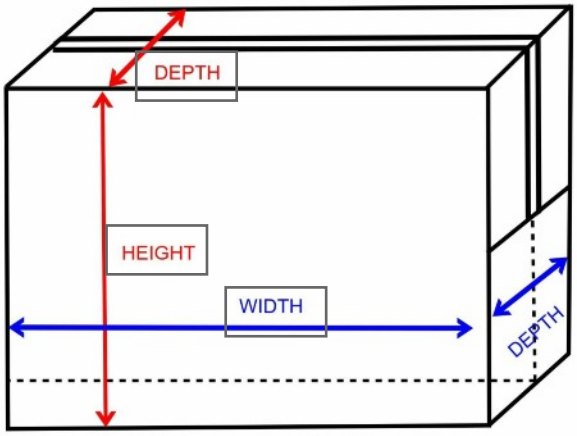
J Howell Designs

# Boxy Pouch Dimension Formula

*Use this formula to design your own boxy pouch*
*with the exact dimensions you want.*




## 1- HOW BIG DO I WANT MY BAG TO BE?

When you want to alter the size of a boxed zipper pouch/bag, the first step is to decide how big you want the bag to be.

Once you decide, jot those measurements on the diagram to the right.

## 2- WHAT SIZE TO MAKE THE PATTERN PANEL PIECE

The next step is to determine how big to make the pattern panel piece. Use the formulas below. I find it helpful to actually fill in the boxes with a pencil to help keep things straight.

For the WIDTH: add your **desired finished width** to your **desired depth**, plus **two times the seam allowance** you are going to use.

W ☐ + ☐ + ☐ = ◯

Desired WIDTH | Desired DEPTH | (SEAM ALLOWANCE X 2) | PANEL WIDTH

***** IF YOU ARE MAKING A BAG USING FRENCH SEAMS, USE THE FORMULA BELOW**

## *BAG WITH FRENCH SEAMS*

W ☐ + ☐ + 2.5 = ◯

Desired WIDTH | Desired DEPTH | FRENCH SEAM (¼ INCH + 3/8 INCH) x 2 | PANEL WIDTH

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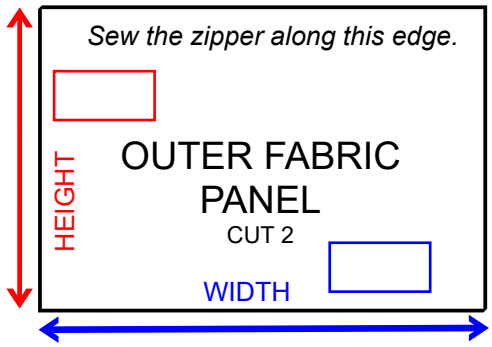
For the HEIGHT: add your **desired finished height** to your **desired depth** plus **two times the seam allowance** you are going to use.

H = Desired WIDTH + Desired DEPTH + (SEAM ALLOWANCE X 2) = PANEL HEIGHT

Once you have determined the panel width and the height, write those measurements on the diagram.

Note: Depending on the shape and size of your bag the width may not always be the wider part, however in most cases it will be.

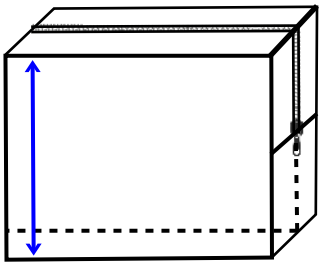



## 3- HOW LONG TO CUT THE ZIPPER

To determine the length of the zipper, add the desired width of the pouch to the desired height of the pouch, then add an additional 2 inches. The excess zipper length will give you some more wiggle room when putting the pouch together.

ZIPPER LENGTH = Desired WIDTH + Desired HEIGHT + 2 inches = ZIPPER LENGTH

## 4- HOW TO DETERMINE THE SIZE OF THE BOXED CUT



NOTE: Whatever seam allowance you use to sew the side seam, will need to be the same amount as the seams to make the boxed corners.

½ of DESIRED FINISHED HEIGHT = BOX CUT

***(See diagram on the next page for FRENCH SEAMS)***

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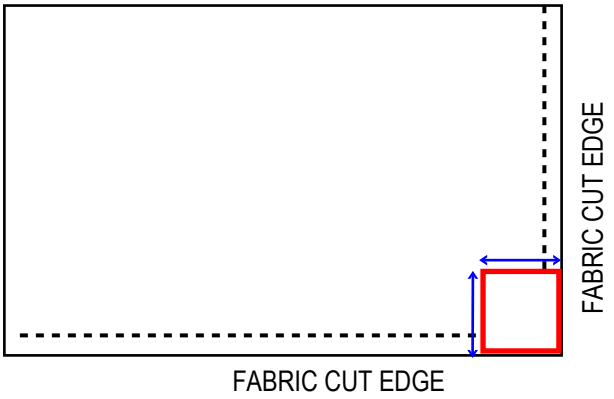
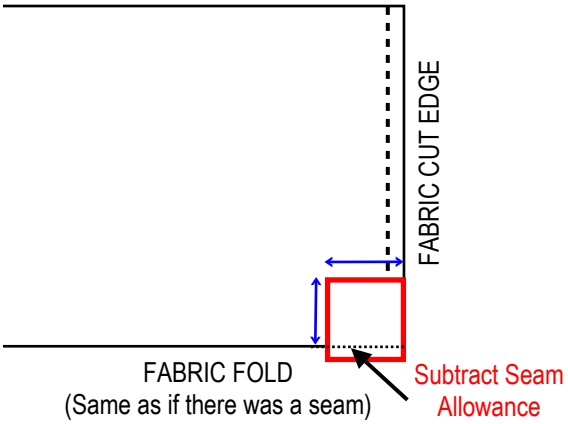
Measure the box cut starting at the fabric edge, not the seam.




This is an example of marking the boxed corner before the side seams are sewn AND when there is a fold in the fabric.

The cut measurement will not be square.




## FRENCH SEAMS BOXED CUT

For example: If you want a bag that is 3 inches tall, half of that would be 1 ½ inches. Subtract French seam allowance (¼ inch + 3/8 inch) and the actual cut would be 1 3/16 inch. USE THE FORMULA BELOW.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | - | 5/8 INCH | = | |
| ½ of DESIRED HEIGHT | | FRENCH SEAM ALLOWANCE (¼" first seam + 3/8 second seam) | | Actual BOX CUT |

## 5- Fill in the Measurement Guide for your boxy pouch project.

You are now ready to fill in the chart below with your custom dimensions and to gather your supplies.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Desired Finished Size** | ____W ____H ____D |
| **Outer Fabric Panel (Cut 2)** | ____W x ____ H |
| **Lining (Cut 2)** | " |
| **Stabilizer (Cut 2)** | " |
| **Zipper length** | |
| **Box Cut Measurement** | |

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Get a copy of the complete pattern HERE.

Watch Video Tutorial Here

Have Fun Sewing!

Be sure to check out my website

youmakeitsimple.com

and my online sewing classes

Watch the video tutorial

Youtube

*If you have any questions or concerns when sewing up your bags and pouches, don't hesitate to send me a note.* jannihowell@youmakeitsimple.com

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