

# Thread Pouch Instructions

## Supplies/Materials:

- Fabric Scraps From Other Projects
- 1 Spool All-Purpose Thread
- 1 Piece of Velcro About 1 ½" Long

## Fabric Key



= RIGHT SIDE



= WRONG SIDE

## Step 1-Cutting the Pieces of the Thread Pouch:

1. Be sure that your fabric is pressed flat.
2. Use the rotary cutter to cut the following pieces for your thread pouch:

a. **SEVEN** Strips = 2 ¾" X 6"

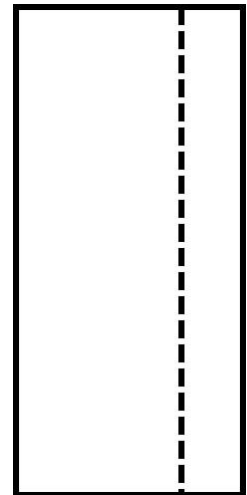
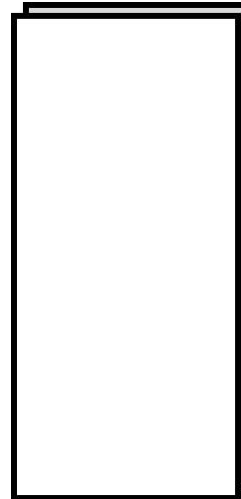


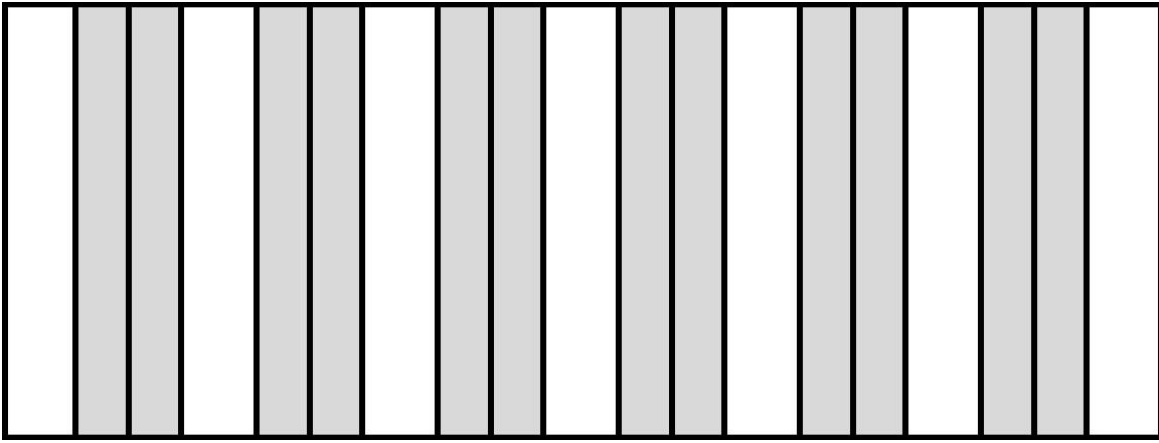
b. **ONE** Back Piece = 6" X 12"



## Step 2-Sewing the Strips together:

1. Place two of the small rectangular strips **RIGHT** sides together.
2. Sew down one long edge at a **5/8"** seam allowance. Be sure to backstitch and trim all threads.
3. Place another small rectangular strip **RIGHT** side touching the un-sewn right side of one of the strips you have just sewn together.
4. Sew down one long edge at a **5/8"** seam allowance. Be sure to backstitch and trim all threads.
5. **Repeat steps 3 and 4** until all 7 strips have been sewn together, with all of the seam allowances on the same side.
6. **Press** all the seam allowances **open** to flatten out the fabric.





**Step 3-**

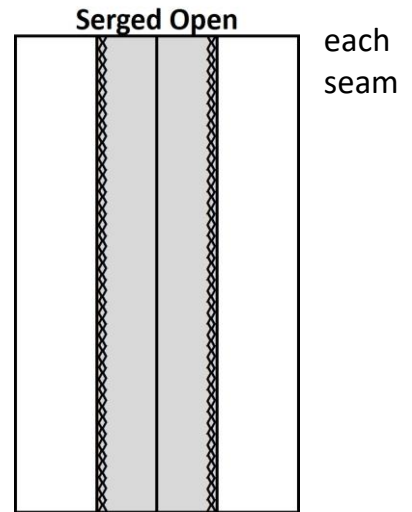
**Making**

**the Seam Finishes:**

1. You will be constructing six different seam finishes to each of the seam allowances you have just sewn. Remember, you are sewing just the seam allowances. **DO NOT** sew through the fabric to the right side. Follow the instructions below for making each of the seam finishes.

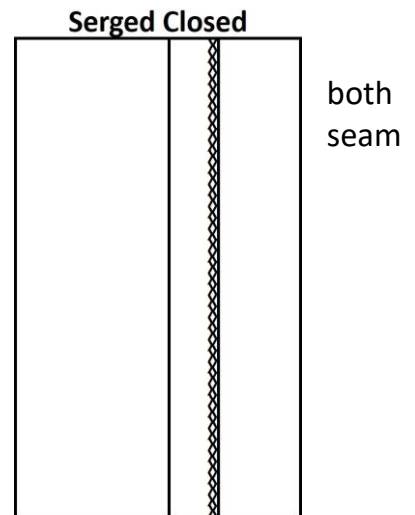
**a. Serged Open:**

1. Using one set of seam allowances, serge down seam allowance **SEPARATELY**. Then, press the allowance **open**.



**b. Serged Closed:**

1. Using one set of seam allowances, serge down seam allowances **TOGETHER**. Then, press the allowance to **one side**.



c. **Zig-Zaged:**

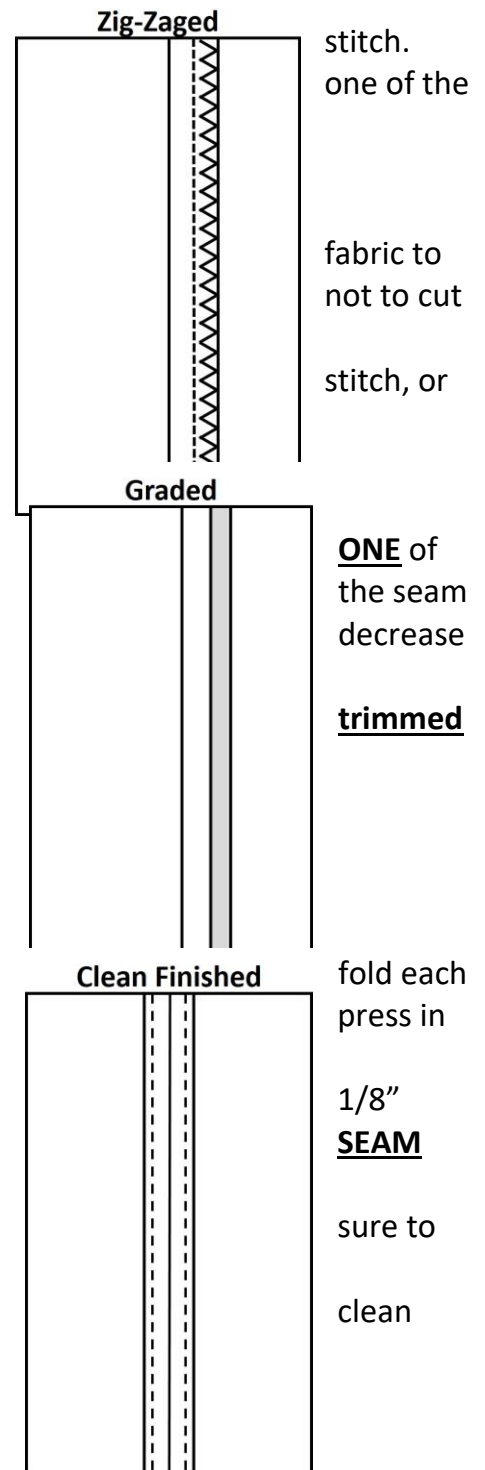
1. Adjust your **STITCH WIDTH** to a size 5 zig-zag
2. Line up the **left edge** of your presser foot with straight 5/8" seam lines already sewn.
3. Zig-zag down the seam allowances **TOGETHER**, backstitching at both ends.
4. Using a pair of shears, **trim away the excess** the **RIGHT** of the zig-zag stitches. Be careful through the stitching.
5. **Reset** your stitch width selector to a straight a size 0.
6. Press the seam allowance to **one side**.

d. **Graded:**

1. Using one set of seam allowances, **trim only** the two seam allowances about 1/4" away from line with a pair of shears. (Grading is done to bulk so that the seam lies flat.)
2. Press the seam allowance to **one side** with the **seam allowance showing**.

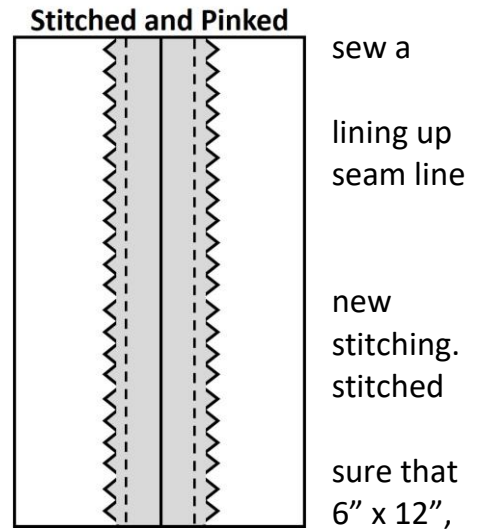
e. **Clean Finished:**

1. Press one set of seam allowances **OPEN**. Then, seam allowance **UNDER** to the stitch line and place.
2. Sew down the seam allowances **separately** at from the folded edge. **SEW ONLY THE FOLDED ALLOWANCES!** Do not sew the seam allowances to the right side of the fabric. Be backstitch at each end.
3. Then, press the seam **open** again so that the finished seam allowances lie flat.



f. **Stitched and Pinked:**

1. Press one set of seam allowances **OPEN**. Then, straight stitch down each seam allowance **SEPARATELY** at 1/4" from the "stitch ditch" by the **left edge of the presser foot** with the 5/8" already sewn. Remember to backstitch.
  2. Using the **pinking shears**, pink the seam allowances **SEPARATELY**, to the **RIGHT** of the stitch line, being careful not to cut through the
  3. Then, press the seam **open** again so that the and pinked seam allowances lie flat.
2. Turn the rectangle over and press the right side to make everything is flat. This new rectangle should now measure the same size as the back piece.

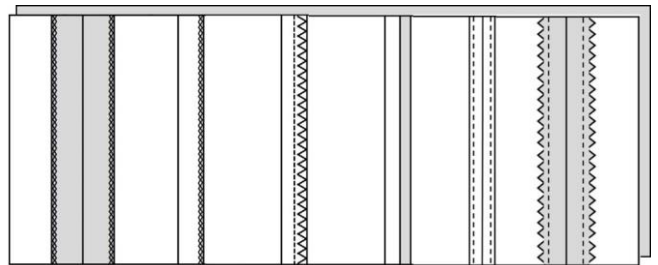


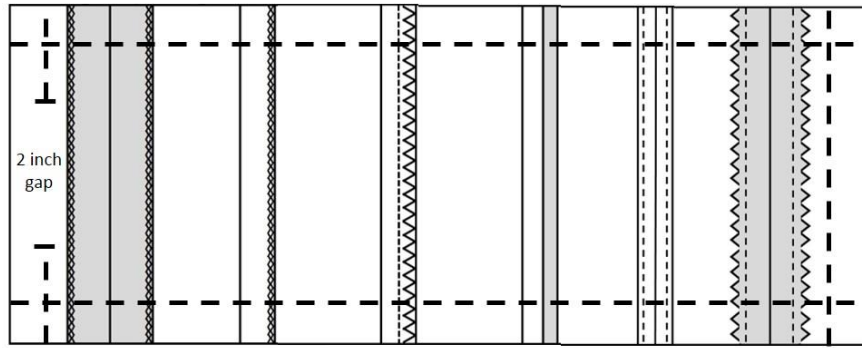
## CHECK OFF YOUR COMPLETED SEAM FINISHES WITH YOUR TEACHER BEFORE MOVING ON TO THE NEXT STEP!!!

Bring your grading sheet to your teacher with your completed seam finishes.

### Step 4-Sewing the Back Piece to the Front Piece:

1. Place the back piece of the thread pouch flat and **RIGHT** side **up**.
2. Place the rectangle with all of the seam finishes flat and **RIGHT** side facing **down** on top of the back piece, lining up all of the edges.
3. The seam allowances should lie flat, but if not, press them again. **Pin** the two pieces together. Using a **5/8" seam allowance**, sew down each of the long sides, backstitching at the beginning and the end. It will be helpful to sew the two pieces together with the rectangle with the seam allowances facing up. Be sure to sew the seam allowances facing the same direction on both edges so that they do not bunch or twist.
4. Sew across **ONE** of the short ends at 5/8".
5. Using a seam gauge and a marking pen, **mark a 2-inch gap** in the center of the opposite unsewn short end of the rectangle.
6. Sew from each of the edges **IN** on this short marked side, backstitching at the beginning of the seam and at the mark. You should have an **open space** in the **center** of one short edge of the thread pouch.

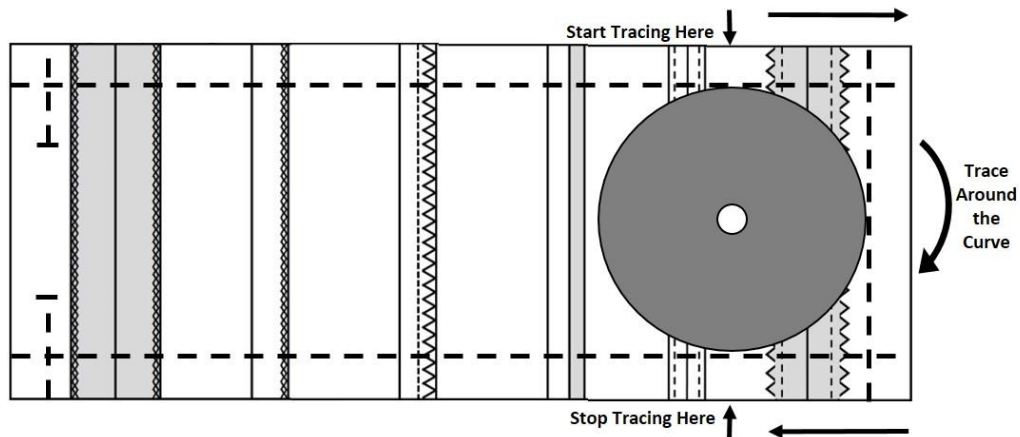




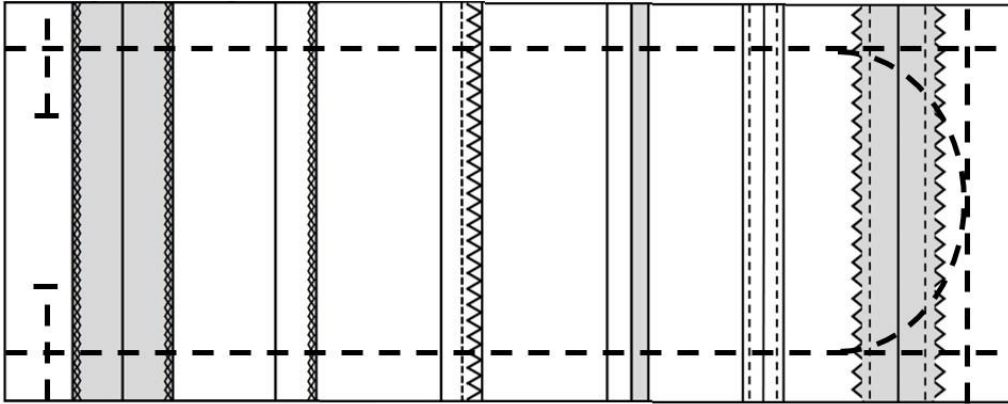
**Step 5-Creating**

**the Curved Top:**

1. Using an old **CD**, place the CD on the thread pouch along the short end that has been fully sewn. The CD should rest between the two long side seams and just meet the top seam on the short side.
2. With a **marking pen**, trace the curved area of the CD where it **meets all three seam allowances**. (You will NOT be tracing around the whole CD, only about halfway from side to side where the CD meets the seams.)

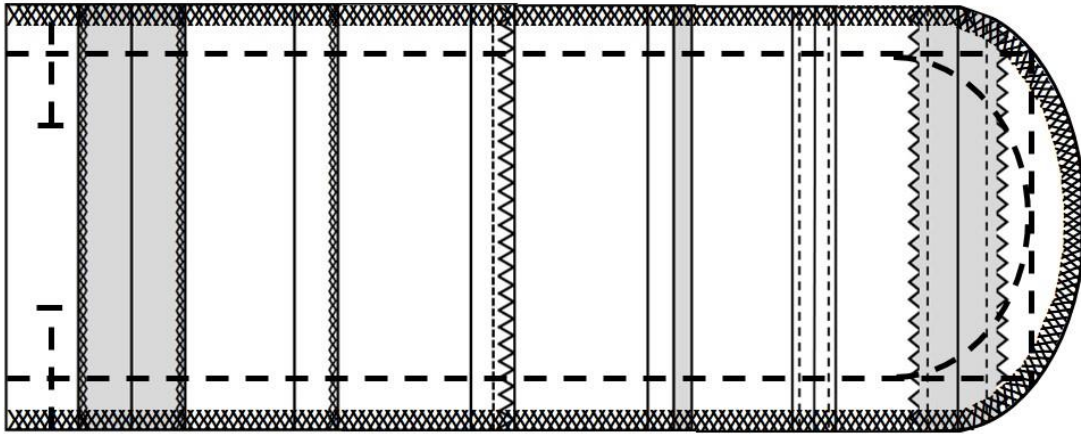


3. Using a **straight stitch**, sew directly on the curved marking, being sure to **backstitch** at the beginning and the end where the seams meet. To easily sew around curved areas, it may be helpful to use the **pivot technique**.
4. **To Pivot:**
  - a. When you first get to a curved area, stop sewing with the needle down in the fabric. (Turn the hand wheel toward you to point the needle down in the fabric. You can also push the Needle Up/Down button so that every time you stop sewing, the needle remains down in the fabric.)
  - b. Lift the presser foot, slightly turn the fabric until it is lined up on the stitch plate guideline, or until you line up the fabric in the new direction you are sewing.
  - c. Lower the presser foot and sew forward a few stitches. Then, pivot again as the fabric continues to curve. Repeat the process until you have sewn around the entire curved area.
5. **Trim all threads** and return the CD and marking pen.



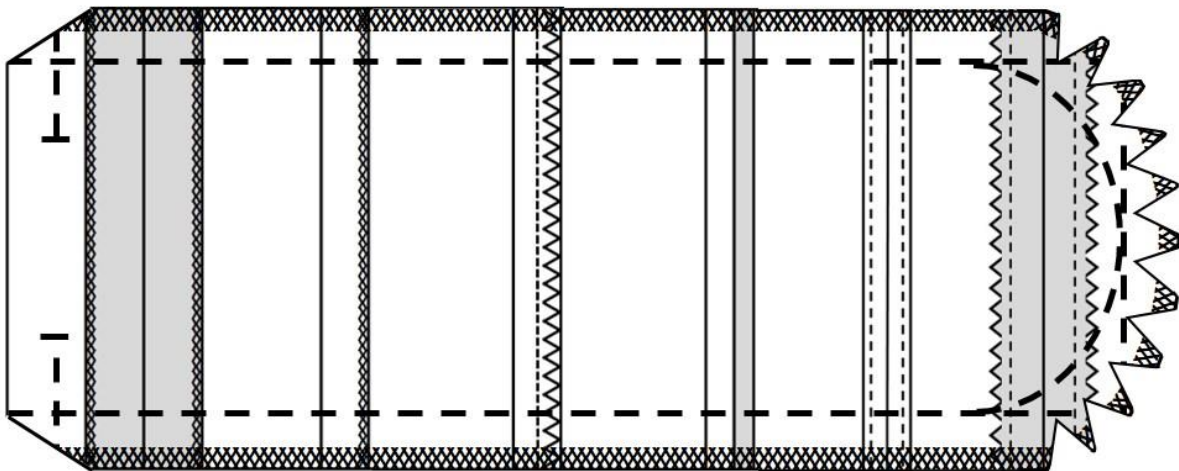
### **Step 6-Serging Around the Sides and Curved Edge:**

1. Using a **serger**, serge around the thread pouch from one edge to the other, going around the curved area. You will **NOT** be serging across the short bottom edge with the opening in the center.
2. **Remember the Three Rules of Serging:**
  - a. Keep your fingers away from the knife.
  - b. ALWAYS leave a thread tail. (Use your shears to cut the thread, do NOT wrap the thread around to the knife.)
  - c. Don't lift up the presser foot, unless you are serging around curved areas.
3. Place the thread pouch in the serger lining up the **5/8" seam** with the **groove** on the presser foot. Begin serging one of the long straight edges going toward the curve. It will be helpful to serge the edges with the seam allowances facing up so that you can be sure the stay flat and do not bunch or twist. Remember, the serging should not go over your straight 5/8" stitching line. There should be a small space between the seam line and the serging when you are done.
4. When you get to the **top** of the thread pouch, you will be serging according to the **curved** line. This will cut off the excess fabric around the curve.
5. **To serge around curved areas:**
  - a. Stop serging (remove your foot from the foot pedal) when you get to a curved area.
  - b. Lift the presser foot and pivot the fabric slightly.
  - c. Lower the presser foot and serge forward about ½" to 1".
  - d. Stop serging, lift the presser foot, pivot the fabric and lower the presser foot.**
  - e. Serge forward again about ½" to 1".
  - f. Repeat Step D until you have serged around the entire curved area.
6. After serging around the curved area, **finish serging** down the other long straight edge.
7. **Trim** all of the threads, including the serger threads.



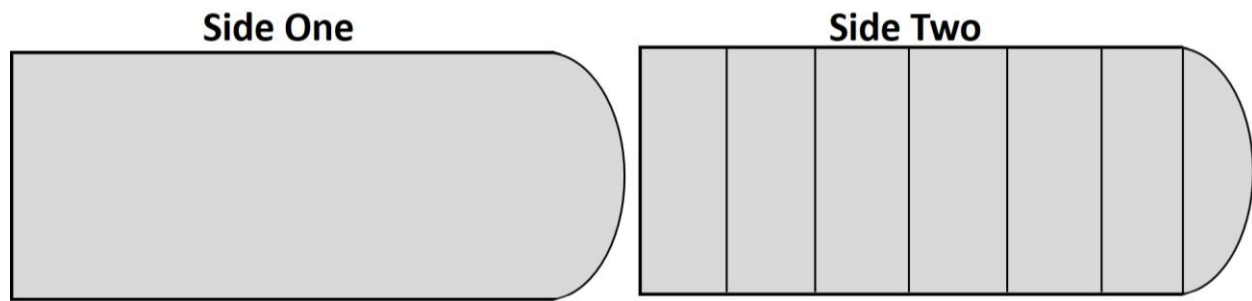
### Step 7-Notching the Curved Edge and Clipping the Corners:

1. In order for the curved edge to lie flat when the thread pouch is turned right side out, you will need to **notch out areas of the curve**.
2. Using a pair of shears, cut **triangle shaped notches** out of the seam allowance only around where the thread pouch curves. **Be careful** not to cut through the stitching. The notches should be about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart.
3. After notching around the curved area, you will need to **clip the bottom square corners** at the bottom of the thread pouch to reduce bulk.
4. Using a pair of shears, **cut diagonally** across the square corners at the bottom of the thread pouch. **Be careful** not to cut through the stitching. Just remove the bulk from the bottom corners.



### Step 8-Turning the Pouch Right Side Out:

1. Turn the thread pouch **right side out** through the opening left along the short end.
2. Use a **point turner** to smooth out the curve and poke out the bottom corners to make them sharp and straight.
3. **Press** the thread pouch flat making sure the seam edges are all the way pushed out. Make sure that the seam allowance at the opening stays **folded** inside the thread pouch.



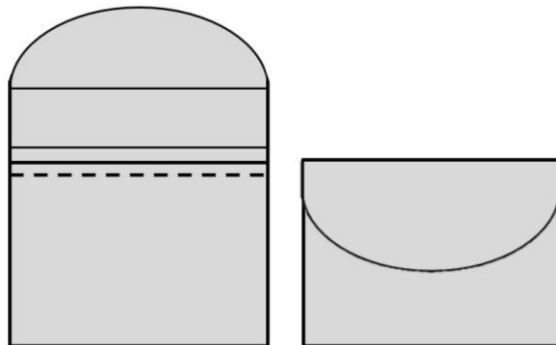
**Step 9-Top-Stitching the Bottom Straight Edge:**

1. **Top-stitch** the short bottom edge of the thread pouch from side to side at **1/8"**. (Remember, use the **inside edge** of the presser foot as your guideline to give you 1/8".) This will also close the opening on that edge that was used to turn the thread pouch right side out.
2. Be sure to **backstitch** at the beginning and the end. **Trim** all threads.



**Step 10-Sewing on the Velcro and Finishing the Pouch:**

1. Determine which side of the thread pouch you want on the outside, and which side you want on the inside. The inside of the bag will now be called the **lining**.
2. **Fold** the short bottom edge of the thread pouch up toward the curved edge at **4"** and **press** in place so that the lining is touching each other.
3. **Fold** the curved edge **over** the bottom edge to create the pouch. **Press in place**. Then, **unfold the pouch** all the way so you can sew on the Velcro.



4. Cut a piece of **Velcro** about **1 1/2" long**. Position the tape part of the Velcro (the soft piece) along the short bottom edge, on the **RIGHT side**, about 1 5/8" in from the sides and about 1 1/4" down from the bottom edge. **Pin** in place.



5. Make sure the thread pouch is all the way **unfolded** and **begin sewing** around the edges of the tape part of the Velcro at  **$\frac{1}{8}$ "** from the edges. **Pivot** at all the corners. **Backstitch** at the beginning and the end and be sure to **trim** all of the threads.



6. **Fold** the bottom edge up **4" again** so that the lining is touching each other. **Pin** this fold together. **Do NOT** fold the top curved edge down, leave it up. You will be **topstitching** around the thread pouch **beginning at the bottom corner** of one of the folded edges, working your way **around the curved edge**, and back **down the other folded edge** at  **$\frac{1}{8}$ "** seam allowance. **DO NOT topstitch across the bottom folded edge**. You may need to pivot while sewing around the curved edge. **Backstitch** at the beginning and the end. **Trim** all threads.
7. Position the hook part of the **Velcro** (the scratchy piece) on the lining side of the **curved flap** on the thread pouch so that it lines up with the tape side of Velcro you have already sewn on. It should be close to about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " down from the top of the curve.
8. **Begin sewing** around the edges of the hook part of the Velcro at  **$\frac{1}{8}$ "** from the edges. **Pivot** at all the corners. **Backstitch** at the beginning and the end and be sure to **trim** all of the threads.
9. **Turn in** your thread pouch with your **grading sheet** to your teacher.

