Get Organized!
(cookie-sale organizer)
An easy, fat quarter project
Beginner Level

Pattern by: Amelie Scott Designs

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Dear Girl Scout,

We are glad you decided to make the Cookie Sale Organizer. Sewing is a great skill to have because you can make so many different things for your room and more. Plus, it is fun to get together with your friends and make cool stuff. Have fun! -- Christine Scott and Katie Amélie

Getting Started

Finished size: 9.5” x 13”

Supplies
Robert Kaufman Girl Scouts® Fabric Collection:
- 1 fat quarter for zipper pouch and order form holder
- 2 matching fat quarters for outer cover, inside lining, and ties
- 2 matching fat quarters for inside pockets

Additional supplies:
- 3/4 yard Pellon Fusible Fleece 987
- 7” zipper
- 90 topstitch or jean needle
- Rotary cutter, mat, and ruler
- Pins

Overview
You are going to use the following steps to make this cool organizer:
1. Cut the fabrics.
2. Make the inside pockets.
3. Make the order form holder.
4. Make the zipper pouch.
5. Make the outer cover and the ties.
6. Assemble all the pieces.

You basically make each of the main parts of the organizer, and then put them all together.

The outside cover is plain, except for the ties. The inside has a few different parts, which are shown in Diagram A.

Preparing your fat quarters
Pressing -- Iron all five fat quarters really well, so all the wrinkles are out.

Squaring fat quarters -- You will work with one fat quarter at a time. Lay a fat quarter on the cutting mat so that the shorter side (about 18”) goes up and down, and the longer side (about 22”) goes left to right.

Make sure the left side is even with the lines on your mat. If the fat quarter is not square, you may need to trim a tiny bit to straighten it up. If you need to do that, move your ruler to side of the fabric that needs to be trimmed, and line your ruler up with the lines on the cutting mat. Use your rotary cutter to trim off the excess fabric. Repeat this step until all fat quarters are square.
Step 1 -- Cutting the Fabric and PFF

Reading the cutting diagrams
When you’re cutting a fat quarter for a quilt or project, you will make two types of cuts: the main cuts, and the sub-cuts. (See Diagram B.)

Main cuts -- You always make the main cuts first. Main cuts have dark lines that go top to bottom.

Sub-cuts -- These are extra cuts you make in the big pieces that you get from the main cuts. Sub-cuts always have lighter lines going left to right. Always work with one main cut piece at a time when you’re making sub-cuts.

Cutting the fabric

Note: Unless we tell you otherwise, always cut fat quarters with the long (22”) side going left to right.

Inside pockets -- Take the fat quarters for the inside pockets, and cut each down to a 19” x 13.5” rectangle, as shown in Diagram C.

Zipper pouch and order form holder -- Take the fat quarter for the zipper pouch, and follow these instructions (see Diagram D):
• Order form holder -- cut a 10” strip, then sub-cut to a 10” x 12.5” rectangle.
• Zipper pouch & lining -- cut a 7.5” strip, then sub-cut into two 7.5” x 6.5” rectangles.

Note: For the outer cover and inside lining, lay the fat quarter on your cutting mat with the long (22”) side going up and down.

Outer cover and ties -- Take one of the two matching fat quarters that you’re using for the outer cover and inside lining, and cut according to these instructions (see Diagram E):
• Outer cover -- cut a 13.5” strip, and sub-cut two 10.75” x 13.5” rectangles.
• Tie -- cut a 4” x 22” strip.

Inside lining -- Take the other matching fat quarter, and cut according to these instructions (see Diagram F):
• Inside lining -- cut a 13.5” strip, and trim to a 20.5” x 13.5” rectangle.
• Tie -- cut a 4” x 22” strip.

Cutting Pellon Fusible Fleece (PFF)

You are going to add pieces of PFF to some parts of the organizer. This makes the pieces stronger and more stable.

Cut the following pieces from your PFF:
• Inside pockets -- cut two 9” x 12.5” rectangles.
• Order form holder -- cut a 9.5” x 6” rectangle.
• Zipper pouch -- cut a 7.5” x 6.5” rectangle.
• Outer cover -- cut two 20” x 13” rectangles.

Set all pieces aside.
Step 2 -- Making the inside pockets

For this step, you will need:
• two 19" x 13.5" inside pocket rectangles
• two 9" x 12.5" PFF rectangles

Press the inside pocket piece in half, with wrong sides together, to make a 9.5" x 13.5" rectangle. Open it up. Lay the PFF piece, glue side up, below the crease. The PFF is smaller than the pocket rectangle to eliminate some of the bulk. (See Diagram G.)

Fold the top half of the inside pocket over the PFF. Preheat your iron to the temperature indicated on the PFF.

Step 3 -- Making the order form holder

For this step, you will need:
• one 10" x 12.5" order form holder fabric rectangle
• one 9.5" x 6" order form holder PFF rectangle
• one of the 10.75" x 13.5" inside pocket pieces

Making the order form holder -- Fold the order form holder in half, with wrong sides together, and press so it is a 10" x 6.25" rectangle. Open it up. Lay the PFF below the crease line, with the glue side facing up, like you did for the inside pockets. Fold the top half of the pocket flap over the PFF. Iron like you did with the inside pocket.

Open the fabric again so it is a 10" x 12.5" rectangle. Fold the fabric at the same crease line, so that the right sides are together, and the PFF is on the outside. Stitch a 1/4" seam on the right side, leaving the bottom and left side unstitched. (See Diagram H.)

Turn right-side out and press.

Tip: Take your time when ironing. If you go too fast, the PFF will come apart from the fabric later.

Iron the fabric, starting in the middle and counting to 8, then moving the iron to another spot counting to 8 until the PFF that is sandwiched in between is glued in place.

Top stitch 1/4" away from the folded edge for decoration.

Repeat with the other inside pocket fabric and PFF. You will have 2 inside pocket pieces. Set aside.

Attaching the order form holder to an inside pocket -- Lay the order form holder on top of an inside pocket piece, so that the bottom and finished sides line up. Stitch along the finished side and the bottom, starting with a lock stitch, as shown in Diagram I.

Trim order form holder so that it is the same size as the inner pocket. Set this aside for now.

Note: When we say to do a “lock stitch,” it means to sew back and forth a few times in one place. You do this on parts of the project that might get pulled a bit during use. The lock stitch helps, well... lock the seam in place.
Step 4 -- Making the zipper pouch

**Tip:** A long time ago, it used to be hard to put in a zipper, so, a lot of adults are still “scared” of them. Today’s nylon zippers are real easy to use because you can sew across the teeth of the zipper. So, don’t let anyone tell you a zipper is difficult. But, just to help some more, we included lots of diagrams for this step, to make it even easier.

For this step, you will need the:
- two 7.5” x 6.5” zipper pouch rectangles
- zipper pouch PFF
- 7” zipper

**Attach PFF** -- Lay the zipper pouch PFF piece on the ironing board, glue side up. Place one of the zipper pouch pieces right side up on top of PFF, and press like you did before.

**Cut the rectangle in two pieces** -- Take the pocket piece with the PFF now attached, and trim 1.5” off the 6.5” side, as shown in Diagram J1. Keep both pieces.

**Attach the zipper to the big piece** -- Lay the zipper on the edge of the larger piece, so that the long edge of the zipper is aligned with the long edge of the fabric, and the zipper pull is facing down. (See Diagram J2.) The zipper will be longer than you need it to be, so make sure that the “ragged edge” at the top extends to the top of the fabric, and let the rest of the zipper extend below the fabric. Pin in place.

Put a zipper foot on your machine, and move the needle over (ask an adult how to do this or refer to your sewing machine manual). Stitch down the side of the zipper. You want your stitches to be as close to the zipper as possible, and the zipper foot allows you to do that.

**Press the zipper out** -- Lay the zipper down on your ironing board so that the zipper pull is facing up underneath the fabric. Fold the fabric back to expose the zipper, and iron. (See Diagram J3.)

**Attach the small strip of fabric to the zipper** -- Take the 1.5” strip that you cut off at the beginning of this step, and lay it on top of the other side of the zipper. The zipper pull will be facing up this time, and the PFF will also be facing up. (See Diagram J4.) Pin in place, then stitch like before. The zipper foot will not allow you to stitch over the zipper teeth.

**Tip:** Sometimes, after I have pinned a zipper in place, I move the zipper down so it is easier to stitch, and then zip it back up to get it out of the way again.

**Press and finish stitch** -- Press out the 1.5 strip, like you did with the other side. Stitch along both sides of the zipper and do a “lock stitch” along the bottom of the zipper, about 1/4” in from the edge. Don’t stitch over the metal stop at the bottom of the zipper or you will break a needle. (See Diagram J5.) The lock stitch actually creates a new zipper stop. Trim off the tail of the zipper, so it is flush with the edge of the fabric.

Turn the pocket sideways, and unzip the zipper about half way. **It’s important to open the zipper, because you will turn the pocket right-side out through it.**
Making the zipper pouch lining -- The other 6.5" x 7.5" rectangle will be the lining for the zipper pouch. Lay this lining rectangle face up on top of the right side of the zipper pouch. The wrong side of the lining will be touching the right side of the zipper pouch.

Stitch a 1/4” seam all the way around the pocket. Clip the corners. (See Diagram J6.) Turn it right side out through the opening you left in the zipper when you unzipped it half way. If needed, you can unzip it all the way. Use a chopstick, end of an art paintbrush, or other creative pointy thing to turn out the corners so they are nice and pointy.

Attaching the zipper pouch to the inside lining -- Pin the zipper pouch in the center of one of the inside pocket pieces, 3” from the bottom. Stitch it in place with a 1/4” seam. You may have to unzip the pocket to get the zipper pull out of the way as you stitch around.

Step 5 -- Making the organizer body and ties

For this step, you will need:
• two 10.75” x 13.5” outer cover pieces
• two 20” x 13” PFF pieces for the outer cover
• one 20” x 13.5” inside lining rectangle
• the two 4” x 22” tie rectangles

Making the ties
Lay one of the tie strips on your ironing board wrong side up, with the long side running left to right. Fold in half, lengthwise, and press. Open it up, fold the top and bottom edges to the middle crease, and press. Open it up. Measure 1/2” from the right edge, fold and press. (See Diagram K.)

Keeping the right edge folded over, fold the top and bottom edges toward the center crease again, and press. Finally, fold the strip in half again and press. (See Diagram L.)

Making the outer cover
Take an outside cover piece and pin a tie at the middle of the right side, with raw edges lined up. Lay the other outer cover on top of these pieces, with right sides together. Stitch together with a 1/4” seam, as shown in Diagram N. Press seam open.

Lay a 20” x 13” piece of PFF on your ironing board with glue side up. Take the cover, with right side up, and center the cover over the PFF. (The PFF will be smaller to eliminate bulk.) Press like before until the glue adheres.

Set aside.
Finishing the inside lining
Lay a 20" x 13" piece of PFF on your ironing board with glue side up. Take the inside lining piece, with right side up, and center the lining over the PFF. (The PFF will be smaller to eliminate bulk.) Press like before until the glue adheres. Set aside.

Step 6 -- Putting It All Together

Assembling the inside pieces
Lay the inner lining on your mat, right side up. Place the inside pocket with the order form holder on the right side, also with the right side up. Pin in place. Place the inside pocket with the zipper pouch on the left side, again with the right side up. Pin in place. Stitch all the way around the inner lining with a 1/4" seam. Lock stitch the two pockets at the top and bottom, as shown in Diagram P.

Diagram P

Attaching the inside and the cover
Lay the outer cover on your mat, right side up. Move the ties to the middle of the cover (away from the edges). Now, lay the inside of the organizer on top of the cover, so that the right sides are together and the wrong side of the inside lining is up. Pin in place, making sure not to catch the ties. (The ties will be sandwiched on the inside.) Stitch around the organizer with a 1/4" seam, leaving a 6-7" opening at the top. Lock stitch at the edges of the opening, so that when you turn it right side out the stitches don’t pull apart. Turn the organizer right side out. Press real well. At the opening, fold in the fabric 1/4" on each side, and pin the opening together. Stitch the opening to close it.

Getting ready to go
Slip a legal-size pad in each of the inside pockets, so your customers have a good writing surface when they order cookies from you.
Slip your order form in the order form holder, and clip a pen in there too. You can put money or checks you receive in the zipper pouch, to keep them safe. When cookie sales are over, you can use your organizer for school work or at Girl Scout meetings.

We love to see completed projects, so if you care to share, please email a picture of you and your organizer to christine@ameliescott.com. We will put your picture in our online gallery at www.ameliescott.com.

Now, enjoy!

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