

## “My Keeper”<sup>®</sup> – an organizer for your purse

An original design by Linda Grover, Caramel Kraft, all rights reserved, 2012

This organizer is ideal for catching receipts, menus, shopping lists, stamps, business cards, recipes, coupons and any other little bits that you stash in your purse.

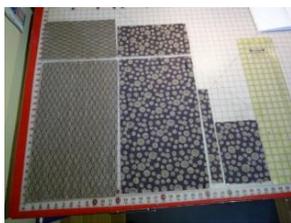
When it is closed, there is an open pocket to quickly store papers; fully opened, there are multiple pockets for sorting and saving everything.

This is a 2 FQ project and will take one hour (or longer if you are watching TV or talking!) You can make this in a 12” or a 9½” long size. Alternate 9½” measurements are in brackets,



### Supplies:

- ✓ 2 Fat Quarters (matching, contrasting or complimentary fabrics)
- ✓ Batting

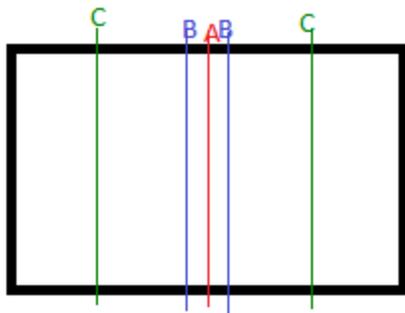


### Cutting Instructions:

- ✓ Inner 12” x 21” (9½” x 21”)
- ✓ Outer 12” x 21” (9½” x 21”)
- ✓ Strap 2 ½” x 13” (2½” x 10”)\*
- ✓ Dividers 8” x 13” or 7” x 13 - as many as desired, can have 2 to 4 (8” x 10”)
- ✓ Small pocket 5” x 6”
- ✓ Batting 11 ½” x 20” (9” x 20”)

**Step 1:** Lay the inner and outer pieces, right sides together, sew around all four sides, leaving a 6” section open for turning. Trim the corners. Lay the batting neatly out on one side and turn right side out, leaving the batting inside. Make certain all corners are squared. Press. **Tip:** Lightly tack the batting to the wrong side of one piece to help it stay in place when you turn it inside out.

**Step 2:** Quilt as desired. This will keep the batting secure. Topstitch, near the edge, around all four sides.



### Mark the following lines on each side of the quilted piece:

A - Centre Line, this will be the final fold line

B - 1” on either side of the Centre line, this will result in a 2” wide space.

The line is the edge of inside pocket created by folding the outside edge in.

C – Fold edge, approximately 4 ½” from outside edge

**Tip:** Pin a label on each side of the fabric to identify “inside” and “outside”.

It can become a bit confusing as we will be working from both sides to create pockets.

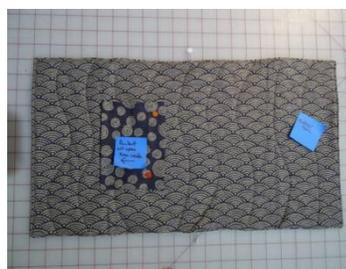
### Step 3: Work with the “Outside” layer up steps 3 – 6.

(A) Prepare small pocket by folding right sides together, and sewing the 2 short sides only. Turn, square corners, press.

(B) The open edge of this pocket will be towards the inside of the folder. Setting the placement is tricky. Working on the “outside”, place the raw edge of the pocket ¼” to the outside of the C fold line, centred vertically.

(C) Stitch along the long, raw edge. Fold the pocket over and stitch along the 2 short sides, over the folded edge, back stitching at the ends to secure them.

(B)



(C)



**Step 4: (A)** Prepare dividers by folding right sides together, sew along long edge, turn right side out. Press. Top stitch the folded edge. You can have more than one divider in each side if you like, creating multiple sections. Option: lay 2 dividers together and stitch across the width to create smaller sections for business cards

(B) Prepare strap. Fold wrong sides together along the length, press. Open and fold the outside raw edge towards the centre fold line, press. Fold in half lengthwise, press. Topstitch close to the edge along both long edges, press.



**Step 5: (A)** Fold back a pinch in the middle of the strap so it is shortened by about 1/2". Pin this. This allows the strap to easily fit around the keeper so it is closed, and will flip back to open it.

(B) Lay the strap 3/4" to the inside side of the C line, pin in place.

**Step 6:** Fold the outside ends (at the C line) towards the centre, up to the B line. There should be a 2" wide gap between the two ends. The pocket depth may be 4 1/4" to 4 1/2", it does not have to be exact but it should be even on both sides, equidistant from the centre line.



NOTE: You can now see the "inside" fabric folded over the "outside".



**Step 7: (A)** Lay the divider sections on top of each side pocket. Align the long seamed edge with the outside fold, topstitched folded edge towards the centre fold lines. The dividers will be narrower than the pocket. These sections will extend past the main piece on both sides. Pin securely in place.

(B) Stitch the ends of both pockets at top and bottom, across all layers, making sure to catch the main piece and the strap in the seam. Press.

(C) Trim the strap to 1/2" from the edge. Trim the extended portion of the divider sections to 1/4" from the seam.



**Step 8: (A)** Turn the piece right side out, turning each pocket over, and squaring the corners. Neaten the fold lines, press. The "inside" will now be inside; the "outside" will be out.

(B) Topstitch 1/4" from edge around all four sides, over the narrow folded over edge in the gap between the pockets, taking care not to catch the strap by pulling it away from the sewing needle.



**Step 9:** Fold closed, flipping strap over the front piece, neaten and press well.



To use: Slide into purse (backpack, laptop case or any other bag) with the open edge at the top to be used as a pocket. The 12" size will finish at 11" and will easily store a standard envelope. The 9 1/2" size finishes at 8 1/2".

\*Option: Replace the fabric strap with a length of elastic, rick rack or other sturdy decorative trim.