

POCKET POTHOLDERS



VERY SHANNON

PATTERNS FOR THE MODERN KNITTER + SEWER



FABRIC REQUIREMENTS, SUPPLIES & TOOLS

RECOMMENDED FABRIC

Cotton
Quilting Cotton
Lightweight Canvas
Linen

**Do not use synthetic fabrics like polyester - they cannot handle the heat and will melt.*

SUPPLIES

Lightweight cotton quilt batting
Thermal batting (like Insul-bright)
Bias Binding (self-made) - cotton bias binding (must be cut on the bias and be cotton) 2 ½" x 44" (6cm x 112cm) *Note: You will need double this amount if you make 2 potholders.

**Do not use synthetic fabrics for your bias binding - they will melt.*

TOOLS

Rotary cutter w/mat
Scissors
Pins (and binding clips if desired)
Coordinating thread
*Hand sewing needle (*Optional - only needed if hand stitching bias binding)
Quilt Ruler
Removable Fabric Marker or Tailor's Chalk

FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

The fabric requirements listed below vary based on your fabric selection and the placement of your fabric. Please note that the requirements given are for non-directional prints only. Directional prints may require more fabric. Please plan accordingly when purchasing fabric. All requirements are based on 45"/115cm width fabric.

A fat quarter of fabric (18" x 22"/46cm x 56cm) will make ONE potholder.

A ½ yard of fabric (18" x 44"/46cm x 112cm) will make TWO potholders.

A piece of thermal batting AND cotton batting at 6.5"W x 10"H (16.5cm W x 25cm H) will make ONE potholder.

POTHOLDER MEASUREMENTS

Each potholder measures 6.5" W x 10" H (16.5cm W x 25cm H).

Each pocket measures 6.5"W x 4.5"H (16.5cm W x 11cm H).

SAFETY NOTES

You will be handling hot objects with your potholders. Please follow the following safety precautions:

- Thermal batting is an essential part of making a safe potholder. It is heat-resistant and helps protect you from burns. Do NOT use only quilt batting for your potholder, you must also have a layer of thermal batting. ONLY use cotton batting for your layer of regular batting.
- Do NOT use any synthetic or polyester/poly-blend fabrics for your bias tape or potholder. They cannot handle the heat and will melt.

PATTERN PIECES & CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

PATTERN PIECES

Print out your Potholder Pattern Pieces found on **Page 9** using our Printing Instructions found on **Page 3**.

You have the following pattern pieces included with this pattern:

1. *Main Potholder*
2. *Pocket*

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS - TO MAKE 1 POTHOLDER

Cut out using your Main Potholder pattern piece:

2 - Main Potholder in desired fabric

1 - Cotton Batting

1 - Thermal Batting (Or four if you want an extra heat resistant potholder).

Cut out from your desired fabric the following for your Pocket pattern piece:



2 - Pockets

*Optional:

Cut 1 piece of fabric measuring 1.25" wide by 5" high (3cm wide by 13cm high) for hanging loop.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

TIPS FOR SEWING

1. Read all instructions carefully before sewing.
2. Always wash/dry/press your fabrics before sewing with them unless fabric care states otherwise.
3. Follow the **Pattern Pieces & Cutting Instructions** on **Page 2** to find out what is included in this pattern and which pieces to cut/how many.
4. Trace or cut your pattern taking care to mark all notches & other pattern markings onto your fabric with a removable fabric marker or tailor's chalk.
5. Start and finish all seams with a backstitch unless otherwise stated.
6. Always press your seams as you work through the pattern.
7. Clip seam allowances where necessary. Clip corners of seam allowance to reduce bulk. Doing so enables your curves to lay nicely & flat.
8. Finish your edges with a zig zag stitch or serge for a clean finish. You may also choose to use pinking shears to trim seam allowances to prevent fraying.
9. Right side is depicted by white.  Wrong side is depicted by grey. 

GLOSSARY

- **BACKSTITCH:** Sew in reverse for a few stitches at the beginning and end of your seam. This helps to prevent your stitches from coming unsewn.
- **BASTE:** Set your machine to the longest machine length & don't backstitch at the start or end of your seam. This is used to make a temporary seam.
- **FINISH THE SEAM ALLOWANCES:** You may choose to use a serger, finish your seams by running a zigzag stitch over the raw edge of your seam allowance or by simply sewing a straight stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ "/.64cm from your raw edge then trim your seam allowance with pinking shears.
- **RS AND WS:** RS is the right side of your fabric and WS is the wrong side of your fabric (the inside of your garment would be the WS of your fabric).
- **STITCH IN THE DITCH:** Sewing on top of a finished seam line from the front of the garment or item.
- **TOPSTITCH:** A straight stitch that is sewn $\frac{1}{8}$ "/.32cm along the right edge of a seam.

PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS

- Page size is 8.5" x 11". Pattern can be printed on both 8.5" x 11" paper and size A4.
- Confirm when printing your pattern pieces that your printer is set to "actual size" and/or you set your page scaling to "none". Be sure not to select "shrink to fit" or any other page scaling as this will result in your pattern pieces being the incorrect size and your garment may not fit.
- Print your pattern pieces using ONLY Adobe Reader. Do NOT print from your computer's "preview" or browser. This will result in incorrect sizing.
- Seam allowances are already included on the pattern pieces.
- Before printing out your entire pattern print out **Page 9** and double check your 1"/2.54cm test box. This is an important step that will save you from printing out the whole pattern in the wrong size. If the 1"/2.54cm test box is accurate after printing you are safe to print out all of your pattern pieces.

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SOCIAL MEDIA

We love seeing your project pics! Tag your Potholders on social media using the hashtag **#POCKETPOTHOLDER**.

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INSTRUCTIONS

QUILTING YOUR POTHOLDER

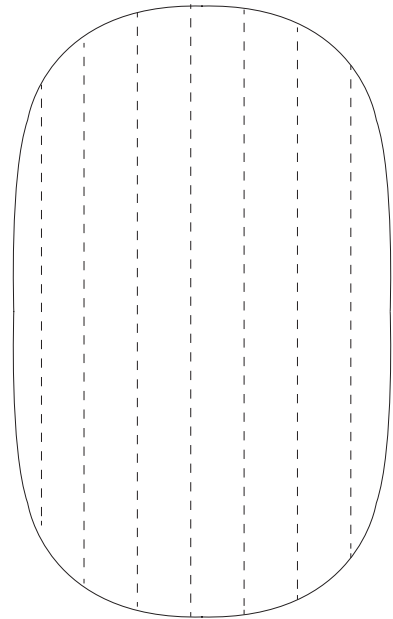
Mark your desired quilting pattern on one of your Main Potholder fabric pieces using a quilt ruler and a removable fabric marker or tailor's chalk. I simply marked vertical lines approximately 1 1/2".54cm apart.

Now layer:

- 1 piece of Main Potholder fabric (RS facing down)
- 1 layer of Thermal Batting
- 1 layer of Cotton Batting
- 1 piece of Main Potholder fabric (RS facing up)

Quilt along your marked lines and when finished, trim edges even using your rotary cutter (or scissors).

TIP: *It's easiest to start quilting from the centre and work your way towards your outer edges. With your first line of stitching sew down, then for your next line rotate your potholder and sew in the other direction. This helps from getting drag in your fabric while quilting.*



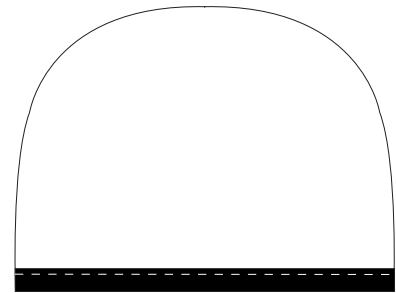
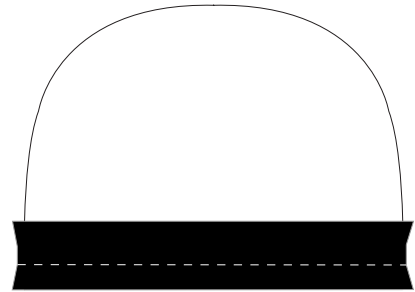
PREP YOUR POCKETS

Add bias binding along one straight edge of the RS of each of your pockets. Place one long raw edge of the bias binding RS together with your straight pocket edge. Sew in the first fold of the bias binding. Press binding up.

Fold your binding up and over and line up the folded edge on your pocket back taking care that it covers and extends by 1/8"/.3cm the stitching line that you just sewed. Use your binding clips to hold binding in place.

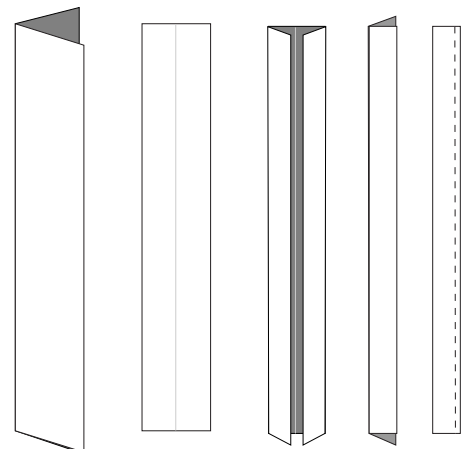
Turn over to RS of pocket. Stitch in the ditch taking care to catch the back side of the binding while you are stitching. I find this can sometimes be a tricky step and I sometimes prefer to hand stitch the binding to the back side.

TIP: *For a great tutorial on making your own bias binding I recommend Dana's fabulous one **HERE** (<http://www.madeeveryday.com/2008/07/technique-understanding-bias-and-making-bias-tape.html>). Just remember there are no mitered corners needed due to the corners of our potholder being rounded.*



MAKE HANGING LOOP (OPTIONAL)

With one of your fabric hanging loop pieces, press fabric in half with WS facing each other. Open up fold and then press each long edge towards the centre crease you just pressed. Keep these folded down and then fold strip of fabric in half again. Edge stitch along long open edge of strip. Press.



INSTRUCTIONS CONT'D

ASSEMBLE POTHOLDER

Place your pocket pieces RS facing up, on the front RS side of your potholder and pin down. My potholder has the same fabric on each side but you could mix it up and do contrasting prints/colors for fun here!

Place pocket pieces on RS of potholder, taking care that your straight edges are straight and lined up nicely.

Optional: Find and mark the centre distance between the top of each straight edge of your pockets along the outer edge of your potholder. Fold fabric loop in half so that both short ends meet. Pin your fabric loop here and then baste in place close to edge, with fabric loop laying on potholder.

FINISH POTHOLDER EDGES

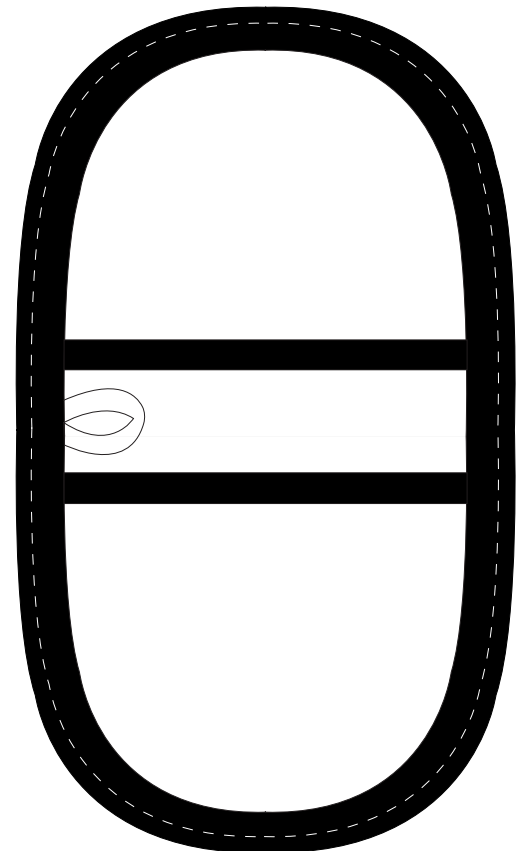
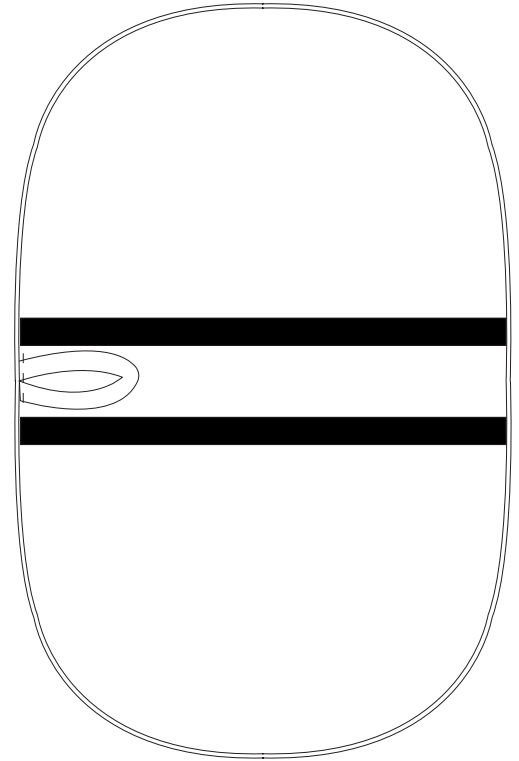
Zigzag stitch or serge around the entire potholder close to edge. This keeps the edges smooth and uniform for binding.

BIAS BINDING

If you are making your own bias binding it must be made with fabric cut on the bias (cross-grain) or you will not be able to attach the bias binding around your curves neatly.

Place one raw edge of your binding RS together with your outer potholder edge and sew binding in the first fold of the bias around the entire perimeter of the front of your potholder (taking care that your fabric loop is laying on top of potholder) easing binding around your curved corners, being careful not to stretch the binding.

TIP: For a great tutorial on making your own bias binding I recommend Dana's fabulous one **HERE** (<http://www.madeeveryday.com/2008/07/technique-understanding-bias-and-making-bias-tape.html>). Just remember there are no mitered corners needed due to the corners of our potholder being rounded.



INSTRUCTIONS CONT'D

Now that you've sewn your binding to the front of the potholder, fold your binding up and over to the back of your potholder, taking care that it covers and extends by 1/8"/.3cm the stitching line that you just sewed. Use your binding clips to hold binding in place.

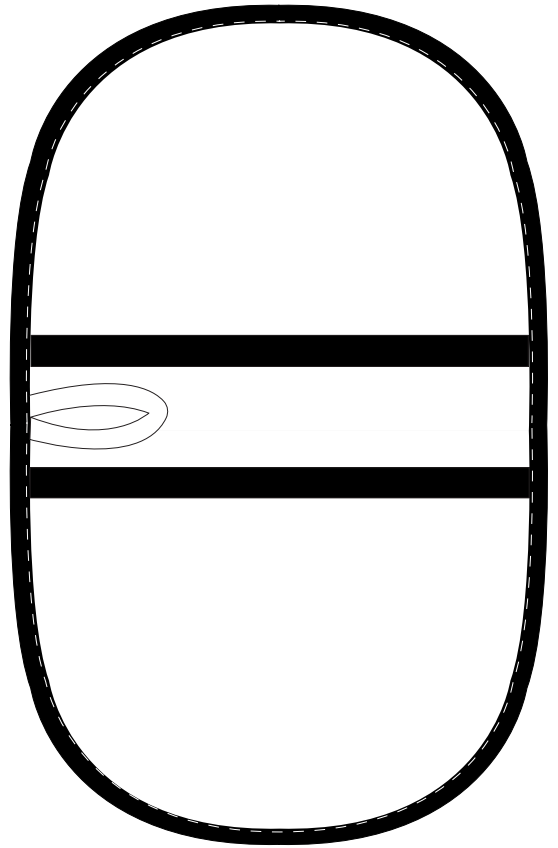
Optional: You can choose to pin your hanging loop into an upright position (over the edges of the bias binding so it's stitched over the binding, or leave it as is as I did in the one shown in pattern and diagram.

Turn potholder over to the right side. Stitch in the ditch taking care to catch the back side of the binding while stitching. I find this can sometimes be tricky and for a neater finish I usually opt to hand stitch my binding down on the WS.

Press potholder.

YOUR SECOND POTHOLDER

Repeat all above steps to make your matching Pocket Potholder.



OPTIONS

POCKETS NOT YOUR THING?

Looking for a potholder without pockets? Simply omit the pocket pieces and assemble the potholder as written. That's it!

LOOKING FOR A DIFFERENT SHAPE?

Not a fan of the fold in half style and just want a simple rectangle or square? Go for it! Draw out the size/shape of potholder you'd like, cut out your fabric and thermal batting & cotton batting to match, omit the pocket steps (or add a pocket to match the size of the potholder you've done up) and follow the written steps to finish the potholder.

We want to see your Pocket Potholders!

Use hashtag **#POCKETPOTHOLDERS** on Twitter and Instagram to share your potholders!



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PATTERNS FOR THE MODERN KNITTER & SEWER

POCKET POTHOLDER

MAIN POTHOLDER

CUT 2 on fold of fabric
CUT 1 on fold of thermal batting
CUT 1 on fold of cotton batting
(The above will make 1 potholder)

TEST BOX

1in/2.54cm
Square

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GRAINLINE

CUT ON FOLD

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PATTERNS FOR THE MODERN KNITTER & SEWER

POCKET POTHOLDER

POCKET

CUT 2 from fabric

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