

BTHQ Isabel's Expanding Shoe Bags

INTRODUCTION

We're going to make a useful store flat expanding waterproof shoe bag which has a clever fold technique to create gussets. You can use the bag to safely pack muddy shoes in your suitcase, or in your handbag for work shoes whilst you commute in your trainers. You'll want to sew up a few of these bags for yourself and they make great gifts. You can even resize them to fit two wine bottles.

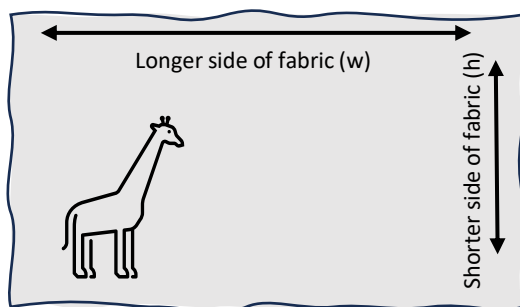
We have a choice of sizes:

- Medium fits shoes up to UK 6 (EUR 39)
- Large fits shoes up to UK 14 (EUR 49.5)



MATERIALS AND CUTTING GUIDE

- ☐ Quilting cotton - 0.5m quilting width (42" /114cm)
- ☐ Rip stop - 0.5m quilting width (42" /114cm)
- ☐ Closed end zip, or zip on a roll with one pull (16" or 18" depending on bag size chosen)
- ☐ Sewing machine with standard zipper foot, polyester thread, clips or pins, tape measure or quilting ruler, scissors, or rotary cutter & mat, iron and ironing board.



For directional fabrics, the longer sides will become the top and bottom of the bag so cut with top of design parallel to a long edge

		MEDIUM	LARGE
OUTER	Cut 1 Quilting Cotton	25" w x 15.5" h	28" w x 17.5" h
HANDLE	Cut 1 Quilting Cotton	3" w x 8" h	3" w x 8" h
LINING	Cut 1 Rip Stop	25" w x 15.5" h	28" w x 17.5" h
BINDING	Cut 2 Rip Stop	1.75" w x Seam width +1.5" l	1.75" w x Seam width +1.5" l
ZIP	Closed end zip, or zip on a roll (one zip pull)	16"	18"

INSTRUCTIONS

Seam allowance is ¼" (6mm) unless otherwise stated.

ATTACH THE ZIP

1. Cut out your outer, handle and lining. Cut binding fabric pieces later to fit your seams.
2. Lay lining piece right side up on table. With zip teeth and pull uppermost, zip closed with zip pull to the left, lay wrong side of zip over short side of lining, lining up raw edges. Lay the outer fabric short side on top of the zip, right sides together, lining up raw edges. *For directional fabrics, check that top of directional print on the long side is at the zip pull end.* Pin or clip in place.
3. Sew along raw edge through the lining, zip, outer sandwich using a 3/8" (1cm) seam allowance. Turn and press lining and outer away from zip. Careful pressing the rip stop so you don't burn it.
4. Edge stitch on the fabric along the side of the zip - away from the zip teeth.
5. Now is time to attach a label if you are using one. It looks good placed on the outer, 1" from zip, half way down the right hand side of zip parallel to zip teeth. Topstitch only through the outer fabric layer. Don't place it too far to the right as the sides will be folded in later.
6. Take the second short end of the lining and lay right side up under the second side of the zip with teeth uppermost and lay the outer over the top of the zip right side down, lining up raw edges. Pin or clip in place.
7. Sew along raw edge through the lining, zip, outer sandwich using a 3/8" (1cm) seam allowance. Turn and press lining and outer away from zip, careful not to burn the rip stop.
8. Open zip and edge stitch on the fabric along the second side of the zip away from the zip teeth. Hold the rest of the fabric tube out of the way as you sew towards the closed end.

MAKE AND BASTE HANDLE IN PLACE

9. Fold handle fabric in half wrong sides together along longer side and press. Fold raw edges in up to the centre crease and press, then press folded edges together.
10. Top stitch with a 1/8" (3mm) allowance down both long edges.
11. Close the zip, making sure the pull is pulled down into the bag and not extending past the raw edges. Baste zip closed with a 1/8" (3mm) seam allowance, going backwards and forwards a few times, sewing only through the zip.
12. Measure and mark 1" (2.5cm) to the left of the zip along the top raw edge, and then pin one end of the handle in place to the left of your mark, matching up raw edges. Measure and mark 1" (2.5cm) to the right of the zip. Careful not to twist the handle, pin the other end of the handle to the right of your second mark. Baste the handle in place using a 1/8" (3mm) seam allowance, sewing only through the handle ends plus one fabric outer and lining.

MAKE GUSSETS

13. Turn the tube lining side out. Fold tube in half lengthwise to find and mark the centre opposite the zip on each raw edge with a finger pressed fold. Now flatten the tube out, lining up the finger pressed folds directly under the zip teeth. Press down the edges of the fabric tube.
14. Fold left and right edges of the tube inwards towards the zip by 2½" (6cm) – a quilting ruler comes in handy as you can fold over the ruler. Press along the folds. Make sure the handles are sandwiched between the two fabric outers at the closed zip pull end of the zip. Half open the zip. Clip or pin along the raw edges and sew with ¼" (6mm) seam.

BINDING THE EDGES

15. Square up top and bottom raw edges by 1/8" (3mm).
16. Measure raw seams and cut binding strips 1.75" (4.5cm) wide and to the length of seam plus 1.5" (¾" overhang at each end).
17. Lay binding over the zipper side of one edge seam lining up the long raw edges, with approximately ¾" (1.9 cm) overhang at each end.
18. Sew the binding with a ¼" (6mm) seam. Fold the binding out flat away from the bag body then fold the overhanging short ends around to the other side and finger press along the fold. Trim the corners if needed to get a neat edge before enclosing the short edge.
19. Turn the long raw edge under by approx. 3/8" then fold to the other side of the bag to enclose raw seam and the first stitch line. Make sure the short ends are neatly enclosed under the long end fold. Your long unstitched facing raw edge should be tucked inside until it meets the fold at the end of the bag. Pin or clip in place. Sew the binding seam with a ¼" (6mm) seam backstitching at each end. Repeat for the other edge seam. Press the bound seams flat careful not to burn the ripstop.
20. Turn your bag right way out and pull the gussets straight. Pop your shoes in, zip it up and admire your handiwork.

Ta Da!! You have a finished bag. Do post on socials with the hashtag **#bthqisabelshoebag**



#bthqisabelshoebag
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QUICK STEP INSTRUCTIONS

☐ 1	You've cut out your outer, handle and lining. Don't cut your binding fabric yet, we'll cut it to fit the sewn seam.
☐ 2	Your machine is threaded with your zipper foot on, and normal foot nearby. Turn your iron on.
☐ 3	Lay lining piece right side up on table
☐ 4	With zip teeth and pull uppermost, zip closed with zip pull to the left , lay wrong side of zip over short side of lining, lining up raw edges.
☐ 5	Lay the outer fabric short side on top of the zip, right sides together , lining up raw edges. <i>For directional fabrics, check that top of directional print on the long side is at the zip pull end</i>
☐ 6	Pin or clip in place
☐ 7	Put your zipper foot on. Sew along raw edge through the lining, zip, outer sandwich using a 3/8" (1cm) seam allowance.
☐ 8	Turn and press lining and outer away from zip. Careful pressing the rip stop so you don't burn it.
☐ 9	Edge stitch on the fabric along the side of the zip - away from the zip teeth.
☐ 10	If you are using a label, lay it out and pin it 1" from zip half way down on right, parallel to zip. Centre it around 7 3/4" down the zip edge.
☐ 11	Topstitch only through the outer fabric layer. Don't place it too far to the right as the sides will be folded in later.
☐ 12	Take the second short end of the lining and lay right side up under the second side of the zip with teeth uppermost and lay the outer over the top of the zip right side down, lining up raw edges. Pin or clip in place.
☐ 13	Sew along raw edge through the lining, zip, outer sandwich using a 3/8" (1cm) seam allowance.
☐ 14	Turn and press lining and outer away from zip, careful not to burn the rip stop.
☐ 15	Open zip and edge stitch on the fabric along the second side of the zip away from the zip teeth. Hold the rest of the fabric tube out of the way as you sew towards the closed end.
☐ 16	Fold handle fabric in half wrong sides together along longer side and press. Fold raw edges in up to the centre crease and press, then press folded edges together.
☐ 17	Top stitch with a 1/8" (3mm) allowance down both long edges
☐ 18	Close the zip, making sure the pull is pulled down into the bag and not extending past the raw edges. Baste zip closed with a 1/8" (3mm) seam allowance , going backwards and forwards a few times, sewing only through the zip.
☐ 19	Measure and mark 1" (2.5cm) to the left of the zip along the top raw edge, and 1" to the right of the zip.
☐ 20	Pin one end of the handle in place to the left of your mark, matching up raw edges.
☐ 21	Careful not to twist the handle, pin the other end of the handle to the right of your second mark.
☐ 22	Baste the handle in place using a 1/8" (3mm) seam allowance , sewing only through the handle ends plus one fabric outer and lining.
☐ 23	Turn the tube lining side out. Fold tube in half lengthwise to find and mark the centre opposite the zip on each raw edge with a finger pressed fold. Now flatten the tube out , lining up the finger pressed folds directly under the zip teeth.
☐ 24	Press down the edges of the fabric tube – don't burn the ripstop.
☐ 25	Fold left and right edges of the tube inwards towards the zip by 2 1/2" (6cm) – a quilting ruler comes in handy as you can fold over the ruler.

☐ 26	Press along the folds. Make sure the handles are sandwiched between the two fabric outers at the closed zip pull end of the zip
☐ 27	Half open the zip. Clip or pin along the raw edges and sew with ¼" (6mm) seam
☐ 28	Square up top and bottom raw edges by 1/8" (3mm)
☐ 29	Measure raw seams and cut binding strips 1.75" (4.5cm) wide to the length of seam plus 1.5" (¾" overhang at each end). (Length of strip will be about 8 5/8 long for Medium bag)
☐ 30	Lay binding over the zipper side of one edge seam lining up the long raw edges, with approximately ¾" (1.9 cm) overhang at each end
☐ 31	Sew the binding with a ¼" (6mm) seam
☐ 32	Fold the binding out flat away from the bag body then fold the overhanging short ends around to the other side and finger press along the fold
☐ 33	Turn the long raw edge under by approx. 3/8" then fold to the other side of the bag to enclose raw seam and the first stitch line. Make sure the short ends are neatly enclosed under the long end fold. Your long unstitched facing raw edge should be tucked inside until it meets the fold at the end of the bag. Pin or clip in place
☐ 34	Sew the binding seam with a ¼" (6mm) seam backstitching at each end
☐ 35	Repeat for the other edge seam
☐ 36	Press the bound seams flat careful not to burn the ripstop
☐ 37	Turn your bag right way out and pull the gussets straight
☐ 38	Pop your shoes in, zip it up and admire your handiwork
☐ 39	Get ready for a group photo!
☐ 40	I'll be very grateful if you post on socials with the hashtag #bthqisabelshoebag