

# In-The-Hoop Embroidered Clutch

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[www.sewcanshe.com](http://www.sewcanshe.com)

This easy clutch is sewn almost entirely in your machine embroidery hoop. The only part that is sewn on a regular sewing machine is the strap!

There are 2 files included in the free download. The first file is the front of the pouch that attaches the zipper and the strap. The second file is the finishing step that sews the clutch back to the front. I have the finishing step in a separate file to allow you to add any other decorative design that you may have to the front of the clutch, before the machine sews the last step.

This pattern requires an embroidery machine that can embroider designs at least 5" x 7".

Notes on materials: Since this clutch is unlined, it is important to choose a material that will not fray and is sturdy enough to make a pouch without a lining. Suggested materials include cork fabric\* (as used in the examples), vinyl, faux leather (or vegan leather), thin genuine leather, and felt.

\* I buy my cork fabric from [www.FabricFunhouse.com](http://www.FabricFunhouse.com). The quality and selection are great.

If you want to be able to clip the strap to the zipper pull, the zipper pull must have a hole large enough to accommodate your clip. Test your clip and zipper before starting. For the example clutches, I used YKK handbag zippers (#4.5) because the zipper pull has a nice large hole in it.



## Fabric and notions:

- 13" x 18" or more cork fabric (or other material, see note above)
- 8" or longer zipper
- small swivel hook or clasp with a 1/2" opening for the strap
- embroidery thread
- 5"x7" or larger embroidery hoop
- tear away stabilizer to fit the embroidery hoop
- painters tape or masking tape

- Wonder clips (optional)
- Chopstick or point turner

### **Cutting:**

From the cork fabric (or other material), cut:

- 1 strip 1 1/4" x 18" (for the strap)
- 1 rectangle 2" x 8"
- 1 rectangle 4 1/2" x 8"
- 1 rectangle 6" x 8"

### **Make the strap:**

1. Fold the 1 1/4" x 18" strip in half lengthwise. Use clips to keep the strap folded, if desired. Topstitch along both long edges.
2. Place the strap through the clip opening and fold against the other side of the strap. Tuck the raw edge under, if desired. Sew a small square to secure the clip to the strap.

Set the strap aside.

### **Load the embroidery design:**

1. The file folder contains 2 files, each in the most common embroidery formats. Find the 'clutchfront' and 'clutchback' files in the correct format for your embroidery machine.
2. Load and set the 'clutchfront' file to your machine.
3. **Optional:** Add a monogram or any other design that you would like on the front of your pouch. Move the design to a pleasing spot below the horizontal lines that will stitch the zipper in place.  
*Do not move the 'clutchfront' design at this time.*
4. Load and set the 'clutchback' file to your machine on top of the previously loaded design(s).
5. If you need to move the clutch to a different place in your hoop, you may move both (or all) of the designs together at this time.

## Sewing/Embroidery:

Prepare a 5"x7" hoop with tear away stabilizer. The machine embroidery steps are listed below in black. **Action steps for you are in red.**

1. Clutch outline and zipper placement stitches. **Place the zipper face up, centered on the zipper placement stitches. Allow the zipper pull to stay outside the stitching area for now. Tape the pull down if there is danger of it bouncing into the path of the needle.**
2. Zipper tack down. **Place the upper fabric (2" x 8" rectangle) face down, with the top edge aligned with the top edge of the zipper.**
3. Upper fabric seam. **Fold upper fabric up against the stabilizer. Tape in place with painters tape.**
4. Upper fabric tack down. **Place the lower fabric (4 1/2" x 8" rectangle) face down, with the top edge aligned with the bottom edge of the zipper.**
5. Lower fabric seam. **Fold lower fabric down against the stabilizer. Tape in place with painters tape.**
6. Lower fabric tack down. **Move the zipper slider to the middle of the pouch. Place the strap end over the left side of the zipper, with the end of the strap 1/2" past the edge of the pouch and the rest of the strap laying on top of the zipper. Tape the strap in place.**
7. Strap tack down.

Steps 8-second to last - optional embroidery design or monogram.

**Before final step:**

- **Un-tape the strap and fold it up to fit within the clutch outline. Re-tape the strap securely within the clutch outline.**
- **Place the 6" x 8" fabric rectangle right side down over the clutch outline. Tape in place.**
- Run the final machine embroidery step.

## Finishing:

1. Tear the clutch away from the stabilizer. Trim around the stitching with a 1/4" seam allowance. Clip the corners.
2. Cut or tear the stabilizer away from the zipper. Turn the clutch right side out through the zipper opening. Push the corners out with a chopstick or point turner.
3. Clip the end of the strap to the zipper pull.