

Palmer/Pletsch

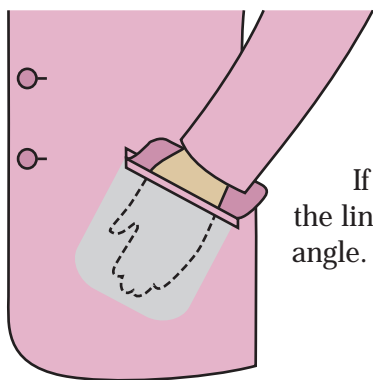
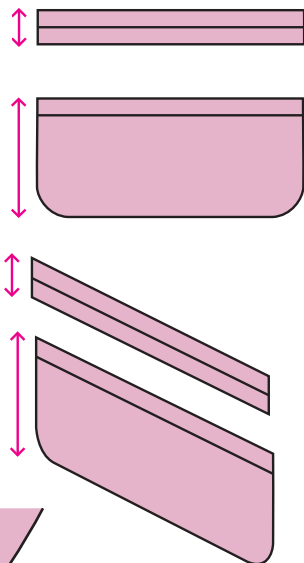
“No-Fail” Double-Welt Pocket

You may have tried a method or two during your sewing life and found welt pockets far too daunting; but although there are lots of steps, this is a NO-FAIL welt pocket! TRUST US! The key to success is accurate placement and careful stitching.

This is a double-welt pocket. You can make it straight or angled.

Slip a lined pocket flap into a welt and it becomes a traditional flapped menswear-type double-welt pocket.

Note: If the pocket is slanted, the ends are cut and sewn on the straight of grain.



If the pocket is slanted, the lining is at the same angle.

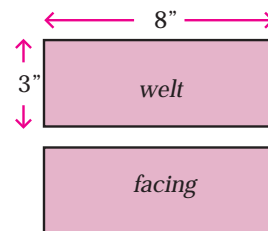
Make a TEST Welt Pocket

There are two reasons to make a test pocket. First, you can practice the steps without working up a sweat, because it isn't on your jacket! Second, since the width of the welts depends upon the thickness of the fabric, you might need to make the basting lines a little teeny tiny narrower or wider in step 9, page 72, so they fit in the box PERFECTLY!

Prepare Pocket Pieces

The standard finished welt pocket is 5½" (14cm) long.

Welt - For each pocket with a flap, cut a rectangle of fashion fabric 3" (7.5cm) wide and 8" (20.5cm) long.



For each pocket without a flap, cut another welt rectangle, which will become the facing under the welt so your lining won't show.

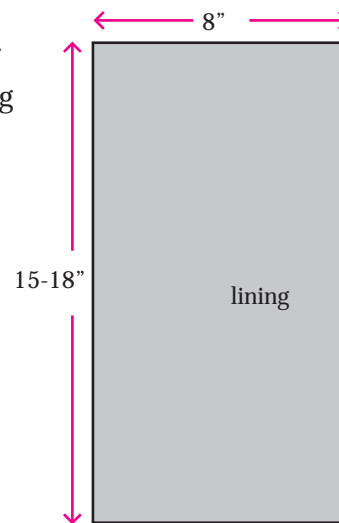
If your fabric is lightweight or soft, interface the welt with PerfectFuse Light. To give welts even more body, you can cord them after step 18.



With stripes and plaids, the upper rectangle that will form the welts can be cut on the bias.

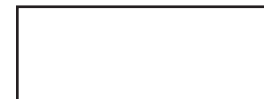


Lining - Cut a piece of lining, for the pocket bag 8"- wide and 15-18" long (38-46cm).



Stabilizer - attached to the wrong side of the jacket front under the pocket. Choose one of the following:

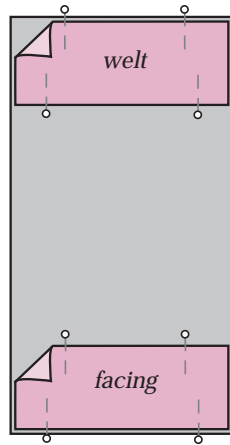
Pellon stabilizer - Cut a piece of Featherweight or Mid-weight Pellon (not fusible) the same size as the welt. Marta uses this non-woven stabilizer.



Perfect Fuse Sheer - Cut as above and use in place of Pellon. Sue uses this method.

Double-Welt Pocket Construction

1. For a pocket without a flap, pin fabric welts to both ends of the lining. (The upper one will form the welts and the lower one the facing under the welts so you won't see the lining.) **If you have a flap, use only the top welt.**



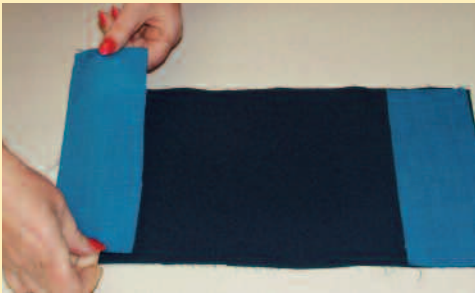
Quick Tip

To prevent slippage when sewing, use a temporary spray adhesive.

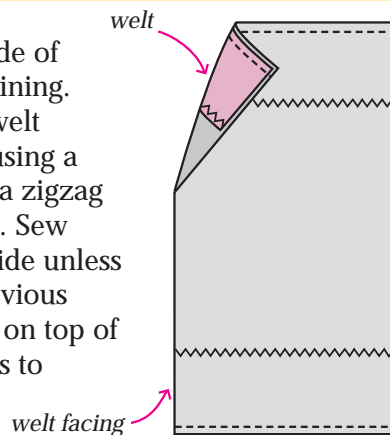
Spray wrong side of the welts. (Protect your work surface by spraying into a box or on paper.)



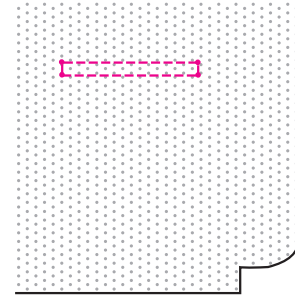
Stick the welt and welt facing to the ends of the lining.



2. Pin the wrong side of the welts to the lining. Stitch welt and welt facing to lining using a straight stitch or a zigzag for ravelly fabrics. Sew from the lining side unless you used the previous Quick Tip. Press on top of the stitching lines to remove puckers.



3. Mark pocket placement on the wrong side of each jacket front.



Fit Tip

The pocket placement lines on the pattern are **only** guides. You CAN change them! If you have altered your pattern in the area of the welt pockets, the welt markings on the pattern may no longer be straight. Use the two pocket circles closest to the center front, making sure they are about 1/2" toward the center front from the dart stitching line. From those circles, draw the welt box.

Check welt placement by pinning rectangles of paper 1/2" wide by 5 1/2" long to the right side of your jacket. Make them straight, then try them angled.



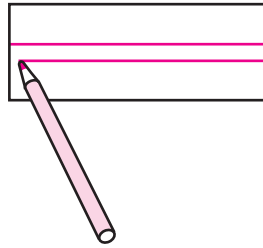
Do you prefer straight or...

Which looks better? Do you want them higher or lower or closer or farther from the center front? Now is the time to decide.

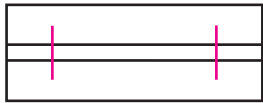


...angled welts?

4. Draw welt box on the stabilizer. **Accurate marking is the key to perfect welts.** Use a SHARP pencil to draw two parallel lines the length of the Pellon, centered, and 1/2" (1.3cm) apart.



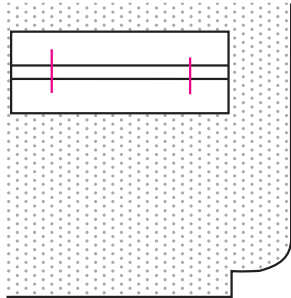
Then draw the end lines, making a 5 1/2"-long box.



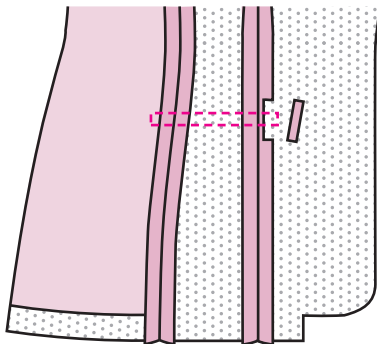
NOTE: If using a fusible stabilizer, draw the lines after fusing, step 5.

NOTE: Each welt will be half the width of the box. In this case, each welt will be 1/4" (6mm) wide. For narrower welts, draw the lines closer together.

5. On **WRONG SIDE** of the jacket, pin Pellon, matching pocket placement lines. Make sure the end of the box is NOT on a seam or dart stitching line. If it is, move it over.



You may need to trim away part of a dart or seam allowance to remove bulk from where you are going to stitch your welt box.

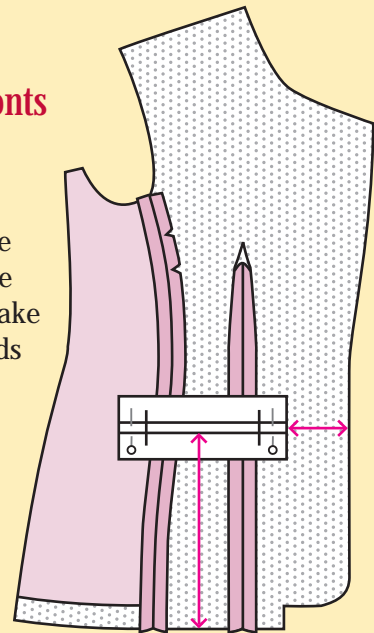


NOTE: If using a fusible stabilizer, center it over the box and fuse to the wrong side. If fusing over a seam, press lightly so it doesn't make seam imprints on the outside. Draw pocket placement lines on the interfacing **AFTER** fusing.

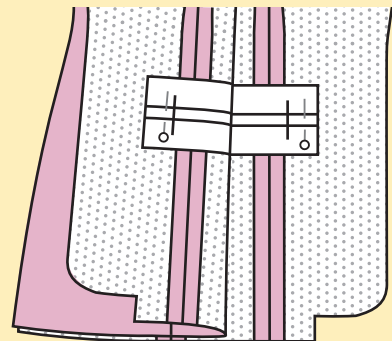


Make BOTH Fronts the Same

Measure the distance from the lower edge to the welt lines. Or make sure the welt ends are the same distance from the darts and front edge on both fronts.



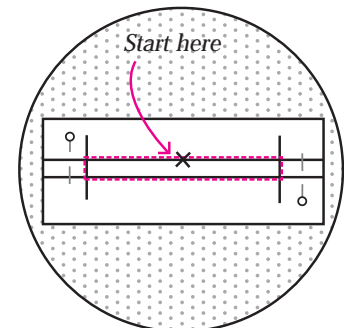
Or, place the fronts wrong sides together. Fold one back to see if welt lines are in the same position.



6. From the **WRONG SIDE**, stitch around the "box," using a stitch length of 2mm. (If your fabric is ravelly, change to a 1mm stitch length around the corners.)

Start and stop stitching in the center of one long side of the box and overlap those stitches.

NEVER start stitching at a corner! Snip threads close to fabric. **READ THE NEXT TWO PRO TIPS.**





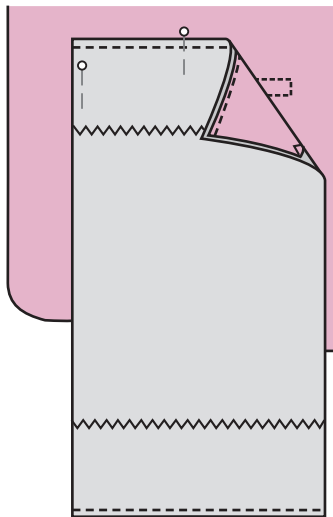
If you are absolutely accurate with this step, your welt pockets will be PERFECT when finished! The magic of this technique is that all the sewing is done on the wrong side, following the markings on the pocket stabilizer.



Turn the flywheel by hand when stitching the ends. Count the number of stitches on the first end of the box and make the same number on the other end to ensure accuracy.

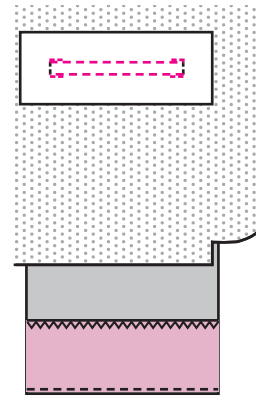
Double-check markings to ensure that each side of the box is exactly the same length as its opposing side and that both pockets are placed perfectly on either side of the jacket. It is easy to make one welt pocket. The real trick is to make two, exactly the same! If they look the same now, they will look the same when you are done!

7. From the **RIGHT SIDE**, position and pin welt end of pocket bag, centering it over the stitched box on the jacket, right sides together. Keep pins away from where you will stitch. If the grainline is obvious, make sure it is parallel to the box lines.

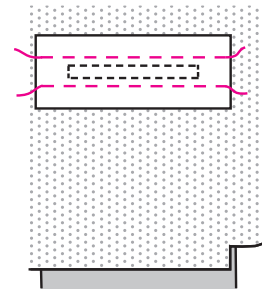


Fold the welt in half lengthwise, and center the fold in the middle of the box.

8. From the **WRONG SIDE**, using a stitch length of 2.5, stitch **ONLY** on the long sides of the box on top of the previous stitching lines. Backstitch carefully at each end by **HAND TURNING** the flywheel. (On computer machines, to backstitch and avoid extra stitches, hand-turn the flywheel and stitch one stitch forward and one stitch backward, then continue sewing. Practice on **YOUR** machine.) Clip threads closely.



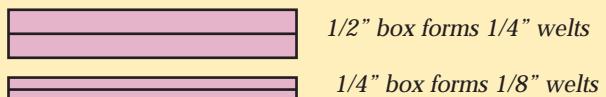
9. From the **WRONG SIDE**, stitch a row of **machine basting** (4-6 mm stitch length) 1/4" (6mm) above and another row 1/4" (6mm) below the long sides of the box, through all thicknesses. Basting rows should be longer than the box. Leave thread tails at each end of basting so removal will be easy.



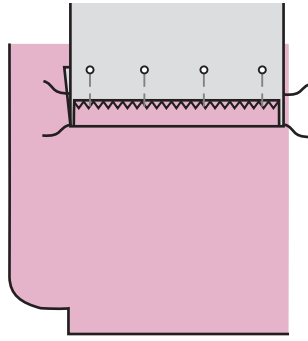
Use a presser foot that allows the needle to be exactly 1/4" (6mm) from the edge of the foot, (such as a quilting foot). Or draw pencil lines on the Pellon.



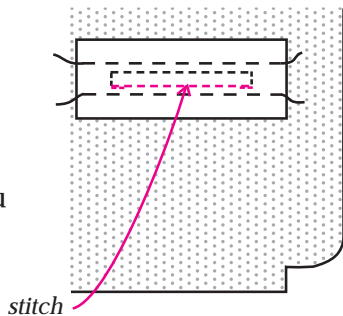
The basting lines will create the welts. Basting lines are always **HALF** the width of the stitched box. If the box is 1/2"-wide, each welt will be 1/4"-wide. It is important for the basting lines to be accurate so the welts won't gap or lap! Hopefully you made a **TEST** pocket, page 69.



10. On the **RIGHT SIDE** of the garment, fold the **lower** part of the pocket lining/welt up firmly against the line of basting. Marta says **NOT TO PRESS WITH AN IRON** to avoid welt imprints on right side of THE jacket in some fabrics! Sue prefers to use an iron and **PRESS VERY CAREFULLY**. Pin in place, taking a small "bite" to anchor lining/welt. You shouldn't see the pins from the wrong side of the jacket front! **Make sure the pins DO NOT extend into the area where you will be stitching.**



11. Change your machine back to a regular stitch length. From the **WRONG SIDE**, stitch again over the previous stitching on the lower long side of the box, ending exactly at the corners and backstitching. You have just created the first welt!



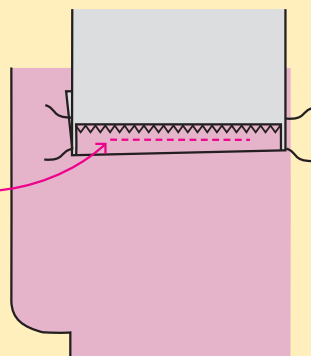
NOTE: We want to emphasize that with a **computerized machine, you may have to hand roll the reverse stitching** as sometimes the machine stitches an extra stitch or two before stopping.



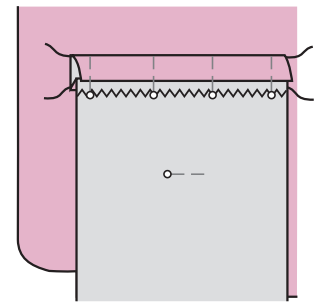
Check your welt stitching. Is it wider at one end than the other?

That can happen when the welt is pinned more firmly over the basting at one end than the other. Redo the stitching now or you will be unhappy with your finished pocket.

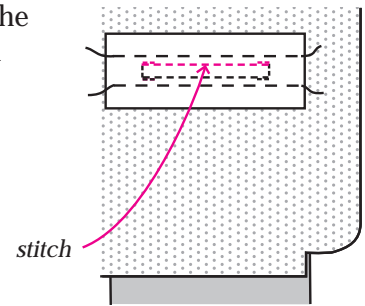
Oops. Wider welt on this end.



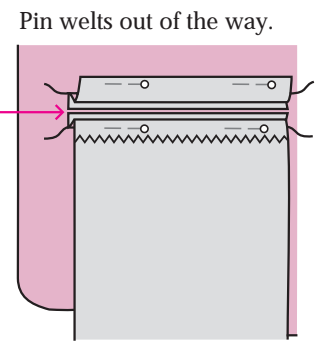
12. On the **RIGHT SIDE**, pin the pocket lining/welt out of the way and fold the **upper** part of the pocket lining/welt down firmly against the line of basting. Pin in place from the right side.



13. Flip once more to the **WRONG SIDE** and stitch on the upper line of the box. Backstitch at each end. Clip threads close to the fabric. That's welt number two.

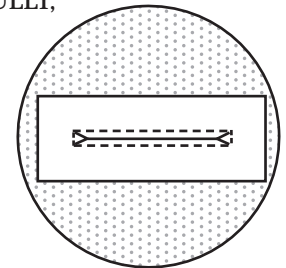


14. From the **RIGHT SIDE**, slash through **ONLY** the lining/weltpiece for the full length of the welt, exactly half way between the rows of stitching. **DO NOT** slash through the jacket yet.



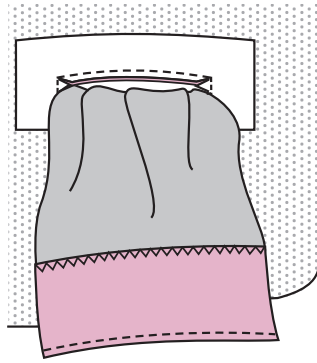
15. **Pull out the basting threads** by pulling on the bobbin thread, which generally pulls out more easily than the needle thread.

16. From **WRONG SIDE**, slash horizontally through the center of the box and diagonally into each corner **CAREFULLY**, using sharp-pointed scissors like tailor points. Use your fingers underneath to make sure that you don't cut the welts.



Cut right to the stitch Start cutting here. The wedge starts about 3/4" from the end.

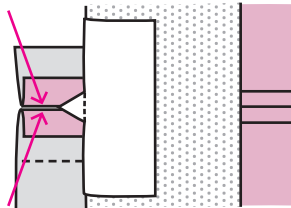
17. Turn the pocket lining and triangular ends to the inside, through the opening and carefully pull welts into place with your fingers. **DON'T PANIC WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE POCKET FROM THE RIGHT SIDE.** Gently pull the welts into line. Do this over a ham to lift the fabric and give you something to pin to.



If the ends of welts overlap and look uneven...



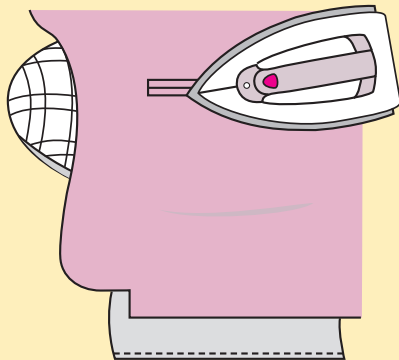
Fold the jacket back and adjust the welts until they just meet.



18. Press lightly, touching only the welt area. Let the welts cool before moving. If the welts sink into the rectangle, cord them now with heavy yarn or cord, using a bodkin or tapestry needle to pull the cording through.

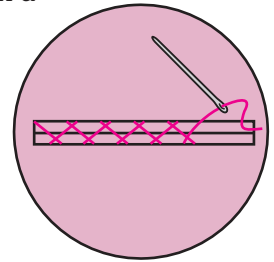


Use a press cloth to press over the pocket and steam lightly so the imprint of the pocket pieces do not show on the outside. Use your fingers to flatten the seam.

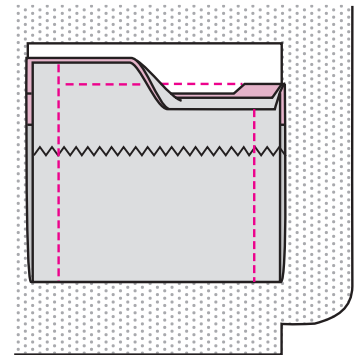


OPTIONAL POCKET FLAP: Make flap (page 75) and insert now. After making the flap, tuck it inside the welts and do the next step.

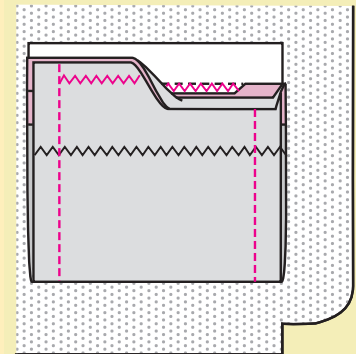
19. Catch-stitch welts together to prevent stretching during jacket construction. Stitch through welts close to seam line with a single strand of thread. Marta likes to pull the stitches until the welts slightly lap in the center to make sure they don't gap during the rest of the construction.



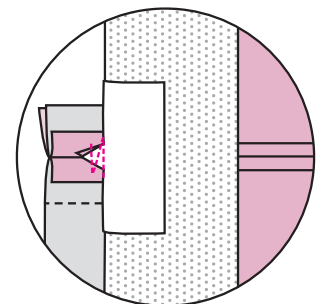
20. To finish the lining bag (with or without flaps) bring the lower edge of the lining bag up to meet the top of the upper welt. Stitch across top of upper welt, on previous stitching line.



Marta prefers to zigzag all of these layers together to flatten the bulk. Be sure you have a zigzag foot on your machine!

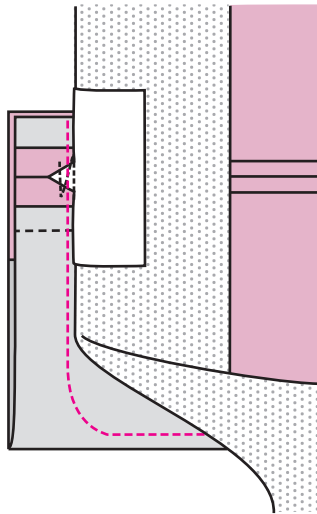


21. From the **RIGHT SIDE**, fold the jacket out of the way until you can see the triangle at the end of the box and the welts. When everything is lying flat and the welts look even in length, secure the triangles to the welts by stitching through all thicknesses exactly on top of the original box stitching. Stitch back and forth a few times to strengthen the ends.



Continue stitching around the pocket through the triangle on the other side. Round off bottom of pocket bag to prevent lint from collecting in the corner.

Stitching across the bottom even though it is on the fold makes this step faster and adds strength to the pocket. Press over the stitches to remove any puckers.



22. Trim pocket sides to 3/8" so they are neater. DO NOT trim away the Pellon. It acts as a buffer between pocket pieces and the jacket.

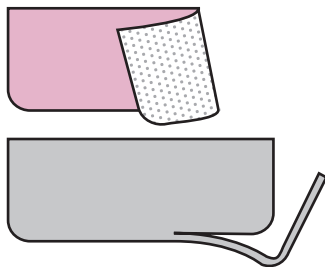
Pocket Flaps

Pocket flaps do add extra bulk, so if you are hippy, you may want to avoid them. Yea! Less work!

NOTE: It is best to cut a flap after the welt opening is made so you can make sure it will fit exactly. Also, if your fabric is a plaid or has a large design, you can match the flap to the jacket front.

1. Cut one side of the flap in fashion fabric and the other in lining. This will reduce bulk.

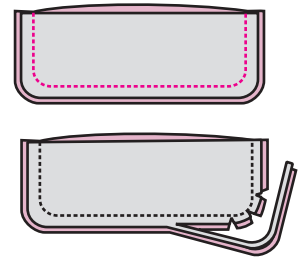
2. Fuse light-weight fusible interfacing to wrong side of fashion fabric flap.



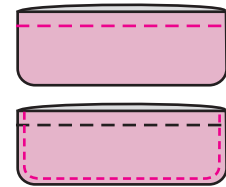
3. Cut 1/8" (3mm) off the outer edges of the lining flap so that it will roll to the inside when the flap is complete. When you pin the smaller lining to the flap, with raw edges meeting, a "bubble" forms in the flap. When the flap is stitched and turned, however, the lining will roll to the inside and not show.

4. With the right sides together, stitch lining and flap together, around sides and lower edge, with small stitches.

5. Grade the seam allowance and trim or notch the curves.

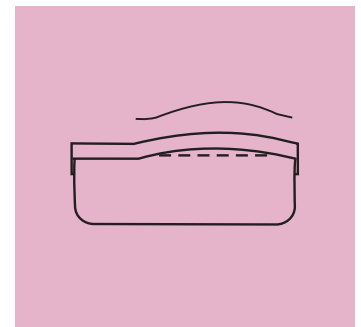


6. Turn the flaps right side out and press. Baste the raw edges together 1/4" (6mm) from the raw edges.

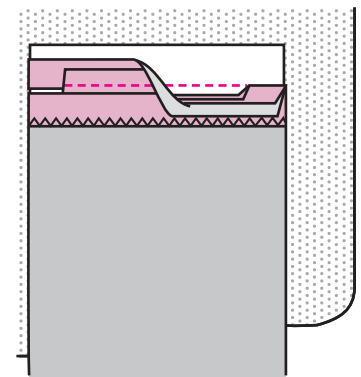


Edgestitch or topstitch if desired.

7. With right sides together, slip the flap into the welt opening, lapping the welt over the flap 1/2" (1.3cm). Pin in place.



8. From the inside, stitch the flap to the top of the welt stitching.
9. Continue with pocket from step 19 on page 74.



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