Quilt-As-You-Go Pencil Case
by GillyMac Designs

This project creates a colourful pencil case, using scraps of fabric sewn directing onto wadding. The pencil case in this project is not lined, but could be lined at the point the zip is inserted.

Equipment & Materials Required

- ✓ Lots of scraps of fabrics – no smaller than 2"x 5"
- ✓ 10" zip in a co-ordinating colour
- ✓ 2 pieces of wadding 10" x 7"
- ✓ Sewing machine with normal/zig zag foot and ideally a zipper foot
- ✓ Thread of a co-ordinating colour
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Rotary cutter and mat (optional)

How To Make It!

1. Take one piece of wadding and cut a scrap of fabric, roughly 2" square, and put it in the middle of your wadding, right side up.

Now sew lines over it, right through the wadding. Use the side of the sewing machine foot as guide to keep the sewn lines approximately the same distance apart, (but don't be too concerned about being precise). Go back and forth over the piece of fabric until there are sewn lines all over it, like in the picture.

2. One you have sewn lines across this first piece of fabric, the aim is to continue in this way to surround this piece with more fabric. To do this, cut a new piece of fabric just longer than the first one and any width you want, I suggest about 2". Place this fabric above the first one on the wadding, (see picture below). Using pieces of different sizes makes the final pencil case even more interesting.

Now flip it face down, right side to the right side or your original piece and sew a ¼" seam along the top edge and flip it back over.
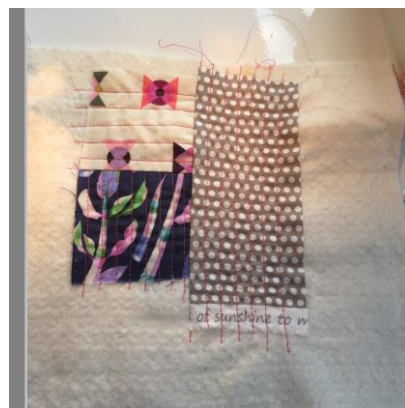

Next sew lines along this piece the same as in step 1. The sewn lines should be in the direction of the sewing line you attached the piece onto the wadding. See picture below.

3. When this second piece is secure, cut a third piece that is slightly longer than the side you are matching this piece to - working around the central piece clockwise.
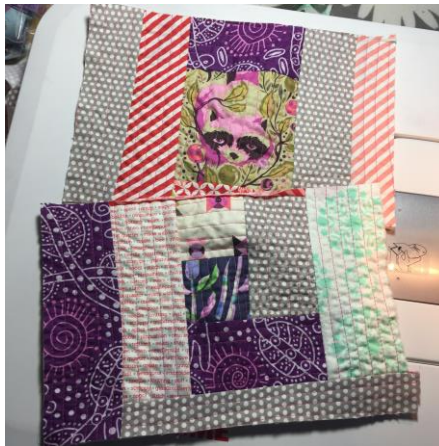

Again, flip and sew to secure it, and then flip it back out and sew lines over it in the direction of the sewn line you attached it with.
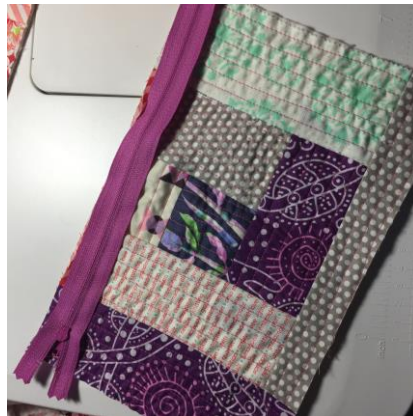

4. Continue in this way, moving clockwise around the wadding, until all of it is covered in fabric with lines sewn over it. You may find that some sides of the wadding get covered quicker than others because of the size and direction of the pieces. Don't worry, just go ahead and fill up the wadding – continuing to work outwards until it is complete covered.

5. Repeat this process again to cover the second piece of wadding.

6. Trim both pieces of wadding to 9.5" x 6.5"

7. The next job is to attach the zip. The right side of the zip is the side of the zip with the zipper pull on it. Like most things, you attach the zip right side to rights side. Lay the zip right side down on top of one of the pieces of wadding (right sides up) along one of the longer edges. Pin or clip in place. Using a zipper foot, sew the zip to the side of one of the wadding pieces. You may need to move the zipper along and out of the way as you sew.

8. Next, turn your project right sides up and sew a top stitch (straight stitch) along the edge of the fabric where it meets the zipper – about 1/8" away from the zipper tape edge. This just holds the seam inside away from the zipper teeth and gives a professional finish to the edge of the zipper.

9. To attach the other side of the wadding to the other side of the zipper is just a repeat of step 8. Place the second piece of covered wadding, right sides up in front of you and place the zipper (now attached to the other side) face down, lining the unsewn edge of the zipper along one of the long sizes of the covered wadding. Now sew as before and finishes with a top stitch again. Your piece should look like this.

10. To finish the pencil case, unzip the zipper and now fold the wadding pieces right sides together and pin them. Sew around the three sides that don't have the zipper, and turn the pencil case right sides out. If the seams are bulky, trim them back to ¼" - especially around the corners. Your pencil case is now ready to fill and use !

End.