

SQUID PENCIL POUCHES



A SEWING PATTERN BY



SQUID PENCIL POUCHES

These pouches are made from a silly squid shape with a zipper sewn in the back to make it into a pouch. The elongated shape of the squid makes it ideal for pencils and pens, but if you wanted to store away make-up, sewing supplies, or other odds and ends that would work too!

DIFFICULTY:



The shape of this pouch is essentially a triangle with tentacles and hood flaps sewn into the seams. A zipper goes down the back and the lining is sewn in by hand.

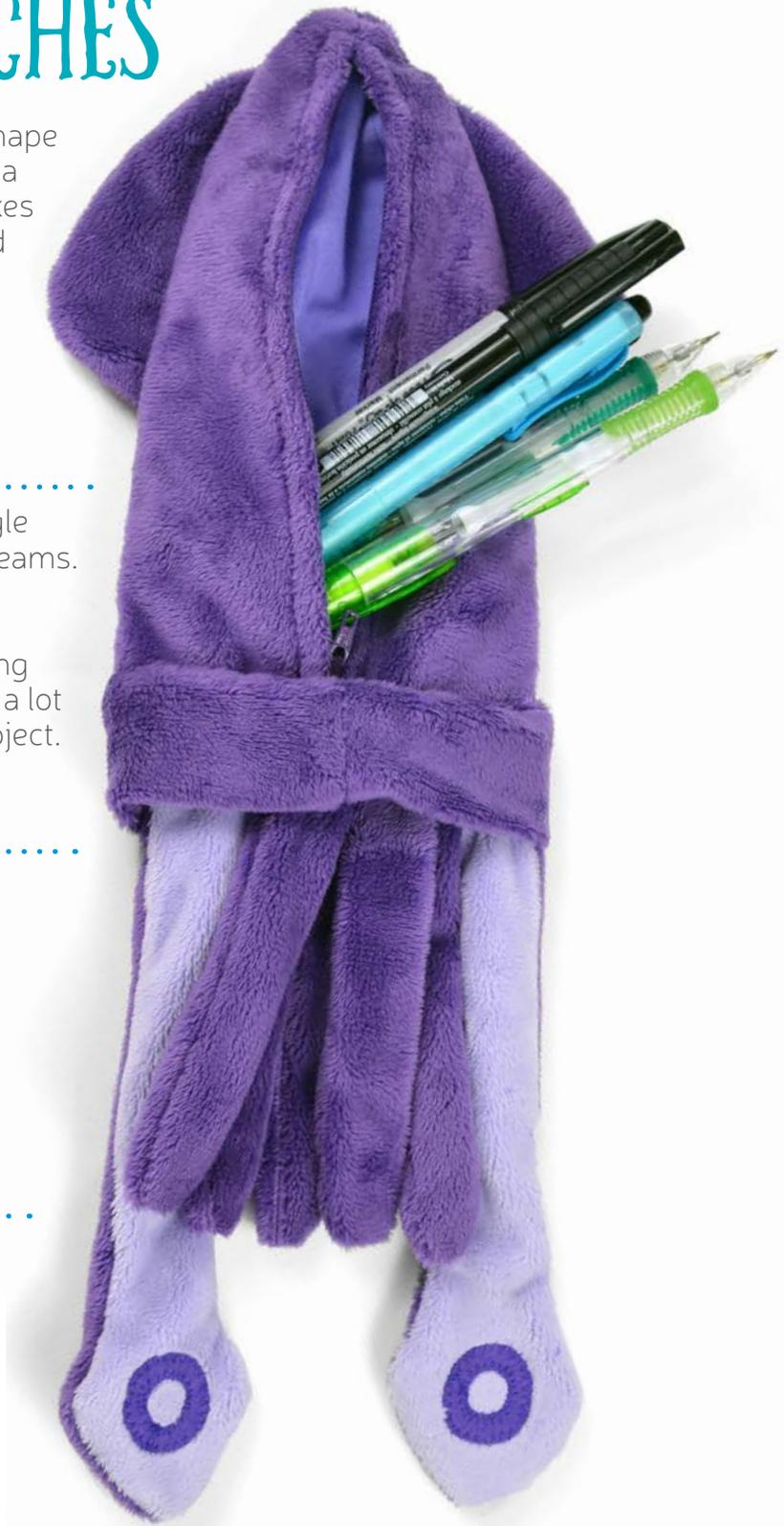
Keeping track of all the little pieces and aligning the lining can be daunting. But it's essentially a lot of basic shapes and skills shoved into one project.

SKILLS USED:

- Fusible web applique
- Curved sewing
- Sewing many layers
- Basting
- Zipper installation (centered method)
- Ladder stitch
- Whipstitch

MAKES:

One pouch -- storage area: 8" tall x 4" wide
Total project: 15" tall x 6" wide



squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL

materials & tools:

- $\frac{1}{3}$ yd. of body fabric
- **OPTIONAL:** $\frac{1}{3}$ yd. of lightweight fusible interfacing (if using stretchy fabric) such as SF101 from Pellon
- $\frac{1}{4}$ yd. of accent fabric for tentacles
- $\frac{1}{3}$ yd. of lining fabric
- 3" x 3" pieces of applique fabric: (felt, cotton, etc.)
 - spots for squid body
 - suckers for tentacles
 - black for eyes
 - white for eye shines
- 5" x 5" piece of light or heavy duty fusible web
- sewing thread to match main fabric and applique fabrics
- 9" long zipper (at least)
- **OPTIONAL:** glue stick or tape (see step 10)
- basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)



minky



fleece



felt



cotton

SUGGESTED FABRICS:

BODY & ACCENT: Fleece, minky, felt, or terry cloth

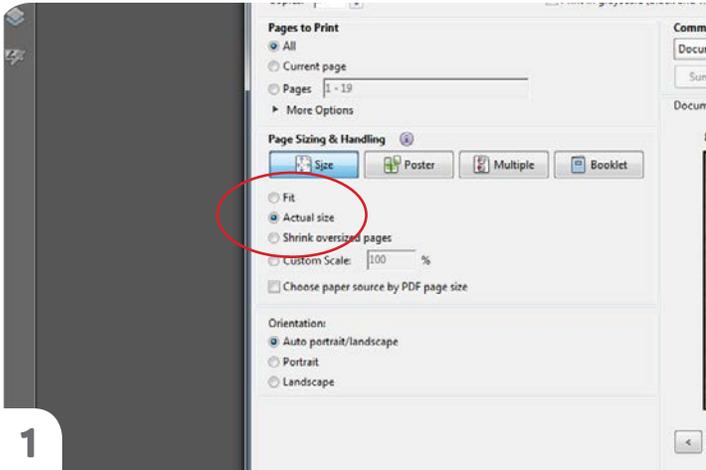
Thick, plush fabrics like these give the squid body some, well, body! The resulting pouch will feel less flimsy and more like a floppy stuffed animal. Stretchy versions of these fabrics, like fleece and minky, will be easier to sew if you fuse a little light-weight interfacing to them first.

LINING: Quilting cotton

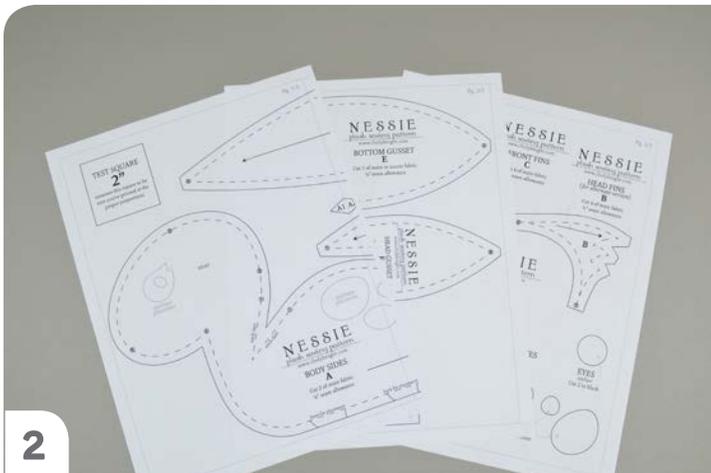
Something thin and easy to sew is best for the inside of the pouch. This will make hand-sewing it into place much less of a headache. Plus, you can find something in a cute print to match your outer pouch fabric.

printing the pattern:

To print the pattern, set your computer to print **PAGES 17-19**. If you're unfamiliar with printing and assembling a .pdf pattern, read the steps below.



At the print dialog box, check the box that says print at “Actual Size” or 100%. Any other selection (such as “Fit to page”) will distort the pattern so it’s slightly larger or smaller and we don’t want that.



Print the pages needed for the file. You might have one or more. Either way, be sure you have the full collection by noting the page numbers in the corner.

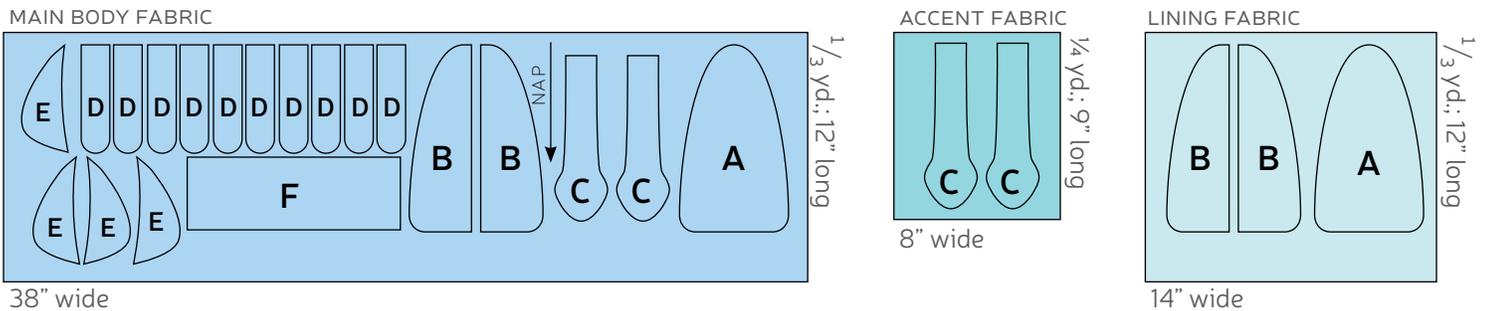


You can trace the patterns onto a different paper, or you can also just cut them straight from the printer paper. They might be a little hard to pin through, so you might want to use your longest pins. But you could also use pattern weights or trace the outlines onto the fabric with a washable marker and cut them out from there.

cutting the fabric:

- Place pattern on fabric, and make sure the grain line is parallel to the selvage edge of your fabric.
- Pin the pattern in place, use pattern weights, or trace the outline of the pattern with a washable marker.
- Using the paper as a template, cut out the fabric. Cut the required amount according to the pattern.
- For all fur fabrics, shake the excess fuzz away.

cutting layout:



cut pieces (25 total):

long tentacles: main fabric x2, accent fabric x2

hood flaps x4 (two reversed)

back x2 (one reversed) (+ interfacing)

front x1 (+ interfacing)

back lining x2 (one reversed)

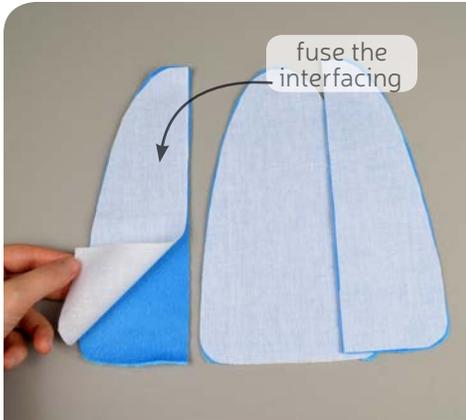
front lining x1

lower band x1

short tentacles x10

squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



1. PREPARE THE APPLIQUE

- If you're using fusible interfacing, take this time to iron it to the back side of your Front (A) and Back (B) outer fabric pieces.
- Take part of your fusible web and trace the body spot outlines onto the smooth (paper) side. You should have 1 large, 2 medium, and 2 small spots. Save the remainder for the sucker and eye applique.
- Fuse the bumpy (adhesive) side onto the wrong side of your spot applique fabric with your iron.



2. SEW THE APPLIQUE

- Cut out the spots and arrange them on the Front (A) piece of your pouch. You can do this by setting your paper pattern on top of the fabric piece, align the applique piece on top where the placement markings are, then carefully pull the paper pattern away while holding the applique piece in place. Or you can set it in whatever way suits you, since the spot placement is somewhat random.
- Fuse them in place with your iron (use a press cloth if you're using a polyester or fur fabric like minky).
- If you used heavy duty fusible web, you can keep the pieces fused without sewing, or you can sew them in place a number of ways. I've used a zigzag stitch here.
- See the next step for some other options.

TIP:

A scrap piece of thin cotton works perfectly as a press cloth

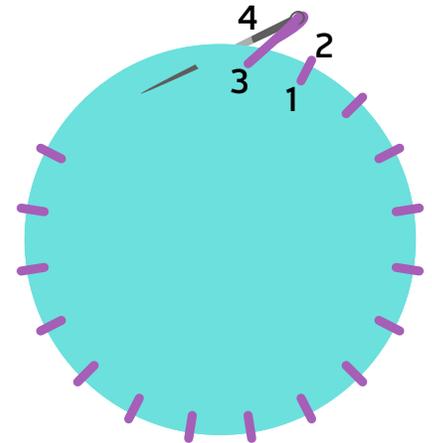
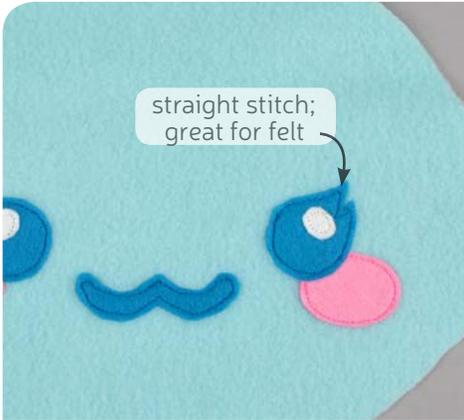


sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

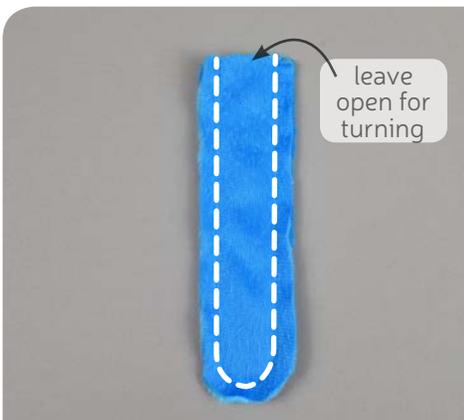
squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



2a. OTHER APPLIQUE OPTIONS

- Other good options for applique include a straight stitch, which involves sewing around the edge of the applique pieces with a straight stitch using matching thread -- about 1/8" in from the edge.
- You can also applique by hand; I prefer a whipstitch. Thread a hand-sewing needle with some matching thread and knot it. Bring the thread up from the back of the project; about 1/8" in from the edge of the applique shape. Bring it down perpendicular from the curve, just outside of the applique shape. This completes one stitch.
- For the next stitch, bring the needle back up about 1/8" away from the previous stitch and 1/8" in from the edge just as in the first stitch. Once again, bring it down just outside the applique shape. Continue this way until you've sewn around the shape.



3. SEW THE SMALL TENTACLES

- The pouch needs 5 finished small tentacles when completed. To make one, align two of the small tentacle pieces (D) with right sides facing. Sew them together along the long sides and short curved bottom. Leave the short straight edge free for turning right side out.
- Trim the seam allowance at the curve to reduce bulk.
- Turn the tentacle right side out by going in and grabbing the end with some hemostats, then flip the rest of the fabric over. You can also push a straw into the open end, then use a chopstick to push the fabric into the straw and start turning the tentacle that way.
- When finished, repeat this 4 times more for 5 completed tentacles.

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



4. PREPARE THE SUCKER APPLIQUE

- Take some more of your fusible web and trace the suckers onto the smooth (paper) side. You should have 2 total. Keep the remainder of the fusible web for the eyes, done last.
- Fuse the bumpy (adhesive) side onto the wrong side of your sucker applique fabric with your iron.
- Cut out the suckers and arrange them on the Long Tentacle (C) piece from your accent fabric. You can do this by setting your paper pattern on top of the fabric piece, align the applique piece on top where the placement markings are, then carefully pull the paper pattern away while holding the applique piece in place.



5. SEW THE SUCKER APPLIQUE

- Fuse the suckers in place with your iron (use a press cloth if you're using a polyester or fur fabric like minky).
- If you used heavy duty fusible web, you can keep the pieces fused without sewing, or you can sew them in place a number of ways. I've used a zigzag stitch here.
- Refer back to step 2a for other applique options.

squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



6. SEW THE LONG TENTACLES

- After the sucker applique is complete, the long tentacles are ready to be sewn. Line up one of the accent Long Tentacle (C) pieces with one of the main color pieces. Align them with right sides facing and sew them together along the sides and sucker area, leaving the short straight edge at the top free for turning right side out.
- When complete, trim the seam allowance near the curves at the tip of the tentacle to reduce bulk.
- Turn the tentacle right side out and press lightly if desired. Repeat all of this again with the remaining tentacle pieces for two long tentacles total.



7. BASTE THE TENTACLES

- Baste the tentacles to the front of the pouch by lining up the open edges of the tentacles with the bottom edge of the pouch Front (A) -- indicated in the paper pattern. Each Long Tentacle (C) goes along one end with three Short Tentacles (D) in between. They should nestle up to each other really closely. Be sure the accent side of the Long Tentacles are facing up.
- Sew all these tentacles in place within the seam allowance. It's a lot of layers to go through, so if you have trouble, try lowering your upper thread tension or presser foot pressure. If all else fails, you can always stitch the tentacles in place by hand.
- When those are sewn, attach the last two short tentacles on top of the previous three, stacked in between the valleys of the first three like a pyramid. Stitch these in place as well to finish the stack.

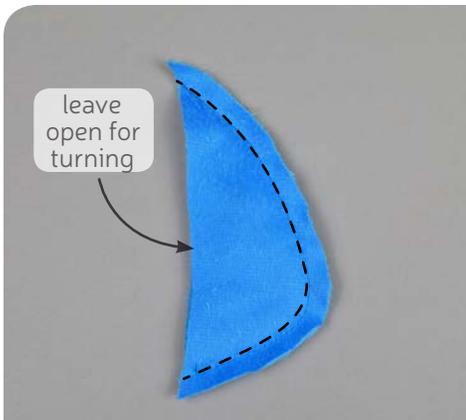
sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



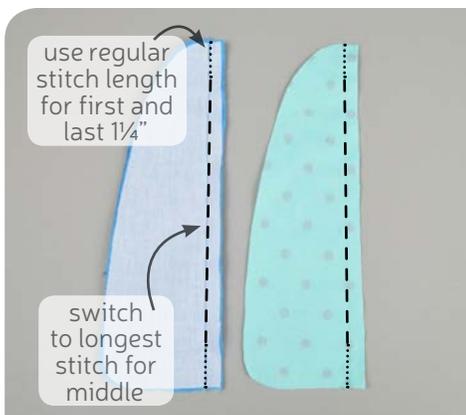
squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



8. SEW THE HOOD FINS

- Next up are the hood fin pieces for the squid. Take two of the Hood Fin pieces (E) and align them together with right sides facing. Sew them along the long curved edge, leaving the slightly curved edge free for turning right side out later. When complete, repeat with the remaining two hood fin pieces for two completed fins total. Turn both of the fins right side out.
- If you haven't already, transfer over the markings from the paper pattern that indicates where to align the hood fin pieces. Take the open edge of the fin and align it to the Front (A) piece of your pouch where the pattern indicates. You'll need to bend the fin slightly to make it fit around the curve of the squid. Baste the fin in place within the seam allowance and repeat with the remaining fin on the other side.



9. SEW THE POUCH BACK

- Take your two outer fabric pieces for the pouch Back (B) and align them with right sides facing. We'll be sewing the straight edge together. Mark 1/4" down from the top and up from the bottom along this edge. This is also marked on the paper pattern with circle symbols. When this seam is sewn, do a regular length stitch from the top down to this marking. Sew the middle with a long basting stitch, then go back to a regular stitch at the second marking down to the end.
- When complete, repeat this with the lining fabric Back (B) pieces as well.
- When both pieces are complete, press the seam open (gently and with a press cloth if using a polyester or fur fabric).
- Up next, get your zipper ready. Trim it down to 9" if it isn't that length already.

squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



10. SEW THE ZIPPER IN PLACE

- We're using what's called the 'centered' zipper method to sew the zipper in place. Take your sewn outer fabric Back (B) piece and align the zipper, facing down, onto the pressed open seam. The zipper teeth should align with the center of the seam, and the top of the zipper should rest at the pointed end of the back piece. Hold it in place either with pins or a hand-sewn basting stitch. Beginners might like to use a glue stick or tape. All of these methods are good choices, though.
- Mark 1/4" from the top and bottom of the back piece. This is where you'll pivot while sewing around the zipper.
- Sew the zipper in place by sewing through the zipper tape. When you near the zipper slider, keep the needle in the fabric, raise the presser foot, then move the slider out of the way to keep sewing. Pivot at the marks you made earlier, then finish sewing around the zipper.



11. COMPLETE THE ZIPPER

- Trim the excess zipper tape at the top and bottom.
- Flip the back piece over, and use a seam ripper to open up the seam you sewed in step 9 with the longer stitch. It should come open easily and reveal your zipper beneath it.

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



12. SEW THE FRONT TO THE BACK

- With the front and the back now complete, you can finally sew them together.
- Tuck all the extremities into the center of the front piece -- tentacles and hood fins. Layer the back on top of all of this, lining up the raw edges around the outside. Pin everything in place.
- When pinned, sew around the perimeter of the shape. Again, if you have trouble going through all the fabric at the bottom, consider sewing it by hand if all else fails.
- When complete, trim the excess seam allowance at the curved areas.
- Don't turn the pouch right side out just yet, but do leave the zipper open by at least an inch or so.



13. COMPLETE THE LINING

- Layer your two lining front and back pieces together in the same fashion, right sides together.
- Once again, sew around the perimeter of the two pieces and trim the excess seam allowance at the curves.
- Just like in step 11, go to the center back seam and rip it open carefully with a seam ripper. Turn the lining right side out. Make sure the seam allowance in the center back seam stays folded.

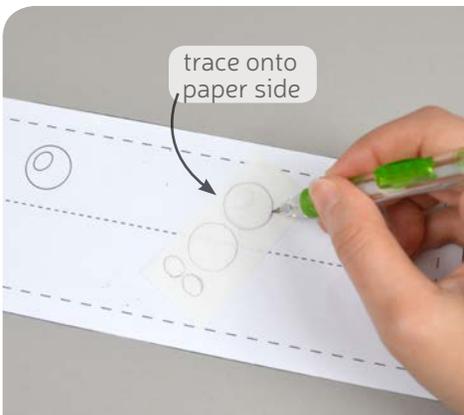
squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



14. ATTACH THE LINING

- With the outer pouch still a little bundle leftover from step 12, tuck it inside the lining pouch you just finished in step 13. Depending on how thick your fabric is, it might be a snug fit. Ultimately you want the folded edges of your seam allowance to line up with the zipper tape.
- Squish and scrunch the inside of the pouch if you need to for it to fit, as it'll all be turned right side out soon anyway. Pin the lining in place next to the zipper.
- Get your hand sewing needle and thread it with matching thread. Use it to sew the lining to the zipper with a whip stitch.
- When everything is all sewn, you can finally turn your pouch right side out! Almost done!



15. PREPARE THE EYE APPLIQUE

- Take the remainder of your fusible web and trace the eyes and eye shines onto the smooth (paper) side. You should have 2 eyes and 2 eye shines total.
- Fuse the bumpy (adhesive) side onto the wrong side of your black and white applique fabric with your iron.
- Cut out the eyes and arrange them on the Bottom Band (F) piece from your outer fabric. You can do this by setting your paper pattern on top of the fabric piece, align the applique piece on top where the placement markings are, then carefully pull the paper pattern away while holding the applique piece in place.

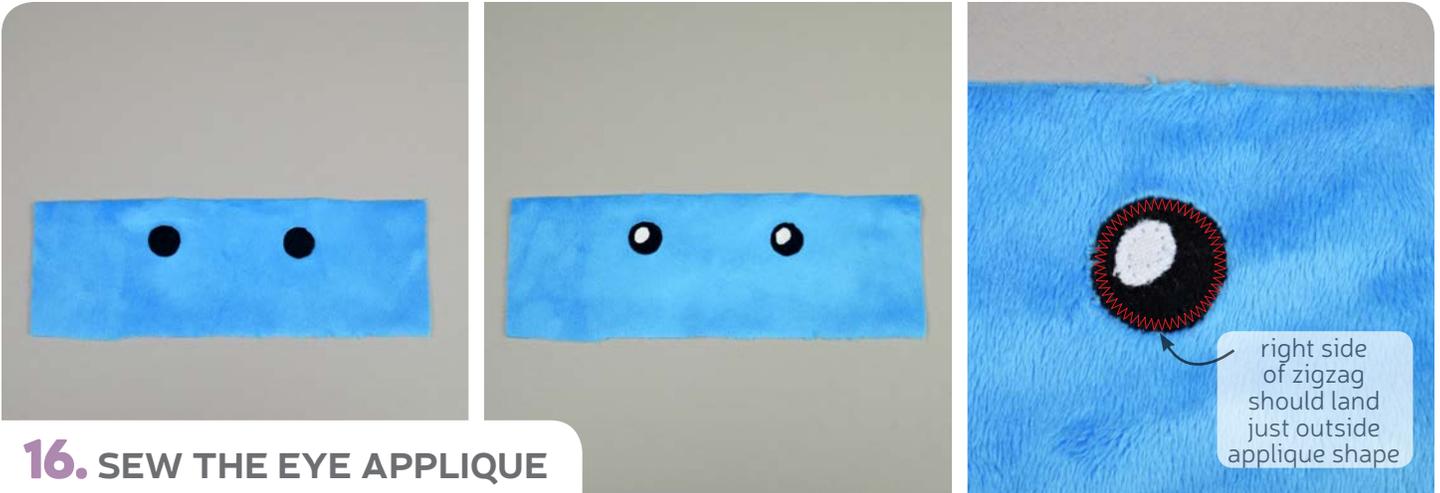
TIP:
safety eyes are a faster alternative for eyes; add them after step 20

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

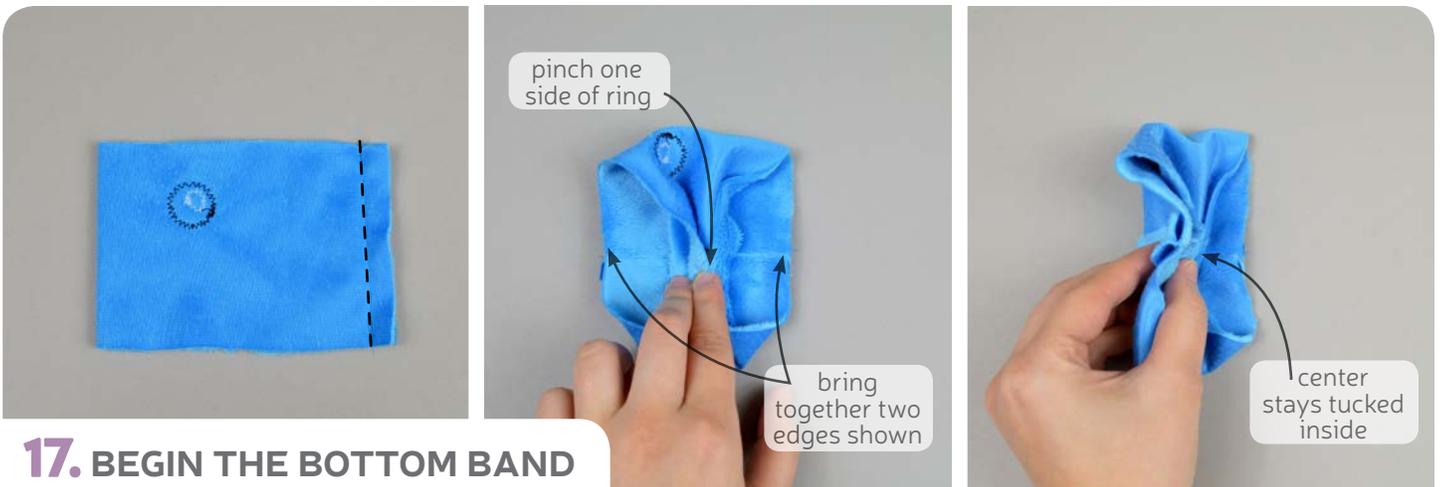
squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



16. SEW THE EYE APPLIQUE

- Fuse the eyes in place with your iron (use a press cloth if you're using a polyester or fur fabric like minky).
- If you used heavy duty fusible web, you can keep the pieces fused without sewing, or you can sew them in place a number of ways. I've used a zigzag stitch here.
- Refer back to step 2a for other applique options.

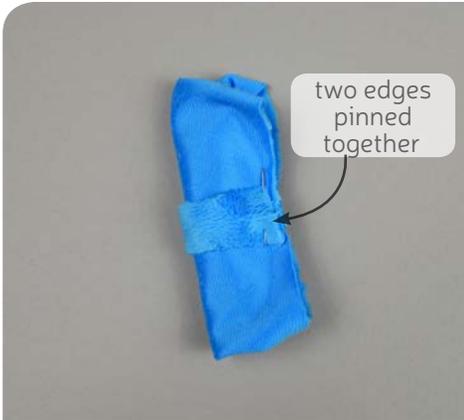


17. BEGIN THE BOTTOM BAND

- Once the eyes are sewn on, begin the bottom band by aligning the short ends of the rectangle together with right sides facing. Sew along this edge to create a ring.
- With the ring lying flat in front of you, pinch the first layer so you can see the second layer beneath it. The goal is to bring together the two edges found on this second layer -- they will encase the layer that's being pinched right now.
- Bring the two edges together, keeping the first layer tucked inside so it doesn't get in the way.

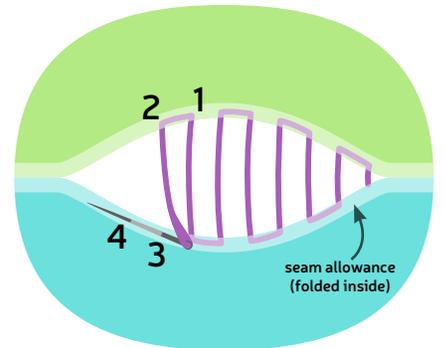
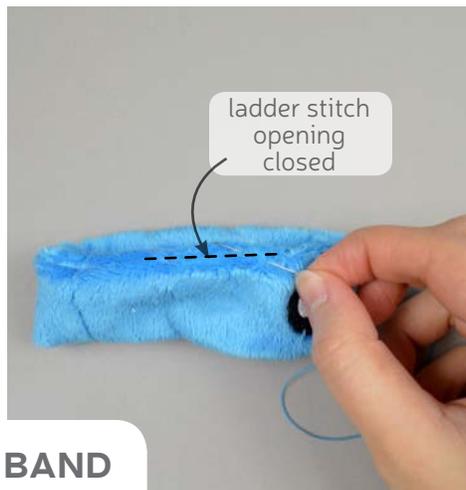
squid pencil pouches

SEWING TUTORIAL



18. SEW THE BOTTOM BAND

- Once the two edges are together, pin them in place. They'll only match up for about an inch or so, but that's okay, we'll tackle the rest next.
- Take this under your machine and sew the edge together for just that inch or so. Then stop (with your needle in and presser foot down) and pull more fabric out from inside the tube. This should give you more to sew. Keep going like this until you're 2" or so away from the point where you started. Now you've sewn the whole tube!



19. FINISH THE BOTTOM BAND

- Push the fabric inside the band through the opening you left in the previous step. This will turn the band right side out. Flatten the piece (press lightly if desired) to make a neat ring. If you've appliqued your eyes, they should be centered nicely on the front of the ring.
- Tuck under the seam allowance from the opening you had and sew it closed with a ladder stitch: thread a hand-sewing needle and knot it at the end. Insert the needle from the inside of the opening and out of the band near one edge of the opening. This will leave the knot inside the band.
- Continue from here doing a ladder stitch. Take a 1/8" stitch into the fold of one side of the opening, then go across and take another. Keep going down the opening until you reach the end. When you're finished, stitch a knot into the end. Then insert the needle near the finished knot and out of the band about 1-2" away. Pull the thread through and hold it taught while snipping the thread. The excess thread should sink back inside the band -- all hidden!

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

squid pencil pouches

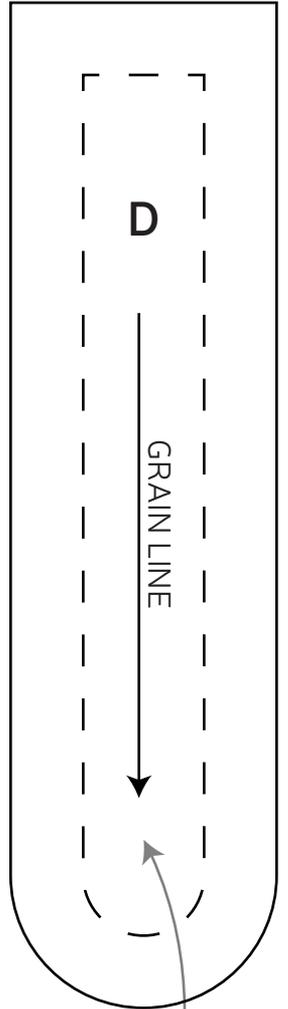
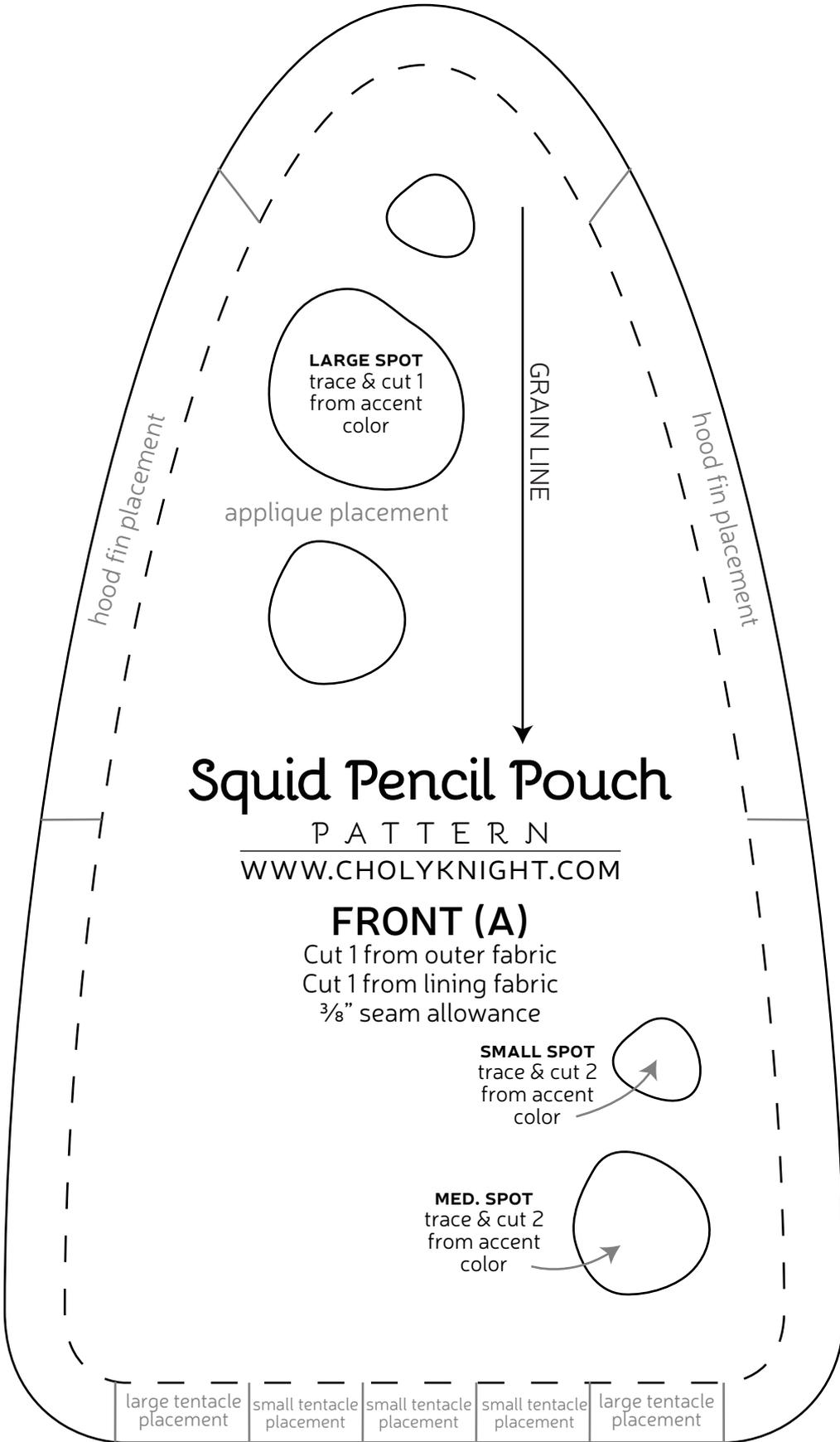
SEWING TUTORIAL



20. ATTACH THE BAND

- Take the finished band and loop the squid pouch through it, slide it down and around so it rests at the base of the pouch and the eyes are facing forward as shown. The band should cover the bottom edge of the pouch about halfway.
- Also be sure the back is evenly positioned. When everything is all aligned, pin the band in place. Thread another hand sewing needle with matching thread and sew the band in place with a ladder stitch along the top edge.
- If you want to use safety eyes for your squid, now would be a good time to install them on the band.

congrats!
now try out your
pouch, because
you're done!



Squid Pencil Pouch

P A T T E R N
WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM

SHORT TENTACLES (D)

Cut 10 from outer fabric
3/8" seam allowance

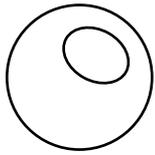
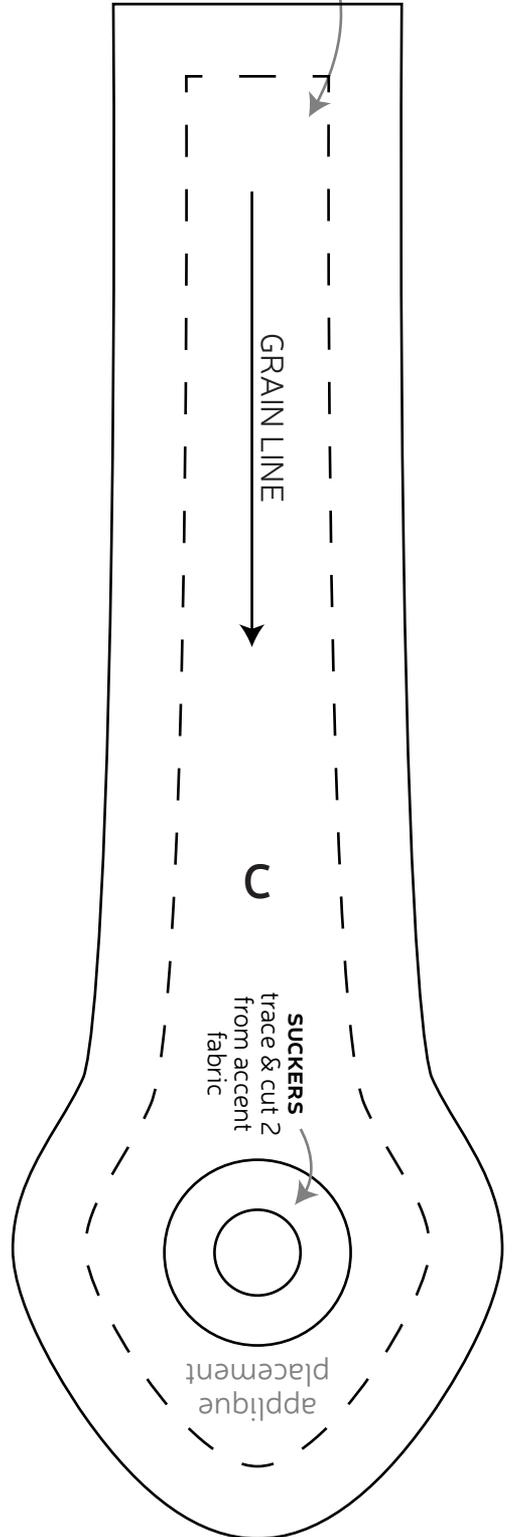
Squid Pencil Pouch

P A T T E R N

WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM

LONG TENTACLES (C)

Cut 2 from outer fabric
Cut 2 from accent fabric
3/8" seam allowance



applique placement

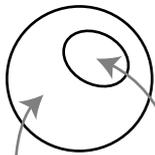
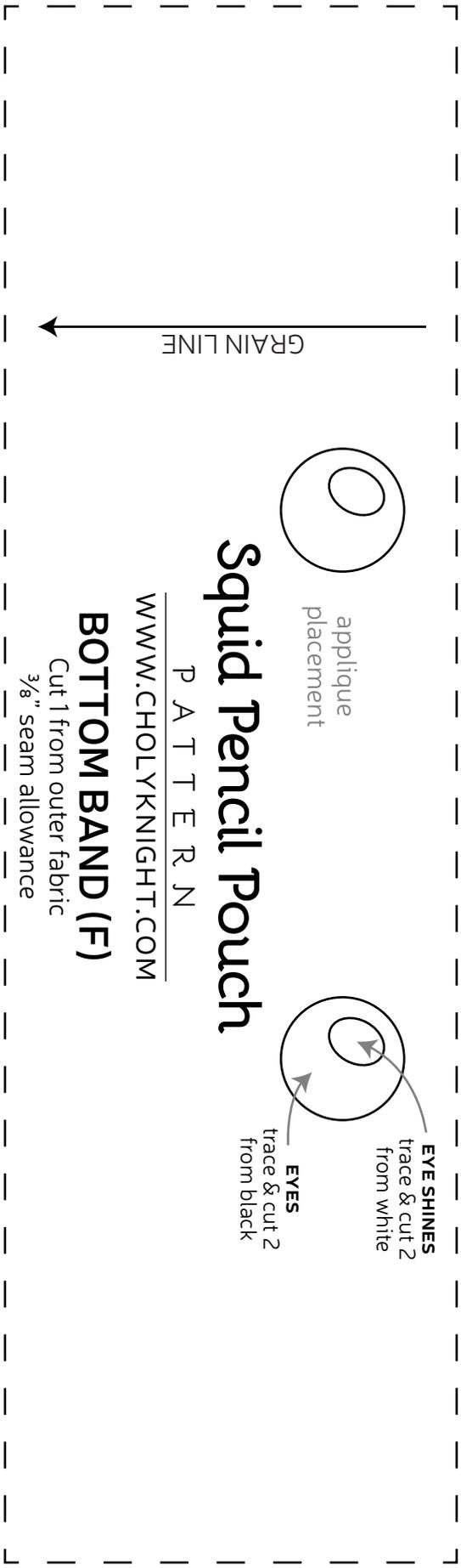
Squid Pencil Pouch

P A T T E R N

WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM

BOTTOM BAND (F)

Cut 1 from outer fabric
3/8" seam allowance



EYE SHINES
trace & cut 2
from white

EYES
trace & cut 2
from black

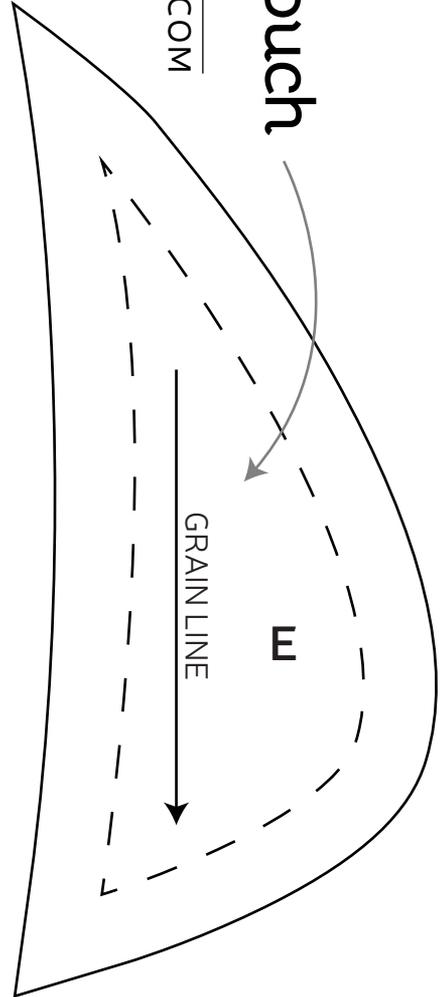
Squid Pencil Pouch

P A T T E R N

WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM

HOOD FIN (E)

Cut 4 from outer fabric
 $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance



Squid Pencil Pouch

P A T T E R N

WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM

BACK (B)

Cut 2 from outer fabric
Cut 2 from lining fabric
 $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance

