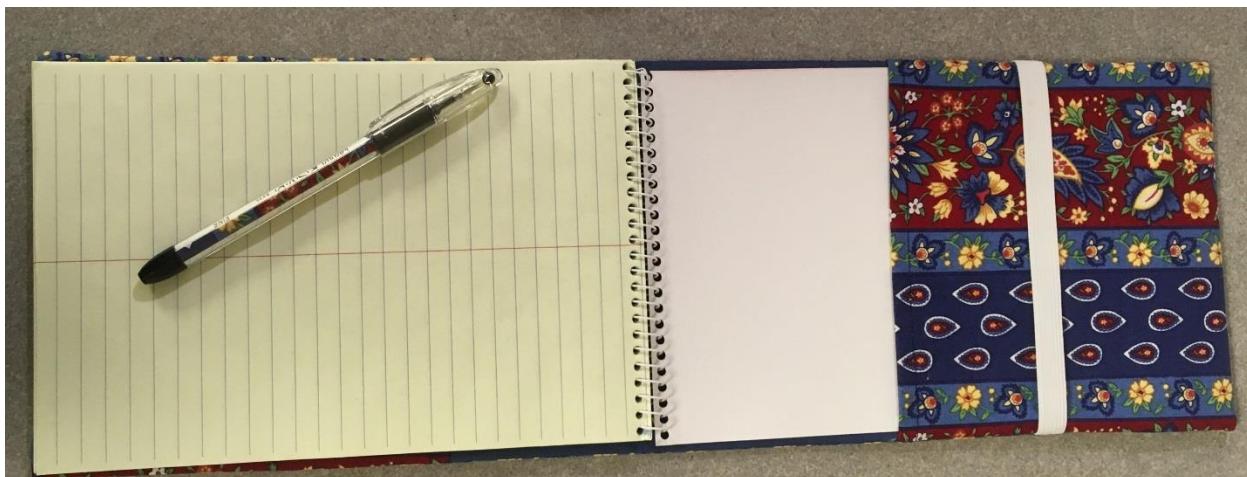


Making your own steno pad cover and matching pen

I adapted this design from a cover shared with me by Sharon Parrott – turning hers inside out to get measurements and understand the layout and assembly. It goes together quickly and there are many ways to adapt it.

I saw the idea for a matching pen in a [steno pad cover tutorial](#) from Linda Ronne. Linda's tutorial used batting in the cover, and the first one I tried, I backed the outer cover with fusible interfacing as I'd seen in other tutorials, but Sharon's model was just plain fabric, so in my second attempt I left out the interfacing and prefer the way the cover fits and feels. Here is what the finished product looks like.



Fabric needed

- Outside front and back of cover: One 7" x 20"
- Pen pocket: One 3 ½" x 12"
- Inside lining
 - Either one 7" x 12" for a single-thickness lining
 - OR one 7" x 25" for a double thickness lining with a more finished look inside
- Inside pockets: **Two** 7" x 7" squares
- Pen lining: 1" x 3 ½"

Other materials

- [Pentel R.S.V.P.](#) pen – top cap removable to insert fabric in clear barrel
- Half inch wide elastic – about 8" long

Inside pockets

Take two 7" x 7" pieces and turn under $\frac{1}{4}$ " twice to form a narrow hem on one edge of each piece. Stitch in place.



Inside lining piece

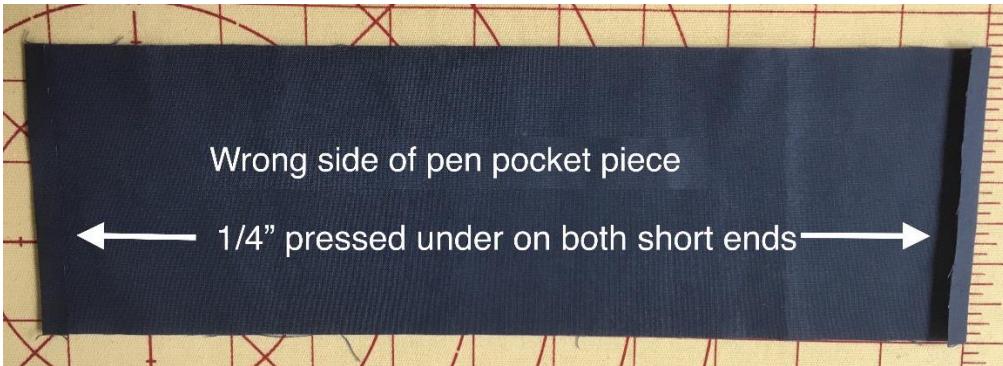
If using single thickness, take 7" x 12" piece and finish both short edges of by pinking, serging, or turning under and stitching double $\frac{1}{4}$ " hem.

If using double thickness lining, take 7" x 25" piece with right sides together, sew short edges in $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam and press seam open. Turn so seam is inside and centered and press lining flat. Seam will not show in finished cover. See photo under section below on assembling the cover.

Either way you should end up with a 7" wide piece approximately 12" long with finished short edges.

Pen Pocket

Turn under $\frac{1}{4}$ ' on **both short edges** of 3 1/2" x 12" strip and **press**.



Fold in half with short edges together and stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam down both long edges.



Turn right side out and press. Fold in half again, long edges together and press.



With folded edges at top and right, and seamed edge on left and turned-under edge on bottom, pin the pen pocket to the front cover **one inch from bottom and left edges**. Note: before sewing three sides down to create the pocket, I actually topstitched across the top edge of only the bottom layer to attach it to cover and prevent confusion about what slot the pen goes in when finished. Topstitch long sides and bottom of pocket leaving opening at top to insert pen.



Assembly of cover

Place elastic over top of pen pocket across front cover. Bottom edge of elastic should be $3\frac{1}{2}$ " from bottom edge of front cover. Baste elastic to front cover inside the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance on each side, leaving some slack in elastic since it will need to go around entire pad eventually.

Sandwich all layers together as follows:

Lay front cover down right side up – with pen pocket and elastic facing up.

Lay down a pocket on each end – right sides down with hemmed edges of pockets toward center of cover.



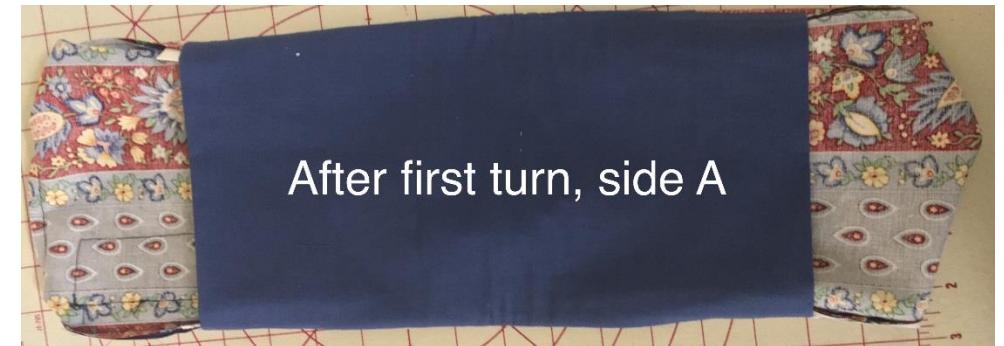
Center lining piece on top of everything (over pockets) so it is equidistant from both bottom ends. Back side of lining (if there was a seam or hemmed edges) should be facing up.

Pin all pieces in place and stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " around ALL edges – no need to leave an opening to turn – it's magic!



Turning it right side out

Now the fun – you will turn it right side out in two steps. First turn: Pull the ends through the lining and flatten out.



Second turn: Then turn each pocket right side out.



Press and you are done – insert steno pad.

Matching pen

Remove top cap of pen.

Take the 1" x 3 ½" piece of fabric and stuff it in the open barrel around the pen cartridge. This takes some finagling – I ended up pressing a long edge under to avoid having raw edges show.



Put pen in pocket and you are all set.



These instructions were created by Barbara Z. Taylor for [Burlington Carousel Quilters](#) and can be located online under Helpful Websites section of website.