

It's Sew Easy Series 2100 – It really is SO Easy!

## Show#2109-1 Zipper Tips Part Two

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In part two of zipper tips, you'll see an invisible or concealed zipper and get some ideas for more decorative zipper applications. There are many ways to pizzazz your projects with zippers and zipper embellishments!

Zippers used in this show generously provided by Coats & Clark™, learn more about their products at [www.yarnspirations.com](http://www.yarnspirations.com). Take a look at some of the many Zipper options below:



Supplies featured in this show:

- [Coats & Clark](#) Dual Duty XP Polyester thread – Note: It's essential to use good quality thread when sewing zippers. Choose thread that closely matches your fabric when you want the stitching to fade into the fabric. Use contrast colors when you want zipper stitching to stand out and be noticed.
- [Coats®](#) Polyester Invisible Zipper, Polyester All Purpose Zipper, Sport Zipper, Metal Pocket Zipper, Fashion Zipper, and stylish Zipper pulls that can be added to a standard zipper pull.
- Lightweight fusible interfacing to stabilize zipper area.
- Pinking shears for trimming edge of fusible interfacing.
- Brother Zipper feet:
  - SA102 New and Improved Concealed Zipper Foot
  - SA161 Brother Adjustable Zipper and Piping Foot – Adjustable for variable positions.
  - SA208 Narrow Zipper Foot – Uses either far left or far right needle position.
  - Zipper Foot "I" (part No. X59370021) included with many Brother model machines – Uses straight stitch center needle position.
  - SA114 Non-Stick foot Note: While this is not a zipper foot, it comes in handy for topstitching zippers on fabrics such as faux leather and other "sticky" fabrics.

## Zipper tips for an invisible or concealed zipper as it is often called:

1. Begin by interfacing entire zipper area, extending interfacing slightly below the full measurement of the zipper tape.
2. Check instructions that come with your concealed zipper foot to see if they recommend pressing zipper coils flat before stitching. If you do need to press, be sure to check the temperature on your iron and use low temp on the coils.
3. Open zipper and place it as it will be sewn on the garment with right sides together and coils positioned precisely along seamline. Pin zipper tape at top edge, then stitch tape down to hold it in place.
4. Sew both sides of zipper with concealed zipper foot, sewing from top to bottom on each side, having coils ride under the groove of the foot, and stopping when you reach the point where you can no longer stitch.
5. Sew remainder of seam with standard sewing foot, stopping about two inches from bottom of zipper. You want to avoid the temptation to sew the seam with a zipper foot instead of the standard foot. The standard foot will have better contact with the fabric and form a better seam. Next, switch to a zipper foot that allows you to sew close to bulk at bottom of zipper. Resume stitching to finish closing seam and end slightly past original stitching line for invisible zipper.

## Tips for decorative zipper applications:

1. Consider adding grosgrain ribbon to edges of a standard polyester zipper. Adding decorative stitches to the ribbon beforehand creates a special effect.
2. Add bands of decoratively stitched fabric to accent zippers for pockets or create faux applications where the zipper is not functional but serves as an interesting accent.
3. Add Zipper pulls to zippers to make a focal point on garments and crafts. The zipper pull functions like jewelry for ordinary zippers and makes a zipper easier to open and close.

*Let's go sew!*  
with Joanne Banko



### Additional Resources:

- For more projects and future tutorials, be sure to visit [www.letsgo sew.com](http://www.letsgo sew.com). You'll find online lessons, videos, free downloads, plus lots of sewing and embroidery information and inspiration!
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