

## Bi-fold Wallet



Make an 8-pocket, bi-fold wallet with your child's or grandchild's favorite design, then tuck a gift card inside for an extra-special gift!

Make bright and colorful wallets with hot pink or neon fabrics; or, choose something understated with darker fabrics and tone-on-tone embroidery.

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### Supplies Needed:



\*\*1/4 yard light-weight canvas or twill fabric (for outer shell and inner pockets)

\*\*9 1/2 inch by 4 1/4 inch piece of heavy weight canvas (for the inner lining)

\*\*Medium weight cutaway stabilizer

\*\*Temporary spray adhesive (we use KK100)

\*\*Air-erase pen (or other marking tool)

\*\*Extra-wide double fold bias tape

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**Finished size of the project (when folded):** 4 3/4 inches wide by 5 inches high. Note that this size fits in the back pockets of most men's jeans. Five women at the Embroidery Library tested the wallet, and four found that the wallet was a nice, snug fit in the back pockets. One person found that the wallet was too large to fit in her back snap pockets. Feel free to modify this pattern for smaller pockets (for smaller children).

**Designs Used:** [Quick-stitching Simple Treasures designs \(Cupcake and Spider\)](#).

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First, prepare the fabric for the outer shell of the wallet. Measure and mark (using an air-erase pen or other marking tool) a 9 1/2 inch wide by 5 inch high rectangle on the lightweight canvas or twill fabric.

Leave a couple inches of excess fabric around the shape.

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Create a paper template of the design by printing it at full size using embroidery software.

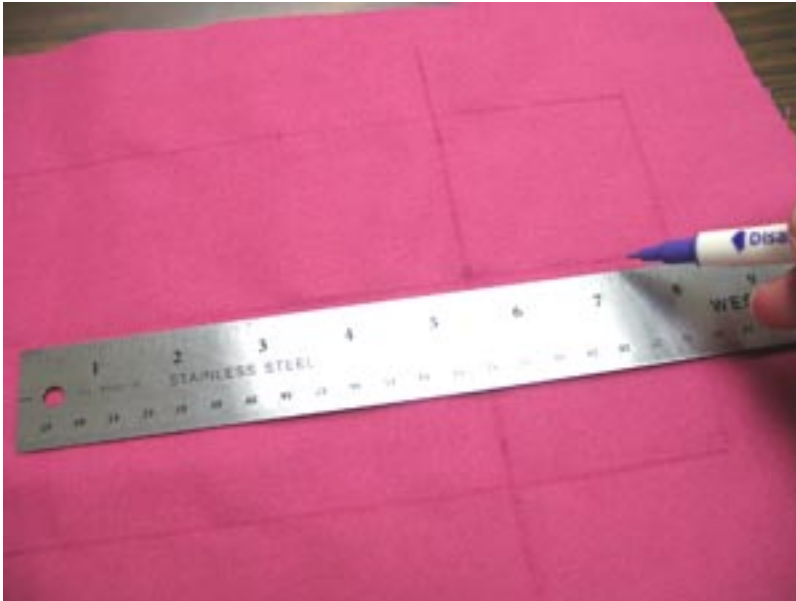
Then, place the template on the right side of the shape and center it with the top and bottom by measuring equal distances between the center of the design and the edges of the shape (there should be at least 3/4 inches of space between the top and bottom edges of the design and the edges of the shape). The design template should also measure 2 1/2 inches from the right side edge of the shape to the center point of the design.

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Once the template is in position (using an air-erase pen or other marking tool) poke a hole in the center of the template and mark the fabric.

Also, mark the horizontal and vertical axis points on the fabric.

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Remove the template and draw lines to connect the axis points. These lines will be used for hooping.

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Cut a piece of cutaway stabilizer a bit larger than the drawn shape on the fabric.



Spray a piece of cutaway stabilizer with a little temporary adhesive. Smooth the fabric on top.

Hoop the fabric and stabilizer together by aligning the marks on the hoop with the lines on the fabric. Attach the hoop to the machine and load the design. Move the hoop so that the needle is directly over the center point on the fabric.

Embroider the design.



After the design has sewn out, unhoop the fabric and stabilizer and cut around the shape.

There's no need to cut the stabilizer from the back of the embroidery. We will leave the stabilizer in place to give the wallet body and some stiffness.



Next, cut a piece of the heavy weight canvas 9 1/2 inches wide by 5 inches high – this is will be used for the inner lining of the wallet.

Lay the inner lining fabric right side down and align the embroidered outer shell fabric on top with the design facing up.

Pin in place



Sew a 1/8 inch seam around the entire outer edge of the fabric.

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Then, mark the center (spine) of the wallet by measuring the top and bottom edges and dividing by two (ours measured 4 3/4 inches).

Draw a line connecting the marks.

Sew a seam along the line. This will help the wallet to bend properly at the spine.

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Now, we will prepare the fabric pieces for the inner pockets.

Using the lightweight canvas, we will cut a total of eight pocket pieces (two of each size listed below).



Pieces 1 and 2: 7 1/2 inches wide by 4 1/4 inches high

Pieces 3 and 4: 6 1/2 inches wide by 4 1/4 inches high

Pieces 5 and 6: 5 1/2 inches wide by 4 1/4 inches high

Pieces 7 and 8: 4 1/2 inches wide by 4 1/4 inches high



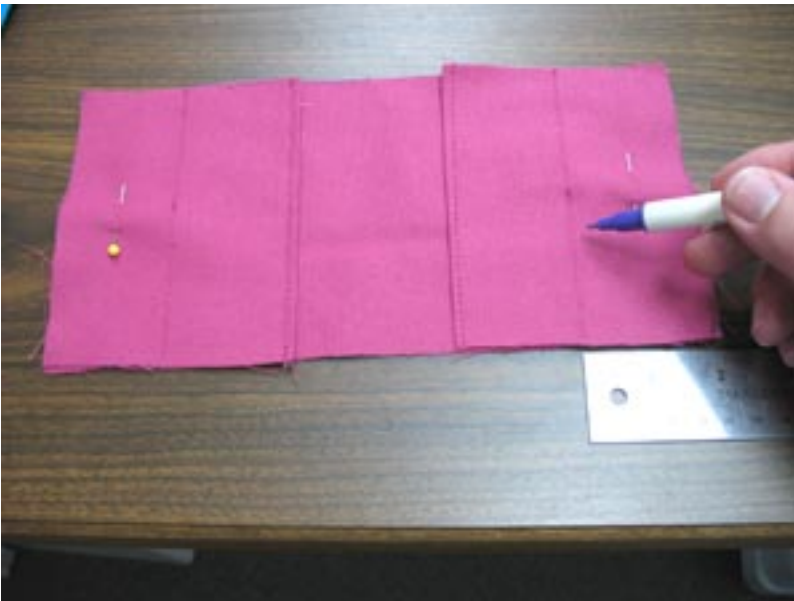
Fold each pocket piece widthwise and press the fold with an iron.



Sew a 1/8 inch seam along the folded edge of each pocket piece.

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Cut two more pieces of lightweight canvas 9 1/2 inches wide by 4 1/4 inches high (these pieces will be the front and back of the base of the inner pockets).



Lay one of the base pieces you just cut, right side facing up.

Align the largest pocket pieces with the right and left sides of the base piece with the seamed edges facing in.

Pin in place, measure and mark 1 3/4 inches in from each of the four corners along the top and bottom edges. Draw vertical lines connecting the marks.

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Sew a seam along the lines on each pocket. These seams make the pockets just the right size.



Trim away the two layers of fabric on the raw edges of the pocket right next to the seams you just sewed (be sure to cut on the side of the raw edges of the pockets leaving the seamed edges intact).

Cut through the pocket layers only and not the base fabric. Doing this makes the wallet less bulky and easier to sew for the remaining steps.



Then, align the next largest pocket pieces with the right and left sides of the base fabric again with the seamed edges facing in. Pin in place and measure and mark 1 1/2 inches in from each of the four corners along the top and bottom edges.

Draw vertical lines connecting the marks and sew a seam along the lines.

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Trim the layers of the pocket fabric along the seams on the side of the raw edges (from the pocket you just added).

Again, be careful to cut through the pocket layers only and not the base fabric.

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Add the third largest pockets by repeating the last steps above (measure and mark 1 1/4 inches in from each corner and draw vertical lines to connect the points.)

Next, add the smallest pockets (these pockets do not require a seam or trimming) on top of the third set of pockets.

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Align the back base fabric to the backside of the pockets and pin in place. Tack the pockets in place by sewing a 1/8 inch seam along the top and bottom edges of the pockets.

Sew from the outside in to prevent the edges of the pockets from folding over as you sew.

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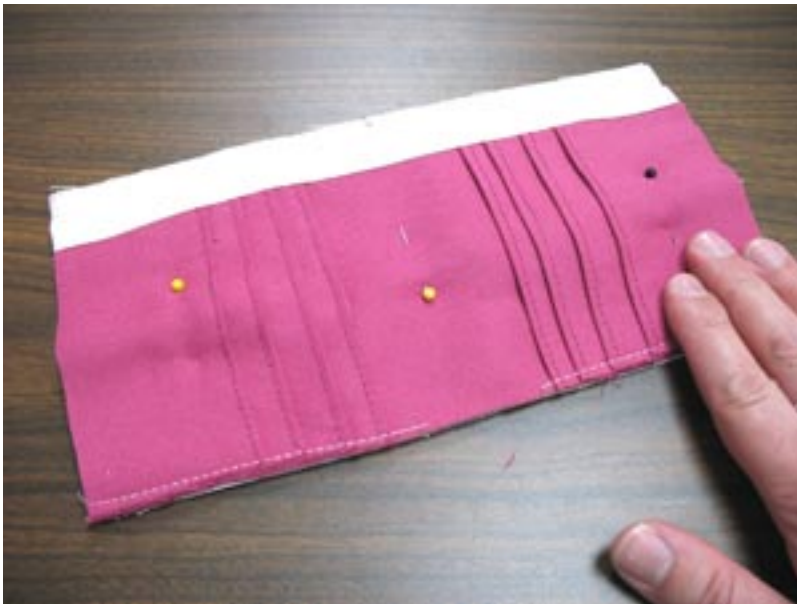


Cut a 10 inch piece of bias tape. Wrap the tape around the top edge of the inner pocket piece and pin in place

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Sew a seam along the inner and outer edge of the tape then trim the excess from the outer edges.



Now we will add the inner pocket piece to the embroidered outer shell.

Lay the embroidered outer shell right side facing down. Lay the inner pocket piece on top with the bottom corners aligned (the inner lining of the outer shell should extend up past the pocket piece about 1/2 inch).

Pin in place.



Flip the pieces over so the embroidered side is facing up.

Add bias tape to the outer edges by first folding the end of the tape over about 1/4 inch and wrapping the end around one of the corners.

Pin the tape in place.



Sew a seam along the inner edge of the tape. This will bind the tape to the wallet and will also bind all of the layers together.

Stop sewing about 1 1/2 inch before each corner. Then, pinch and fold the tape at the corner, wrap the tape around the next edge, and then continue sewing.

For the last corner, trim the tape leaving about 1/4 inch of excess. Fold the end under 1/4 inch and sew the end in place.



To finish the wallet, sew another seam along the entire outer edge of the bias tape.



For added personalization, let your child or grandchild choose the design, and their favorite fabric colors.



[Click here for a printable version of these project instructions.](#)

You'll need to have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer. If you don't have it, you can download a free copy by clicking on the icon below.

