

The biggest fear people have with zippers by the yard is either putting on the zipper pulls or they're afraid of cutting the length they need. Is that you? If so, following this tutorial will be extremely helpful for you!

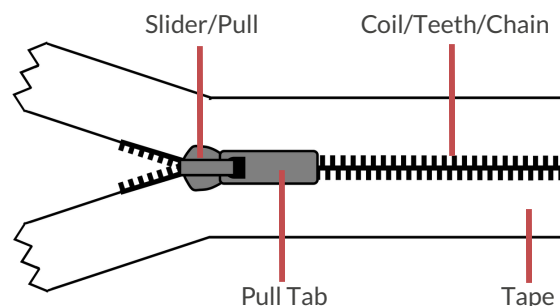
As you read this tutorial, you're going to learn the components of a zipper, how to easily put a zipper pull onto zipper tape, and how to create single slide and double slide zippers. You're also going to realize that you don't actually have a fear of zippers by the yard. Keep this tutorial handy in your sewing room for a quick reference!

Let's Get Started!

1 COMPONENTS OF A ZIPPER

It's very important that you truly understand the components of a zipper because it will be easier to use! If you look at the zipper slider, there's a rounded end with two openings and a flat end with only one opening. Keep this in mind, because it will be important later on. There's also a wrong side and a right side to a slider. The wrong side often has a few numbers or letters on it to indicate the size or manufacturer. The right side will have the pull tab, which is the part that you hold to move the slider up or down.

Now, if we look at the zipper tape, you'll notice that there's about 1" of fabric on each end. This will help you put the pulls on because it's a lot easier to put the zipper pulls onto the fabric, than directly onto the teeth. But don't worry - if you have a piece of zipper where you need to put the pull directly onto the teeth, it's just as easy with a bit of practice. Another important thing to notice about your zipper tape is there's also a wrong side and a right side. The wrong side of the zipper tape will just be fabric. It should be flat, and you can see the stitching that's holding the teeth in place. The right side of the zipper tape will have the nylon coil, which can also be called teeth or zipper chain.



HOW TO USE ZIPPERS BY THE YARD

2 ADD A ZIPPER PULL ONTO ZIPPER TAPE

So now that you're familiar with the components, you're ready to add a zipper pull onto your zipper by the yard! Start by taking your zipper tape, with the right side up, and separate one end so you'll have two sides of zipper chain. Then, take your pull, with the right side up, and simply insert each side of the zipper tape into the rounded end of the pull, with two opens. There's one side of the zipper for each side of the pull. While the pull is still on the fabric, line up the fabric ends so they are even, and slide the pull onto the tape. Tah-dah! You've added your first zipper pull onto zipper by the yard!

**Please don't be discouraged if your coil doesn't line up perfectly on the first try!
With a bit of practice, you'll realize just how easy zipper by the yard are to use!**

3 FINISHING YOUR SINGLE OR DOUBLE SLIDE ZIPPER

So now that you have your pull on the tape, I'll explain how to finish making your zipper. Since it's easiest to put the pulls directly onto the fabric, I'd recommend to save one end for putting pulls on, and always cut from the OPPOSITE end.

If you wanted to make a double slide zipper, where the pulls kiss in the middle (like you would see on a piece of luggage), now would be the time because there is still fabric on BOTH ends. You haven't cut anything yet, so you could add a pull on from the opposite end.

Now, you can mark the desired length of your zipper. Take your ruler and mark the length you need, measuring from the end of the teeth. Also mark 1/2" beyond your desired length. These two marks will be your stitching lines which will be your new zipper stops (preventing the pull from sliding off).

Now, take your zipper over to your sewing machine and stitch along the lines you just marked. Since Sallie Tomato Zippers have a nylon coil, you can sew directly over the zipper without breaking a needle. However, just as a precaution, it's always a good idea to sit back and sew slowly. I like to sew across the tape from edge to edge, then back stitch all the way to the edge for reinforcement.

After sewing, take your scissors, or your rotary cutter, and cut in between your stitch lines. Then, your zipper is ready to use and you can go on to make the next one!

I hope you enjoyed this tutorial and conquered your fear! You can purchase Zippers by the Yard on my [website](#) or your local retailer. You can watch this tutorial on [YouTube](#)!

Connect & Share!

Be sure to head on over to the [Sallie Tomato Facebook Group](#) and share what you're making with Sallie Tomato Zippers by the Yard! See you in the group!

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