

Acrylic Tool Holder

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The acrylic stands were purchased through Amazon in sets of 8, but may be found individually at other stores. An 8 pack of 8.5" X 5.5" Horizontal Double sided Standup Table Top Clear Sign Holders was around \$28.00 for a cost of around \$4.00 each.

Make a handy tool holder for your desk or sewing table with just a few pieces of fabric, fusible fleece and an acrylic stand. The stand is the type used by restaurants. This size is very stable where the taller stands might become top heavy when tools are added. There are modifications on how to use directional fabrics in several of the steps. Both 1/4" and 3/8" seams are used in the construction.

Use coordinating fabric for best results.

It can be used in other areas of the home to hold different items such as a TV remote control.



Step 1: Cut 5 pieces of fabric and 3 pieces of fusible fleece.

Main body fabric: Cut one 11 1/2" tall by 10" wide.

See the instructions in Step 2 if using directional fabric.

Pockets fabric: Cut two 8" tall by 10" wide.

See the instructions in Step 2 if using directional fabric.

Binding fabric: Cut two 2 1/4" tall by 10" wide.

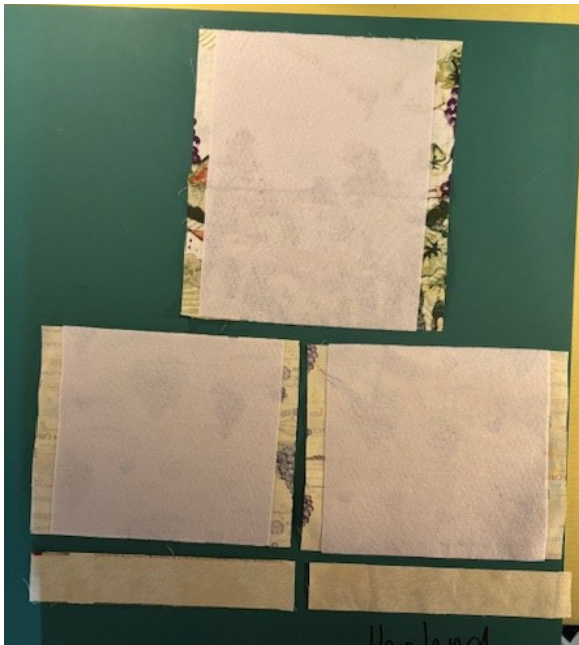
Fusible Fleece: Cut one 8 1/2" by 11 1/2". Cut two 8 1/2" by 8".

If you want to use batting, you should use a fusible webbing to adhere the batting to the fabric or use fusible batting or quilt the batting to the fabric.



Step 2: If using directional fabric, cut 2 pieces 6 1/2" tall by 10" wide. With the right sides together and matching the top edges, sew a 1/2" seam. Look at the picture, see that the center seam has the pictures going in the opposite directions. When you fold it in half, it will be situated in the correct way. **(Trim to size indicated in Step 1.)**

If using directional fabric for the pockets, the size remains the same. When folded in half, one side will be right side facing up and one side will be right side facing down. When marking and sewing the pocket to the main body, be sure to orient the pattern direction correctly.



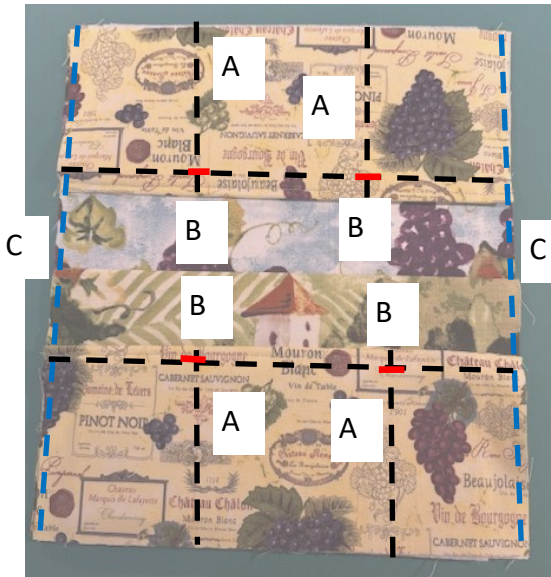
Step 3: Center the 3 pieces of fusible fleece on the wrong side of the fabrics and iron/press. You need to follow the manufacturer's directions on using a dry iron or steam iron. **Use a pressing cloth to adhere the fusible fleece to the fabric, then turn over and press on the fabric side to complete adhering the two pieces.**

You can use any medium weight fusible fabric. If you want to use batting, you should use a fusible webbing to adhere the batting to the fabric or use fusible batting or quilt the pieces at this step.



Step 4: Fold each pocket in half with the wrong sides together to measure 4" tall by 10" wide and press. **(A)** Topstitch along top folded edge. **(B)** Determine how many and what width pockets you want on each side, and mark the lines using any erasable marker or chalk. Mark on the side you want facing out. If directional, make sure it is in the correct direction.

You can have a different number of pockets on each side. Narrow for a stiletto, wider for a seam ripper, or wider for a rotary cutter or ruler. For two, mark the centerline. For three, mark at 3 3/4" from each edge.



Step 5: Place the folded edges of the two pockets toward the center of the main body, aligning the raw edges.

(A) Stitch each pocket to the main body on the marked lines. Be sure to backstitch to secure the top edge. Stitch these lines twice for extra strength.

(B) To further create a stable top edge, bar tack at each intersection of the topstitch line and the lines sewn to create the pockets.

(C) To secure the edges of the pockets to the main fabric, stitch along both edges of the entire length with a 1/8" seam. This will help when later sewing Step 10. Erase the marking lines using the manufacturer's directions.



Step 6: With right sides together and lining up raw edges, use a 3/8" seam and sew a binding strip to each short end of the main body with pockets unit. Press the binding strip towards the bottom.



Step 7: Fold the binding strip to the inside. First put the raw bottom edge to the bottom of the main body, then fold the bottom up. Clip or pin in place on each binding strip.

(Just like binding a quilt.)



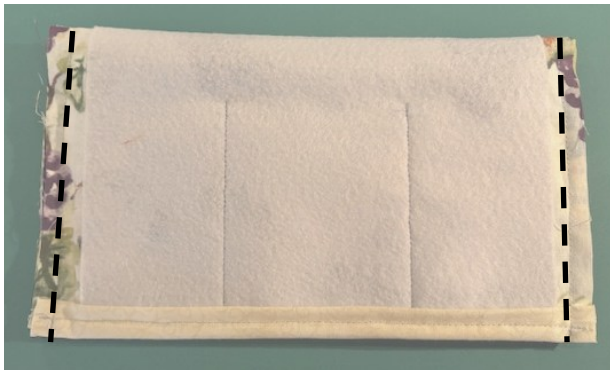
Step 8: On the right side of main body, stitch in the ditch to secure the binding on each edge of the main body.



Step 9: Check on the back side to ensure that the binding is stitched down. It is okay if the seam is away from the long edge, it will be on the inside and not be seen.

Check that the fusible fleece is securely attached. If not, this would be the time to press it again.

(I found it helpful to mark the 3/8" line as the thickness of the layers will cause the fabric to shift while sewing.)



Step 10: Fold the main body unit in half with right sides together matching the raw edges. Sew the side seams with a 3/8" seam. Stitch the seam again to help stabilize it.

Use a zig zag stitch or pinking shears to keep the edges from fraying.



Step 11: Turn right side out and gently push out the top corners. Slide onto the acrylic stand putting the seams towards the back side of the acrylic stand.

Fill with your most used tools and place it near your sewing machine.

I hope you enjoy and find this tutorial helpful. Please feel free to share the pattern with your friends as it is not copyrighted or trademarked. Make them and gift them or sell them.

Questions? Contact me at stephanie.harland@clarkcountyquilters.com