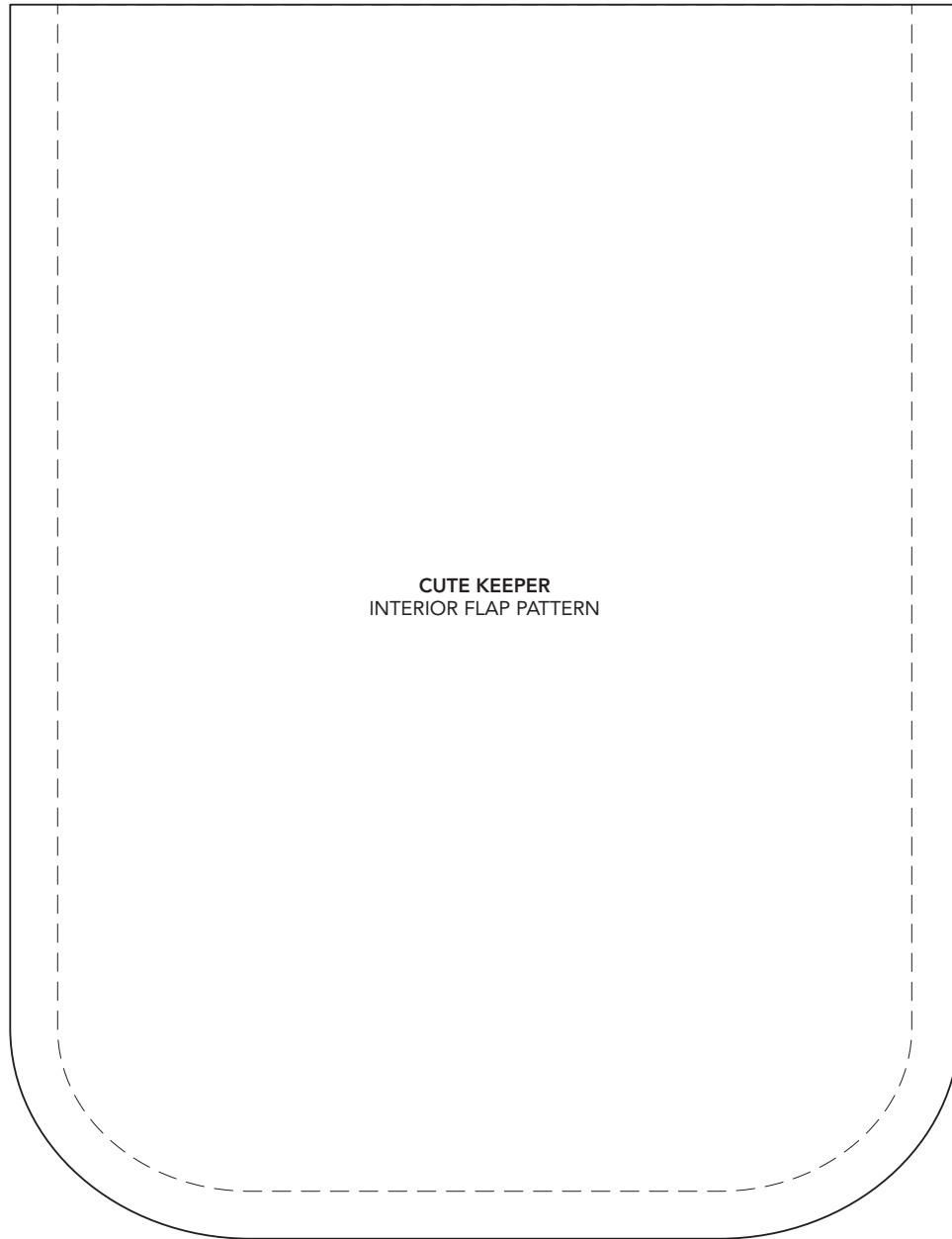
DIAGRAM 13

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CUTE KEEPER
INTERIOR FLAP PATTERN

This box should
measure 1".

← 1" →

*** NOTE:**

When printing a
downloadable PDF, set Page
Scaling preference to None
to print patterns at 100%. Do
not use Shrink to Fit or Fit to
Printable Area.

MAKE AND USE TEMPLATES

MAKE TEMPLATES

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

USE TEMPLATES

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the previous tracing (**Diagram 1**), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a $\frac{3}{16}$ " seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (**Diagram 2**); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

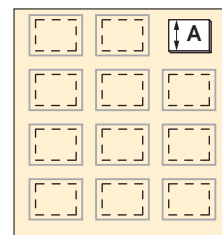


DIAGRAM 1

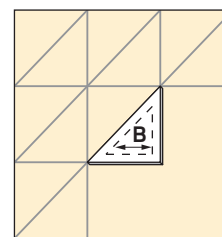


DIAGRAM 2