



Back(pack) to School Bag

Skill Level: Intermediate

Designed By
Cassie Williams
Sewn By
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An intermediate to challenging project, this versatile backpack has everything a grade schooler needs - room for books, folders, water bottle and a pocket for treasures on the front! Sample used Penny's Garden Print and Rose Garden in Coral from Fort Firefly by Teagan White for Birch Fabrics.

Fabrics Needed

Heavyweight cotton for outer bag	1.5m
Midweight cotton for lining	1.5m

Materials Needed

Legacy L931TD Fusible Midweight	2m
Legacy L987F Fusible Fleece White	1.5m
Legacy L100R Vinyl Fuse Gloss	1 package
Nylon webbing - 2.54cm (1") wide	1.5m
Ladder lock buckles	2
51cm (20") zipper	1
23cm (9") zipper	1
6mm (1/4") elastic	2.5cm length
Thread	

Tools Needed

Sewing machine and related supplies
Rotary cutter and related supplies

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Graphic Artist Alexandra Henry

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Assembly

Use $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam allowances unless otherwise directed.

Step 1. Print and cut the templates found on the template pages.

Place the template sections of the bag body together, matching lines. Tape sections together. Cut two each of outer fabric, lining fabric, and Fusible Midweight and one Fusible Fleece White. Transfer all markings and notches.

Using the front pouch template, cut one each of outer fabric, lining fabric, and Fusible Midweight.

Using the strap anchor template, cut four each of outer fabric, and Fusible Midweight.

Using the zipper end tab for bag opening template cut two each of outer fabric and lining fabric.

Using the zipper end tab for pocket opening template cut two each of outer fabric and lining fabric.

Using the hanging loop template, cut one each of outer fabric and Fusible Midweight.

For the front pocket zipper, cut two 2" x 12" rectangles each of outer fabric, lining fabric, and Fusible Midweight.

For the bag zipper section, cut two 4" x 22½" rectangles each of outer fabric and lining fabric.

For the bag bottom, cut one 7¾" x 24½" rectangle each of outer fabric, lining fabric, Vinyl Fuse Gloss, and Fusible Midweight.

For the front pouch bottom, cut one 3¾" x 16½" rectangle each of outer fabric, lining fabric, and Fusible Midweight.

For the drink pocket, cut two 8¼" x 9¾" rectangles of outer fabric.

For the strap, cut four 3¾" x 12" rectangles of outer fabric.

For the strap, cut two 3¾" x 12" rectangles each of Fusible Midweight and Fusible Fleece White.



Step 2. Fuse the Fusible Midweight to the wrong side of all the respective outer fabric pieces following manufacturer's instructions. Only two strap pieces get the Fusible Midweight.

Step 3. Fuse the Fusible Fleece White to the wrong side of the backpack back (on top of the interfacing) following manufacturer's instructions. Fuse the two 3¾" x 12" rectangles of Fusible Fleece White to the wrong side of the two strap rectangles that do not have the Fusible Midweight on them.

Step 4. Fuse the Vinyl Fuse Gloss to the right side of the backpack bottom following manufacturer's instructions.

Step 5. Place the two drink pocket rectangles right sides together, aligning raw edges. Sew along one 9¾" side. Press seam open. Fold pocket along seam line with wrong sides together. Topstitch at ⅛" and ⅝" to create an elastic casing. This is the top of the pocket.

Step 6. Fold the bottom of the pocket in half. Mark the center point of the pocket. Make a mark 1" from each side of the center point. Fold the 1" marks into the center mark on the right side of the fabric. Press pleats. Baste pleats to hold.

Step 7. Fold the bottom of the pocket in ⅝" and press. Place the pocket approximately 1" in from the raw edge on one end of the bottom of the backpack with the top of the pocket towards the end. Baste the sides of the pocket to bag bottom. Topstitch along the bottom of the pocket through all layers.



Step 8. **Front Pouch.** Sew the zipper end tab to both ends of the front pouch zipper. Trim the zipper end tab to the same width of the zipper if any excess fabric remains.

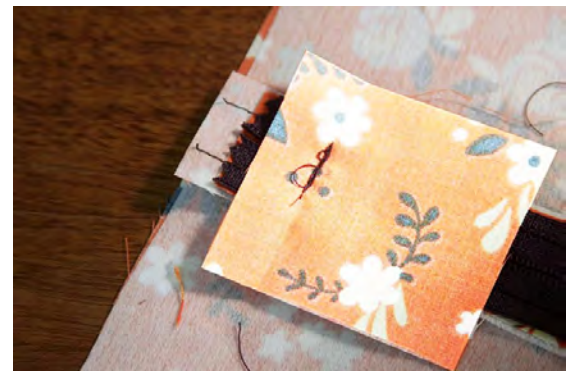


Step 9. Mark the center of the zipper and the center of the front pouch zipper section. Using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, sew zipper section of the outer fabric to the zipper, aligning the center marks. Trim zipper end tabs to the same length as the zipper section.



Repeat Steps 8 and 9 using the outer fabric bag zipper sections and the outer fabric bag zipper end tabs. Set the bag zipper section aside for a later step.

Step 10. Pin the zipper end tab lining to the back of the zipper section with the right side of the tab fabric to the wrong side of the zipper as shown.



Step 11. From the right side of the zipper section, baste zipper tab lining to zipper.



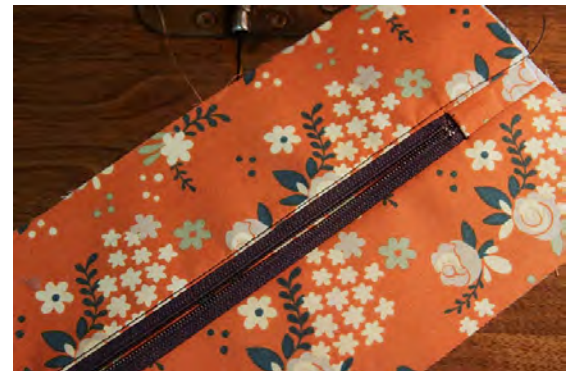
Step 12. Turn zipper end tab lining right side up and iron flat. Trim tab to align with zipper.



Step 13. With the right side of the zipper section lining facing the wrong side of the zipper, align the raw edge with the edge of the zipper. Pin in place.



Step 14. From the right side of the zipper opening section, topstitch the entire length of the zipper and the zipper end tabs.



Step 15. Turn the zipper section lining right side up as shown and press.

Step 16. Repeat Steps 13-15 with the other side of the zipper section lining.



Step 17. Attach the zipper section to both the lining and the outer fabric of the front pouch bottom section by sandwiching the zipper section between the lining and the outer fabric with right sides together.

Step 18. Baste the front of the front pouch outer fabric and lining fabrics together with wrong sides facing.

Step 19. Place the front of the front pouch right sides together with the zipper section/bottom pouch section, aligning the seamline evenly with the notches on the front of the front pouch section.

Step 20. Fold the front pouch raw edge under $\frac{5}{8}$ " and press.

Step 21. Pin the front pouch to the front of the bag, aligning it along the dashed line on the template.



Step 22. Topstitch around entire front pouch.



Step 23. For the straps, cut the nylon webbing into four equal pieces.

Step 24. Sandwich one piece of nylon webbing between one strap piece with Fusible Fleece and one strap piece with Fusible Midweight making sure the nylon webbings are on the short end of the strap. Pin to hold.

Step 25. Sew around three sides. Clip corners and turn.

Step 26. Topstitch around the entire strap, folding the side left open in along seamline.



Step 27. Place two strap anchor pieces right sides together. Sandwich one piece of nylon webbing between them. Stitch around the curved side. Repeat with the remaining two pieces and the last piece of nylon webbing.



Step 28. Turn the strap anchor pieces right side out and press. Topstitch the stitched seamline.



Step 29. Line up the strap anchor pieces with coordinating notches on the bag body back and baste into place.



Step 30. Line up straps and bag hanging hook with coordinating notches and baste into place.



Step 31. Place finished bag zipper section right sides together with the outer fabric bag bottom section on the short ends and pin. Stitch. Press seam open.

Step 32. Place the zipper section/bag bottom section right sides together with the outer fabric bag body front, aligning the seamline equally with the notches on the body front. Stitch. Trim the seam to 1/4".

Step 33. Fold lining zipper section pieces under 1/4" and press.

Step 34. Fold lining zipper tabs under $\frac{5}{8}$ " and press.

Step 35. Align the edge of the lining zipper tabs $\frac{5}{8}$ " with the folded edge of the zipper section pieces and stitch as shown. Repeat with the other end.



Step 36. Place the lining zipper section right sides together with the lining bottom section on the short ends. Pin to hold. Stitch. Press seam open.

Step 37. Place the lining zipper section/bottom section right sides together with the lining bag body front aligning the seamline equally with the notches on the body front. Stitch. Trim the seam to $\frac{1}{4}$ ".

Repeat with the bag body back and the other side of the lining zipper section/bottom section.

Step 38. Open the zipper and turn outer bag inside out and place inside the bag lining with wrong sides together. Pin to hold. Slip stitch the lining to the zipper opening as shown.

Step 39. Turn bag right side out and topstitch around zipper opening if desired.

Step 40. Using small knots, tack lining to bag along body curve to secure the lining.

Step 41. Put strap tails through strap ladder locks and satin stitch to hold.

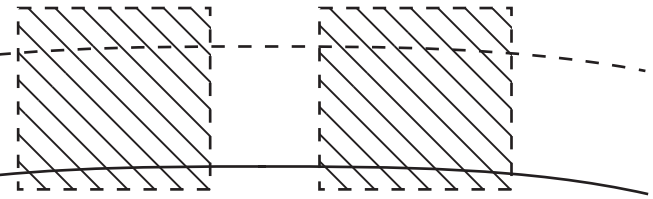


Bag Body Template A

Set printer to 100%, actual size. Check gauge. Print and cut out.

Match up with templates B, C, and D.

Tape together.



hang loop placement guide
(mark on bag back piece)

Bag Body Template A

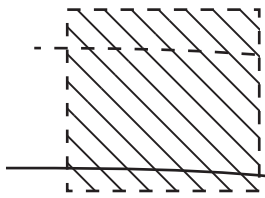
Cut 2 outer + 2 lining + 2 interfacing

1"
Gauge

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Bag Body Template B

Set printer to 100%, actual size. Check gauge.

Print and cut out.

Match up with templates A, C, and D.

Tape together.

Bag Body Template B

1"
Gauge

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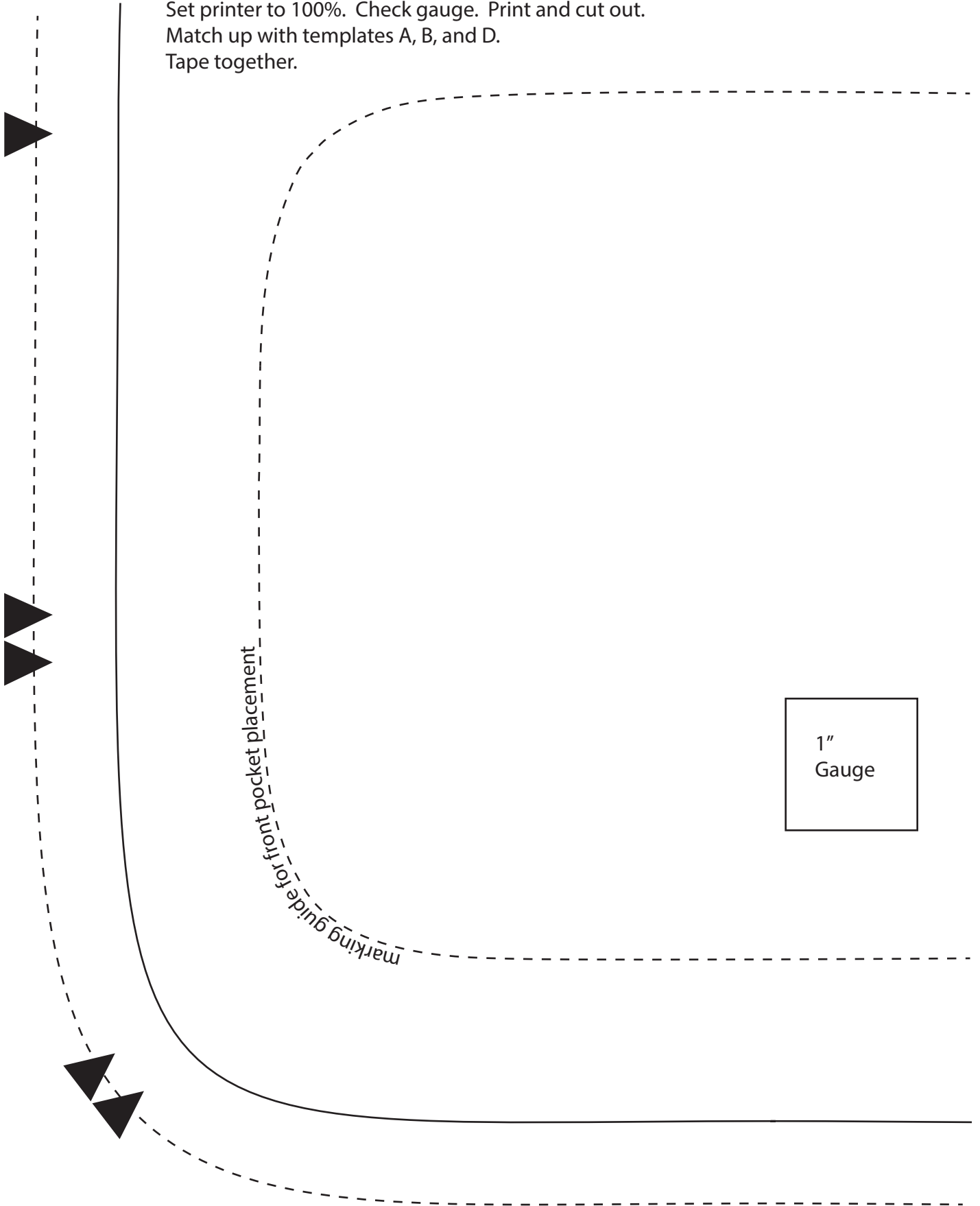


Bag Body Template C

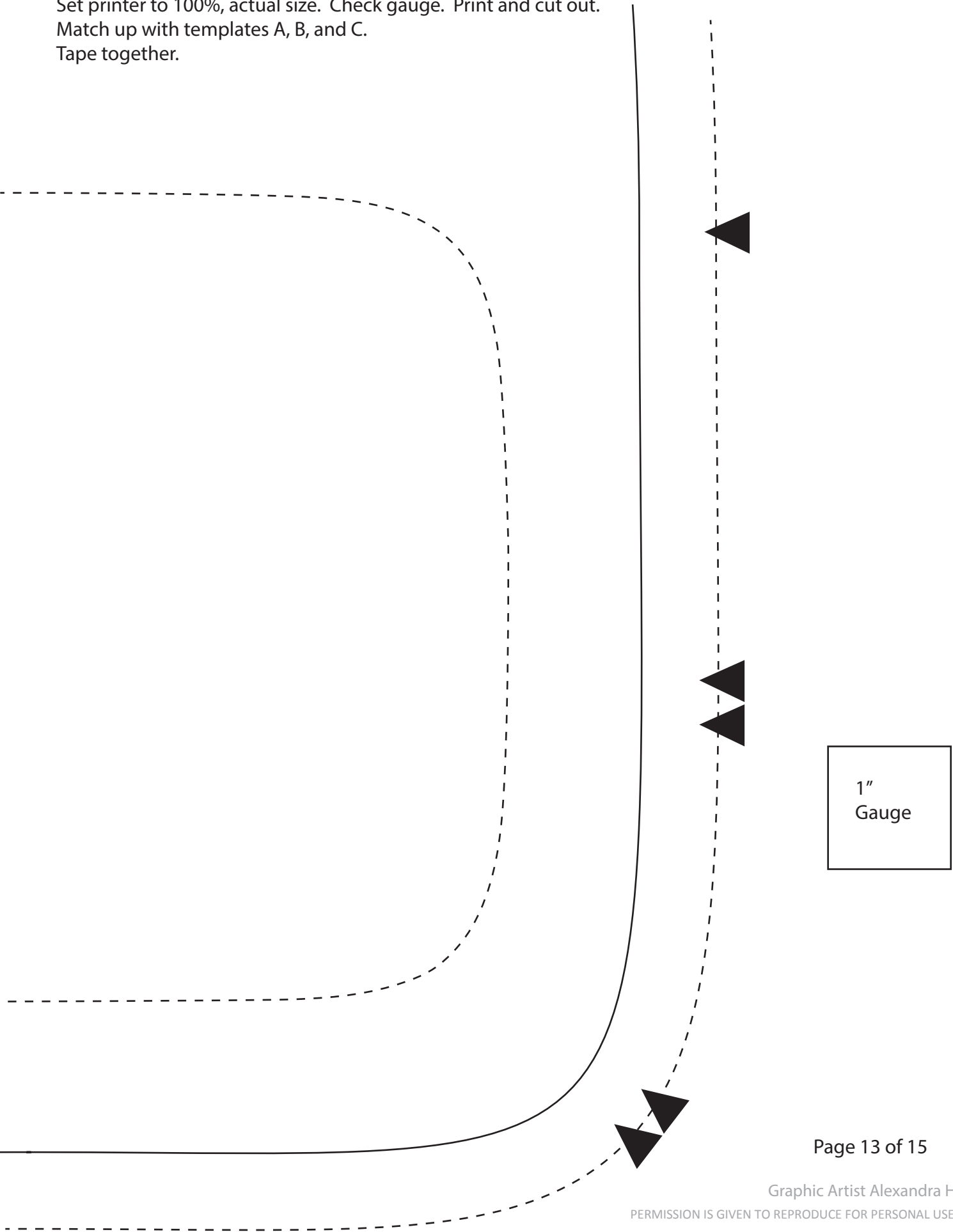
Set printer to 100%. Check gauge. Print and cut out.

Match up with templates A, B, and D.

Tape together.



Bag Body Template D
Set printer to 100%, actual size. Check gauge. Print and cut out.
Match up with templates A, B, and C.
Tape together.

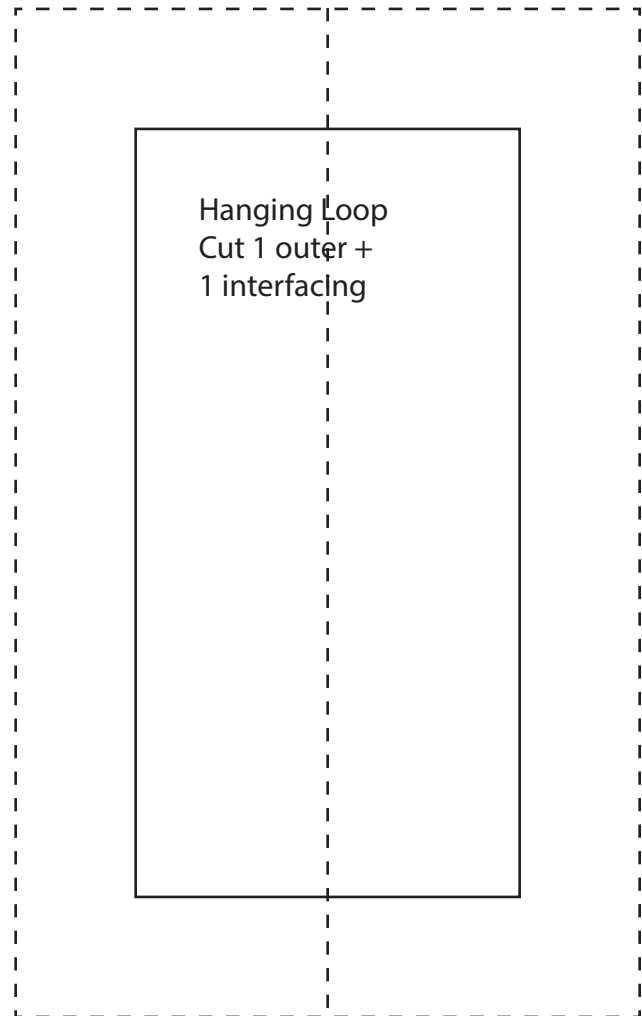
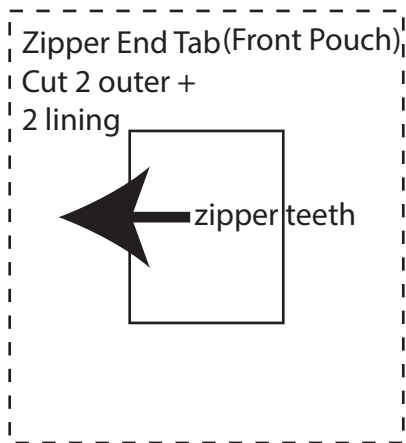
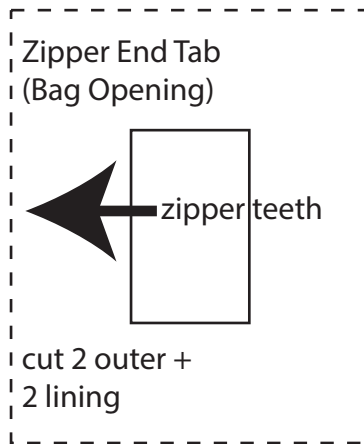


Set printer to 100%, actual size. Check gauge. Print and cut out.

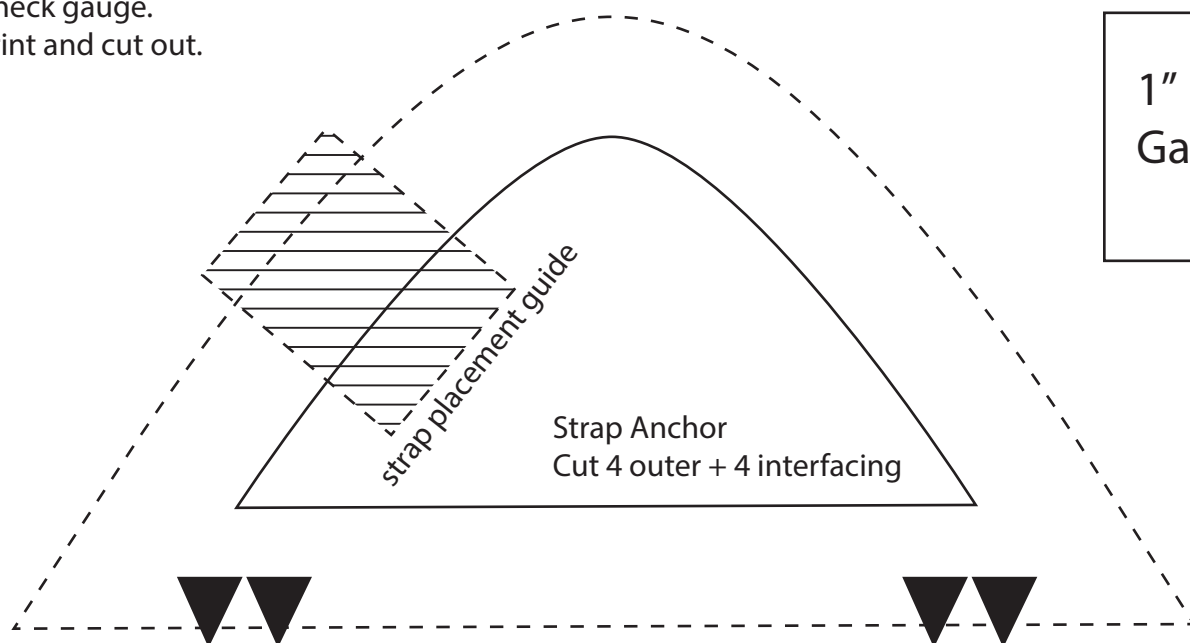
Front Pouch
Cut 1 outer + 1 lining + 1 interfacing

1"
Gauge

Templates for zippers, hanging loops and strap anchor



Set printer to 100%, actual size.
Check gauge.
Print and cut out.



1"
Gauge