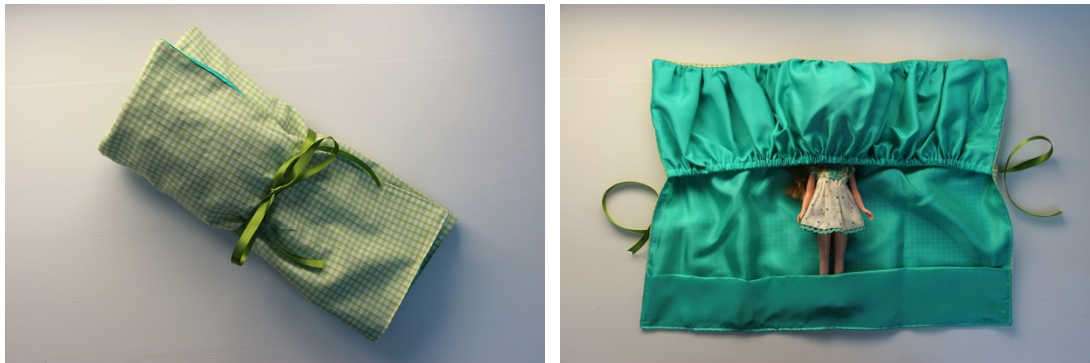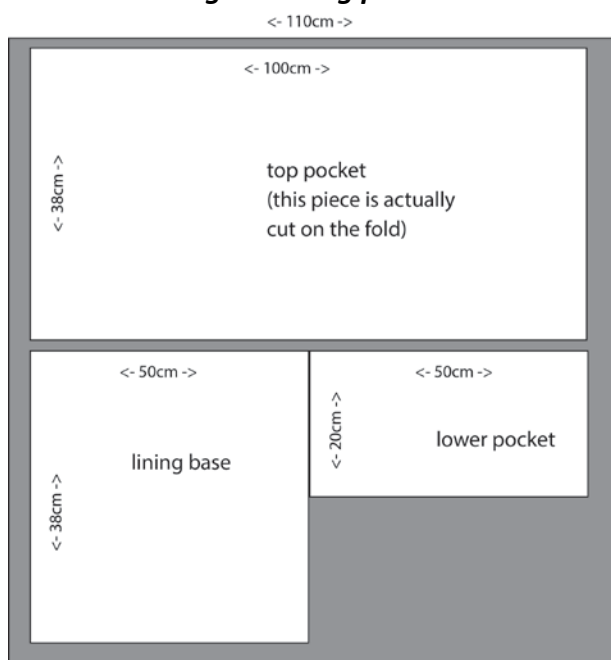# Travel pouch for Blythe dolls

By Tracey Marsden

A simple little pouch designed to protect your Blythe doll when she travels with you, or even for storage. The gathered pocket in the satin lining provides a glam touch and protects her precious face from scratches. The pouch closes with a ribbon tie.

Materials

- Decorative fabric for the outside (enough to cut a 50cm x 38cm pattern piece).
- 1m of lining fabric at least 110cm wide. I used a satin lining fabric.
- 1m of 6mm satin ribbon to complement the outside fabric.
- Sewing threads to match the outside fabric, the ribbon, and the lining fabric.
- 55cm length of household/general use elastic
- Chopstick or other blunt instrument for turning out corners

Step 1: Cut a 50cm wide x 38cm high piece from the decorative outside fabric. I used gingham to help with cutting straight. Of course, if you use a rotary cutter and a ruler it would be easy to do this too.
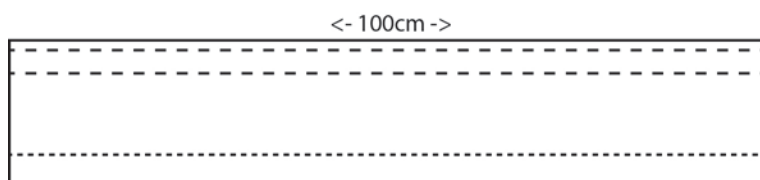
Guide to cutting the lining pieces

Step 2: Now, take the lining fabric and fold it half so it is at least 50cm wide folded. Using the outside fabric piece as a template, cut a 50cm wide x 38cm high piece. This will be used for the top pocket (100cm wide x 38cm high).

Step 3: Using the outside fabric piece as a template again, cut another 50cm x 38cm piece from the lining fabric. This will be used for the lining base.

Step 4: Cut a 50cm wide x 20cm high pattern piece from the lining fabric. Fold it in half so it measures 50cm wide x 10cm high folded. Iron the fold. This will be used for the bottom pocket.
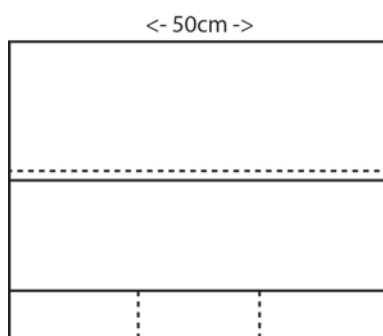
Step 5: Take the top pocket piece and fold it half so it measures 100cm wide x 19cm high. Sew two gather rows along the unfolded long edge. Sew along the folded edge enough distance away from the edge to allow the elastic to be threaded through.
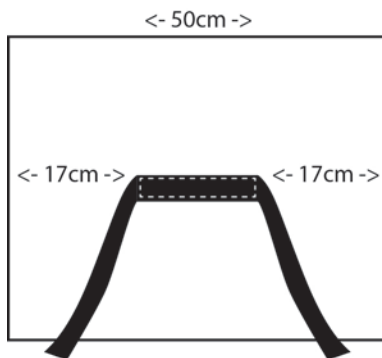
<- 100cm ->

Step 6: Find the centres of both the top pocket piece and the lining base. Pin together. Then find the quarters and pin together. Gather up the pocket piece so it is the same width as the lining base. Sew pocket to lining base inbetween the two gather rows. Remove gather stitches.

Step 7: Thread elastic through the lower edge of the top pocket. I did this by threading the elastic through a tapestry needle and securing it to the eye with thread. Pull the elastic quite taut so it will hold your Blythe in place. Pin and then tack to the lining base sides.

Step 8: Place the lower pocket along the lower edge of the lining base, with the fold edge facing upwards. Pin and tack to lining base. Sew vertical channels 17cm from each side edge (I didn't do this in my example but I think it would provide a better fit).

<- 50cm ->

Step 9: Pin the ribbon to the right side of the outside fabric 17cm from each edge. Sew a border around the inside edges of the attached ribbon.
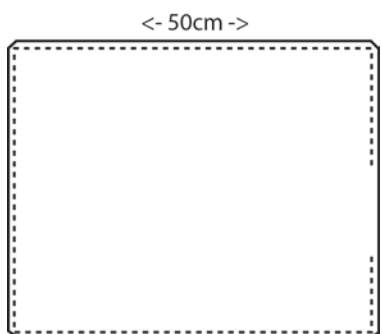

Step 10: Place the outside fabric over the lining with the ribbon side facing the pocketed side. It is a good idea to pin the ribbon into a little bundle beforehand so the loose straps don't get caught in your stitching.
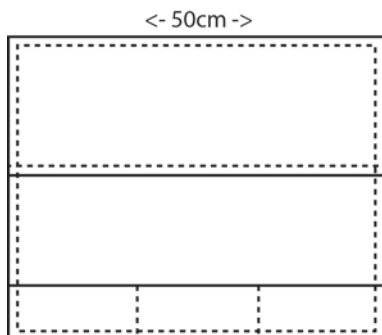
Step 11: Sew around the edges, leaving enough seam allowance to ensure you conceal the pre-existing stitching of the top pocket. Leave an opening along one of the sides to turn the pouch right side out (inbetween the two pockets works well).

Step 12: Trim seam allowance (except for around the opening) and cut corners on a diagonal. Turn right side out. Use a chopstick or another blunt instrument to push out corners.

Step 13: Ensuring seam allowance is tucked inside the section left open, sew along the outside edge to keep the two layers together when folded. In my example I only sewed around the bottom half, away from the gathered area.

Step 14: Unfold ribbon and cut ends on an attractive angle.

Ta-da! You are done.

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