Sew a Soft Glasses Pouch with Lining

Four measured panels, a lining turning gap and a carefully finished opening

Four rectangles make two small shells

This project uses FOUR independently cut fabric rectangles, not two. The EXTERIOR uses two original full-size 110 x 190 mm panels (front and back); the LINING uses two further 110 x 190 mm panels. You can use two contrasting colours so that the lining orientation remains easy to see. Both the exterior pair and the lining pair form separate small pouch shells before the upper openings are joined together. No zip, magnet, button, metal clasp, rigid insert or stiff pad is included.

The reference seam allowance is 10 mm at the left, right and bottom edges of each shell. On the exterior, the back and front align with RIGHT SIDES facing. Each outer shell seam runs at x10 and x100 from y10 toward y190, while the bottom seam follows y10 between x10 and x100. The side seams intentionally reach the y190 RAW edge so the later upper-rim joining seam at y180 can cross and enclose their top ends, as is ordinary in a small two-shell pouch; gently lay the resulting seam allowances flat before sewing the rim. This top seam intersection is expected, not an extra open side passage. On the lining, the side seams are analogous but the bottom seam deliberately leaves an unsewn 40 mm turning gap: sew from x10 to x35 and from x75 to x100 at y10, keeping x35..75 open. That opening is essential to turning all four layers right-side out after the upper rims are attached. It is not a tear, buttonhole or drain hole.

Separate the upper seam from the bottom turning gap

After both shells are formed, place the exterior shell (RIGHT side facing out) INSIDE the lining shell (RIGHT side facing in). Their right surfaces now touch each other; the top raw edges meet around the full circumference. The top-joining seam should run approximately 10 mm from each top raw edge, at nominal y180 on the flat original panel coordinates. The lower lining gap is left open while this top seam is sewn. To turn the whole assembly, reach through that lining gap, turn the two joined shells gently, then close the gap by a suitable discreet hand stitch. Finally tuck the lining into the exterior. You may add optional gentle topstitching near the rim only after the layers lie flat; it is not part of the required original net.

A simple flat arithmetic reference gives an interior panel span of 110 - 2(10) = 90 mm between side seams. The approximate stitched vertical span from the bottom seam at y10 to the top seam at y180 is 180 - 10 = 170 mm. Neither number is a guaranteed physical opening: corners, fabric bulk, turning and lining consume space. Always measure the actual glasses including frame width, temple arms and thick parts, and never force delicate lenses into an undersized pouch.

Two full-size masters, each printed once per material

Pattern sheet 1 carries a 110 x 190 mm EXTERIOR panel with the 10 mm stitch guides. Pattern sheet 2 carries a distinct 110 x 190 mm LINING panel with the same left/right/top geometry and an unmistakable 40 mm gap along the BOTTOM stitch line. The patterns show ONE panel of each type; CUT TWO identical exterior pieces from pattern 1 and TWO lining pieces from pattern 2. Each printable sheet includes its own independent 50 mm ruler reference. A printed needle and optional cloth fold are diagrams, not a measured guarantee of comfort or protection.

Sew a Soft Glasses Pouch with Lining

Choose a low-risk practice material

Choose stable, inexpensive woven fabric for a first sample and a soft fabric for the lining with no rough finishing debris. The words soft and lined do not certify suitability against scratching: seams, sand, grit or protruding stitches could still damage lenses. A piece of textile with metallic thread, decorative abrasive coating, unstable dye or loose fibres may be unsuitable. Work on a protected flat table with suitable hand-sewing needle, compatible thread, fabric-safe marker, ruler, scissors and a needle container. Read any actual care labels before heat; pressing is optional and must not be attempted on unknown heat-sensitive material.

Cut and make the exterior shell - steps 1 to 7

1. Print EXTERIOR pattern sheet at Actual Size / 100%; inspect all four cut edges and measure the separate 50 mm bar. If the printer crops a border, redraw the rectangle using a ruler on suitable paper; do not use a clipped print as a measuring master.

2. Cut TWO separate exterior rectangles 110 x 190 mm from expendable cloth using the same orientation, and mark FRONT and BACK on their wrong sides. They must not be connected along a fold unless the entire seam method is redesigned.

3. On both exterior pieces, identify the 10 mm left and right seam positions x10 and x100, bottom guide y10, and the untouched top raw edge y190. The planned top joining seam will later be at y180; do NOT sew it now.

4. Place the two exterior pieces RIGHT SIDES TOGETHER. Match raw left, right and bottom edges. Use safe temporary clips or pins; remove every fastener before the needle reaches it. Never sew toward your supporting hand.

5. Stitch the left side at x10 and the right side at x100 from bottom y10 to the top RAW edge y190, stopping at the raw edge. The later top-rim seam at y180 intentionally crosses these stitched ends within the 10 mm upper seam allowance; lay the allowances flat to avoid unnecessary bunching. Sew the bottom line at y10, x10..100, joining the side-seam corners. Keep the top opening entirely unsewn.

6. Secure the exterior thread ends with a low-load finish appropriate to the practice fabric. If the cut edges fray, select a material-specific edge treatment that does not reduce the planned seam allowance unexpectedly; the guide does not certify an edge finish.

7. Turn the sewn exterior shell RIGHT SIDE OUT gently. Keep a blunt tool away from fabric fibres and never jab a corner with scissors or a needle. This step is for exterior only; the lining will be assembled separately with a turning gap.

Read the marking legend

On both original vector patterns, the solid perimeter is CUT, the dashed coloured paths are SEW guides and the pale lines show a corner or seam margin. They are not cutting lines, perforations or mandatory holes. Keep the same coordinate origin at the bottom-left of each flat rectangle. A 50 mm scale bar reading 49 mm means the print is at 0.98 scale; the intended 110 mm width would print at 107.8 mm. That is a calculation, not a physical printer reading made by the publisher.

Assemble the lining and join the rims - steps 8 to 14

8. Print the LINING pattern page separately at 100%, measuring its own 50 mm bar. Cut TWO lining rectangles 110 x 190 mm. Transfer x10, x100 and the top seam guide y180. On the bottom seam, highlight the unstitched interval x35..75; the gap width is 75 - 35 = 40 mm.

9. Place the lining panels RIGHT SIDES together. Stitch both long side seams x10 and x100 from y10 to the y190 raw edge, as for the exterior. The rim seam y180 will later cross those upper side-seam ends; avoid stacking seam allowance bulk needlessly. Along the bottom y10, stitch ONLY x10..35 and x75..100, securing each end of the gap. Do not bridge the x35..75 turning interval. Leave the upper raw edges unjoined.

10. Keep the lining shell WRONG SIDE OUT after sewing. Put the already right-side-out exterior shell INSIDE it. In this arrangement, the RIGHT sides of the two fabrics face EACH OTHER all around the top; if you see a wrong face touching another wrong face, stop and reorient before stitching.

11. Align the two top raw openings at y190, matching side seams without twisting. Sew the exterior and lining TOGETHER around the top rim approximately 10 mm below the raw edge (nominal y180), but do not stitch across the mouth as a straight line. The seam follows the circumference, keeping the pouch opening and lower lining turning gap in the correct roles.

12. Reach carefully through the 40 mm gap in the lining bottom and draw the joined exterior and lining through the opening. Use gentle pressure and pause if thick layers resist. A printed 40 mm gap is not a promise that every fabric combination will turn; enlarge a redesigned gap on scrap if required rather than tearing cloth.

13. Straighten the exterior and lining on a protected table. Bring the two edges of the lining bottom gap together with their original 10 mm seam allowance turned inward, then close ONLY that 40 mm opening with a small compatible hand stitch. Do not stitch the lining bottom to the exterior bottom, and do not leave sharp needle ends exposed inside.

14. Tuck the lining fully inside the exterior. Smooth the upper joined rim by hand. Optional topstitching, if suitable, must remain clear of the pouch opening and may be omitted; it is not a zipper, lock, reinforced strap or guarantee that objects will stay inside.

How much space can an actual pair of glasses use?

The two side seams span x10..100, or 90 mm on the original plan, and the bottom-to-top seam reference is 170 mm. A frame that measures 95 mm wide even when folded cannot be assumed to fit a nominal 90 mm flat reference, and real available width can be smaller. Rounded corners and doubled seams further reduce space. Compare the actual folded frames on a flat table without inserting, then try only an expendable stand-in to assess the real pouch if you make one. Do not rub lenses against inside seams to demonstrate a supposed scratch-proof feature.

Diagnose lining and turning errors

If the lining bottom is mysteriously sealed, compare the two intended bottom stitched segments, x10..35 and x75..100. A straight line sewn across x35..75 removes the only turning path. Unpick that section on a practice piece while it is safe and accessible; do not make a new hole through exterior fabric. If the exterior and lining fight each other at the mouth, check their right-side orientation and matching upper circumferences. When an upper seam catches the wrong layer, stop and correct rather than pulling the seam until it tears.

If the pouch is rough inside, inspect unfinished seam allowances and any thread ends before placing anything valuable in it. A loose decorative bead or metal clip must not become trapped in the lining. If the opening looks distorted, do not add random extra seams at the rim without checking the 10 mm seam allowance and seam-layer order. A small soft pouch is not an impact-protective glasses case; hard-shell protection, hygiene and real fit are separate requirements.

Respect the boundary of a printable pattern

The complete PDF contains the two separate full-size cut masters, original top-and-bottom stitching symbols and maker records. You may choose another size, but the dependent math must all be redrawn: panel width, side allowances, bottom gap, top rim join and the size of the actual frame that will be stored. A proportional PDF zoom also scales the nominal 10 mm allowance and may move the 40 mm gap into an unhelpful location. Use a ruler and an explicit new version instead of guessing from a photograph or stretching printed fabric.

References and original rights

Utah State University Extension, *Patchwork Pouch* (lining and turning sequence), https://extension.usu.edu/sewing/research/patchwork-pouch . Contextual general sewing reference; the original illustrated panel sizes and turning-gap diagrams of that project are not copied into this edition.

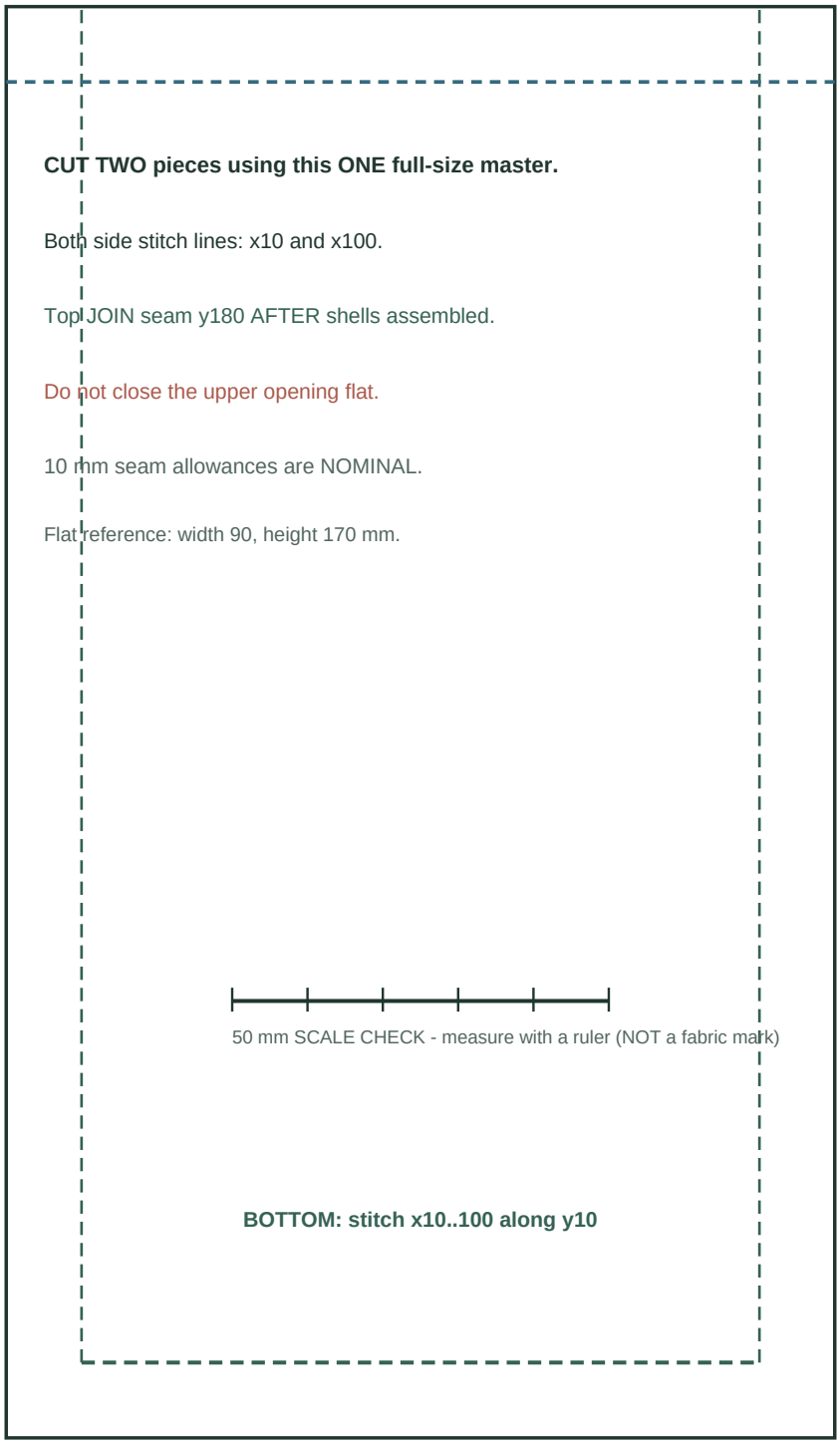
Oregon State University Extension, *Plain Seams and Seam Finishes*, https://extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/documents/4-h320-19.pdf . General background on seams, corners and avoiding fraying, not certification for an optical case or our 110 x 190 mm net.

Adobe Acrobat Help, *Adjust page size for printing PDFs*, https://helpx.adobe.com/acrobat/desktop/print-documents/set-up-and-print-pdfs/page-size.html . General printing advice only; neither exact printer output nor physical fit is certified.

The exterior and lining cut patterns, independent top/bottom route markings, x35..75 turning gap, descriptions, cover artwork and maker records are original Steadleaf Press instructional work. No commercial glasses-case pattern, brand design, university illustration or third-party photograph is reproduced. No physical printing, sewing, turning, scratch resistance, eyeglass compatibility, durability, drop protection, cleaning or safety test was conducted by the publisher. This remains a FREE digital adult-craft teaching edition; actual outcomes and risk decisions belong to the person using real materials.

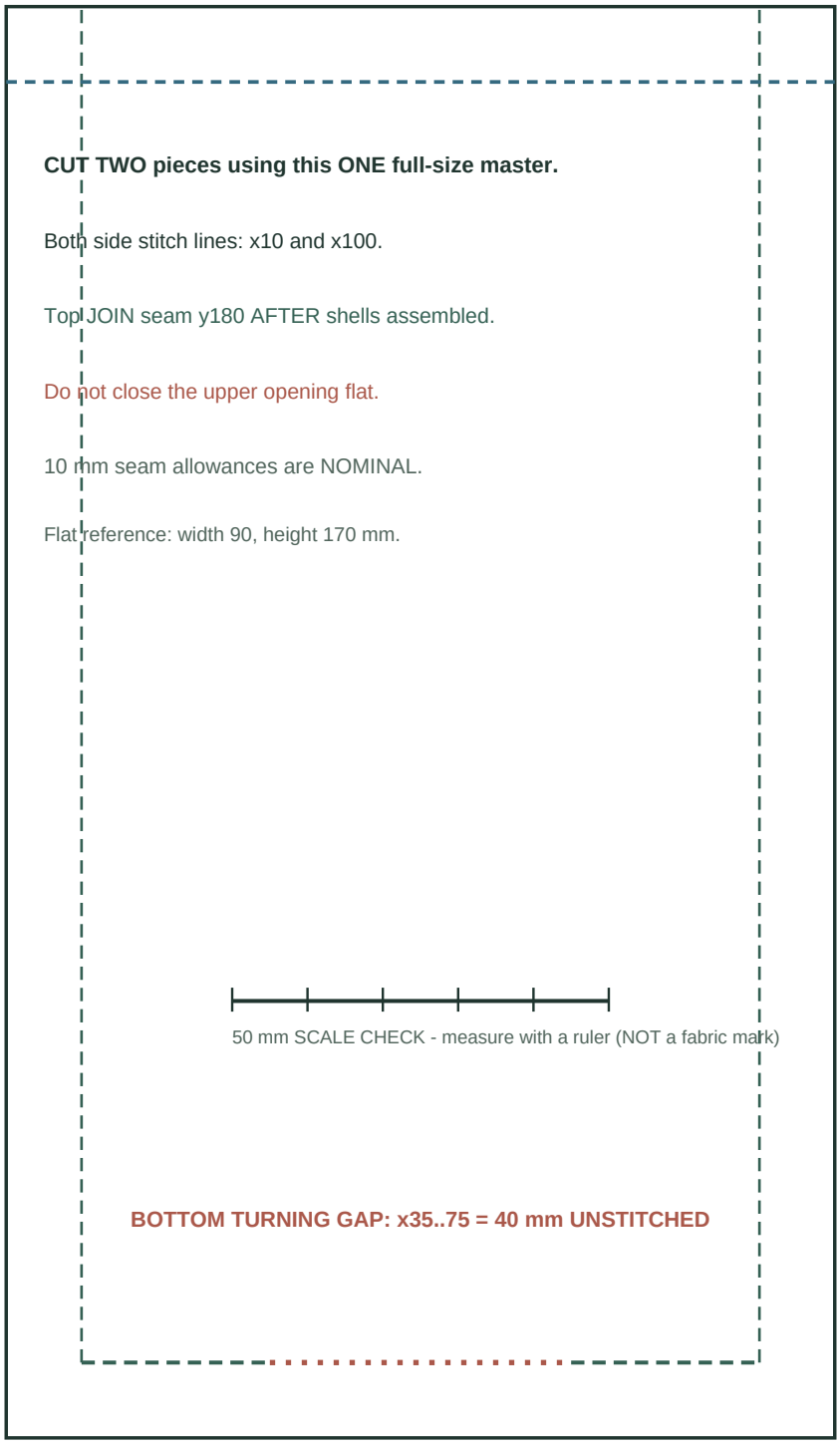
EXTERIOR / CUT TWO MATCHING PANELS

ORIGINAL VECTOR / FREE / ACTUAL SIZE / PATTERN 1 OF 2



LINING / CUT TWO / KEEP BOTTOM TURNING GAP

ORIGINAL VECTOR / FREE / ACTUAL SIZE / PATTERN 2 OF 2



Exterior: TWO 110 x 190 mm cut blanks

Lining: TWO 110 x 190 mm cut blanks

10 mm sides / bottom / top seam margins

Lining bottom opening x35..75, 40 mm

Right sides face for the upper rim join

Pull through lining gap; close gap only

Actual frame dimensions or simulated gauge

Safety, lens fit and NOT TESTED items

PUBLISHER: NO PHYSICAL BUILD OR PERFORMANCE TESTS PERFORMED

Only record a real observation if YOU performed it.



50 mm SCALE CHECK - measure with a ruler

MAKER RECORD / OUTCOME

Which exact measurements did you use, and on what paper?

Which physical material and tools did you actually choose?

What did your real cloth, seams, folds, or joins do?

Which safety or fit issue stopped you, if any?

Where does the real sample differ from nominal math?

What was NOT TESTED? Never invent an outcome.

What would a responsible second version change?

Date, initials, all sharps stored, and next action

PUBLISHER: NO PHYSICAL BUILD OR PERFORMANCE TESTS PERFORMED

Only record a real observation if YOU performed it.



50 mm SCALE CHECK - measure with a ruler