



## Transforming your Zipper

a tutorial by StudioKat Designs (2026)

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### Have you ever struggled w/ finding just the right zipper for your project?

Every now & then I've wished I could transform a zippertape to obtain a truly one-of-a-kind look! And recently, I was working on just such a project (*at right*)! The beige & white mini-striped zippers I had really didn't match the cream-color in the fabric & I was thinking... "*since I was already planning on using a turquoise contrast on the pocket area, why not just "re-dress" those zippers with that same fabric to add a little more color to this palette?"*

So that just what I did!

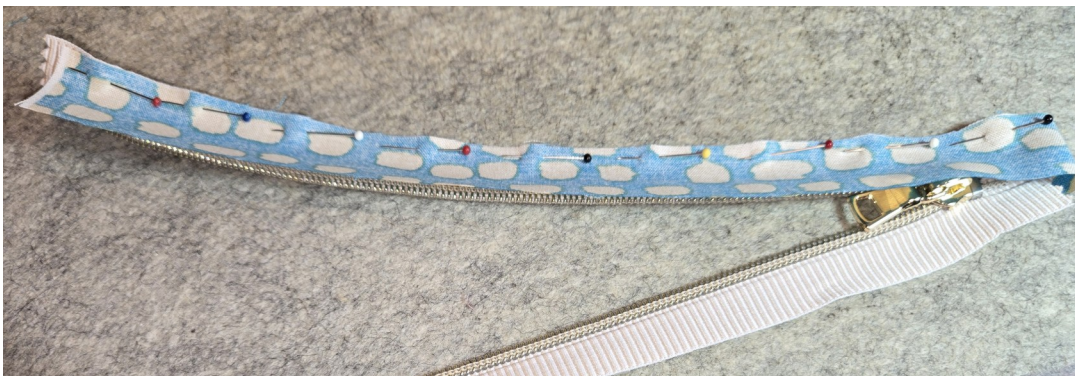
Let me show you how!

*Please note: we used #5 zippers for this project/tutorial.*



**First**— Ideally, choose a zipper that's close to the background color of the contrast fabric you'll be using.

Cut two 1" strips of contrast that are at least as long as the zipper you are coving



Align one long raw edge right-sides together with one long outside edge of zipper. Pin in place along the aligned edges.

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a tutorial by StudioKat Designs—page 2

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← Using a zipperfoot, stitch as close as possible, along side the zipper teeth. I like to push the contrast fabric close these zipper teeth, creating somewhat of a channel to help guide your stitching as close as possible along this edge.

Now press the opposite loose edge of contrast fabric over & wrong-sides-together with the stitched area so that the raw edges somewhat align.



← Repeat this procedure on the opposite side of your zipper, stitching...

And then pressing the edges together.



## Transforming your Zipper

a tutorial by StudioKat Designs—page 3

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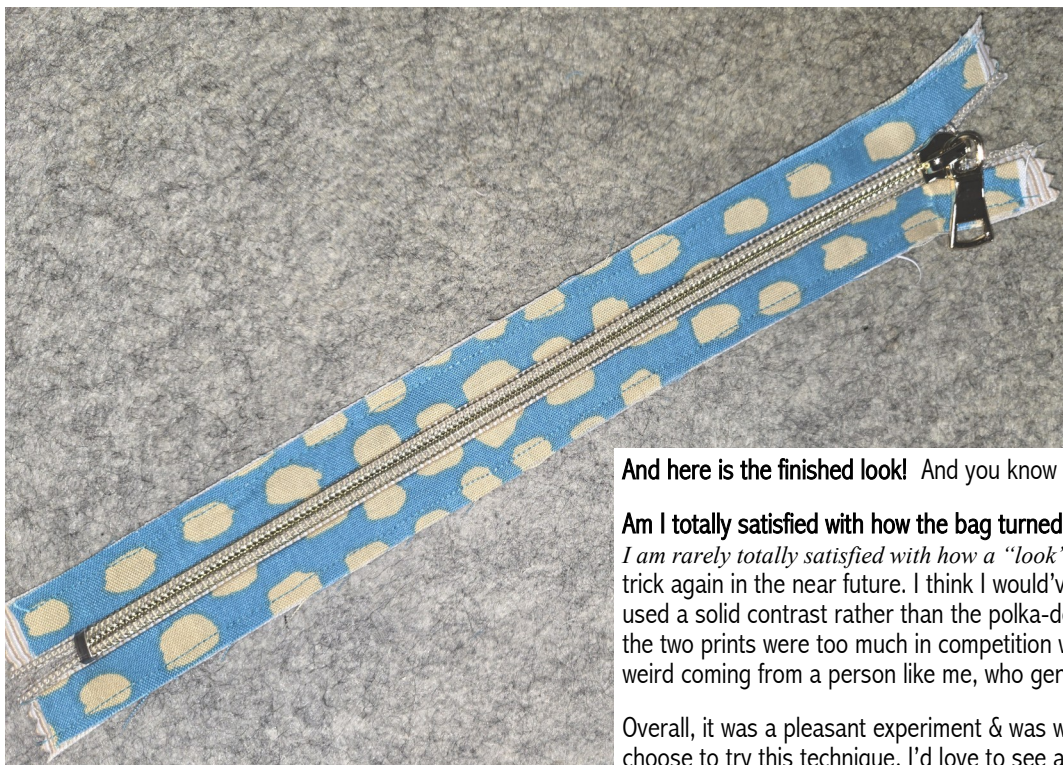
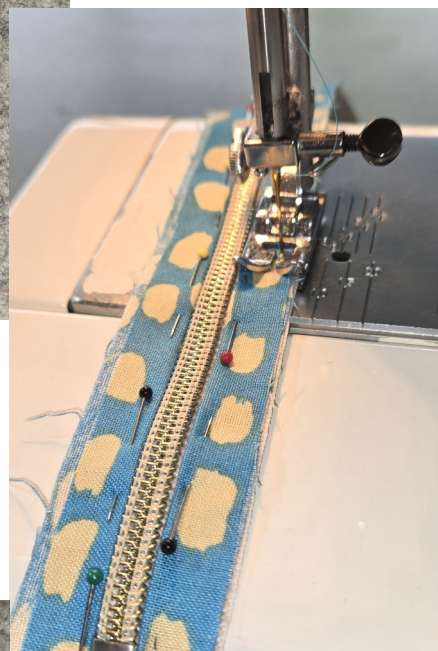
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← Pin fabric through ALL layers, on both sides of zipper, as close as possible to the zipper teeth.

Now stitch close to outside edges of BOTH zipper edges, catching both raw contrast edges in this stitching. →



And here is the finished look! And you know what? It was actually pretty quick & easy!

**Am I totally satisfied with how the bag turned out?** The truth is... not entirely, (*although I am rarely totally satisfied with how a "look" turns out.*) But I will definitely be trying this trick again in the near future. I think I would've been more satisfied with the "look" had I used a solid contrast rather than the polka-dotted print that I chose. In this case, I think the two prints were too much in competition with each other, which might sound a little weird coming from a person like me, who generally LOVES combining prints.

Overall, it was a pleasant experiment & was well-worth the time invested, and if you choose to try this technique, I'd love to see a picture of your project when you get done!

;) )