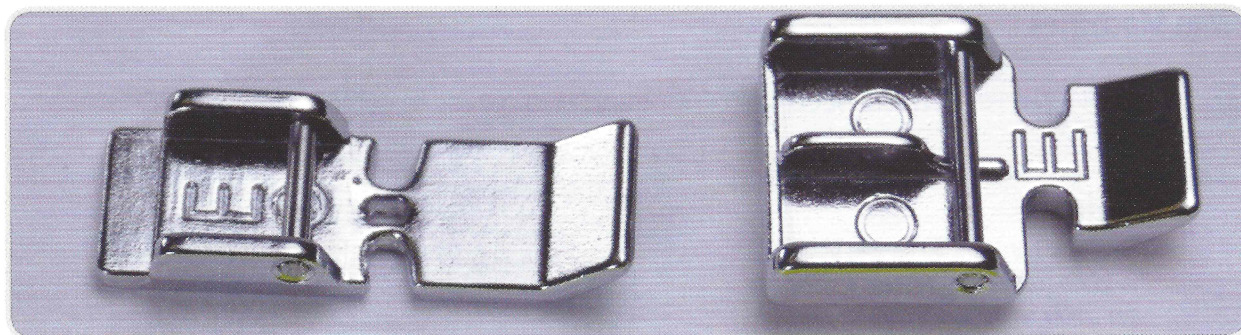


09 | ZIPPER FOOT E



Have you ever hesitated buying a pattern because it had a zipper? Learning how to put in a zipper can be one of the most useful techniques you will ever learn. And the Janome Zipper Foot E makes it easy.

Machine Settings:

- *Stitch: Straight*
- *Thread Tension: Auto*
- *Stitch Length: 2.2mm*
- *Stitch Width: Variable*
- *Feed Dogs: Up*

Zippers are functional when used in garment projects, such as skirts, shorts, pants and jackets. They can also add color and texture to pillows, pouches and handbags. Zippers come in different colors, types and teeth content.

Basic Zipper Installation

The most common way to insert a zipper is called a Centered Zipper. This is where the zipper is sewn in so it's centered on a seam. With equal amounts of fabric on the right and left side, very little of the zipper is actually seen. This technique is used when sewing garments with a back zipper and also used on jacket fronts using a separating zipper.

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7mm Machines

1. For this exercise you will need a 7" zipper and two pieces of cotton fabric 4" x 12".

Notes:

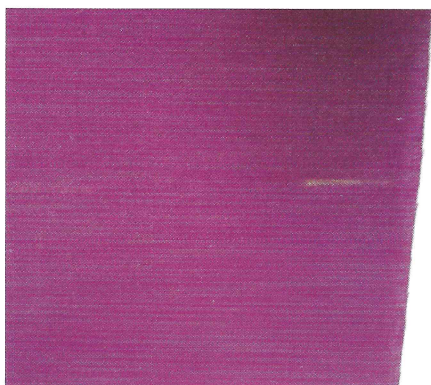


The zipper can actually be any size. Cut the fabric pieces long enough so that you have ample amount of length to create a seam and still have room for the zipper.

“Tip:”

When purchasing a zipper, buy one that is a couple of inches longer than required. The longer zipper alleviates the problem of sewing around the zipper pull.

2. With your fabric wrong side up, place a mark 5" from the top (or 2" shorter than your zipper).



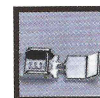
3. Insert a Janome Blue Tip #11 needle. Place all purpose sewing thread in the needle and bobbin. Attach Zig-Zag foot A. Select a straight stitch, center needle position. Adjust the stitch length to 5.0mm. Place fabric pieces right sides together. With the marked fabric piece on top, start sewing at the top, using a 5/8" seam allowance. Sew a basting stitch until you reach your mark. Stop with the needle in the down position. Do not backstitch at the beginning or the end.

Notes:

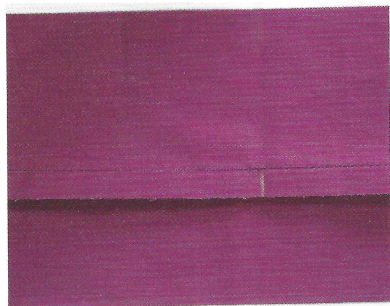


The basting stitches will be removed once the zipper has been sewn.

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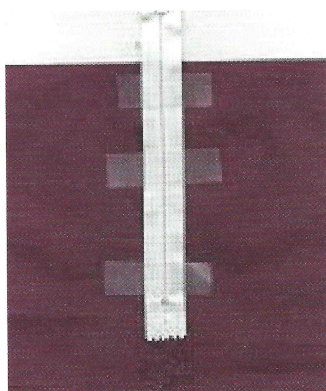
4. Decrease the stitch length to 2.2mm. Sew a couple of stitches, then backstitch a couple of stitches. Continue sewing to complete the seam.



5. Press the seam open.
6. On the right side of your fabric, use a fabric marker to draw two lines 5" long, 1/4" from each side of the seam. Place a straight pin on the 5" mark so that the pin is visible on the wrong side of the fabric.



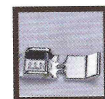
7. With the seam side up, and zipper pull tab facing down, center the zipper over the seam, extending it 1 3/4" above the top. The metal stopper on the bottom of the zipper should be below the straight pin. Tape in place.



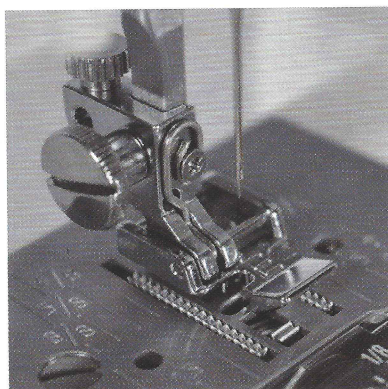
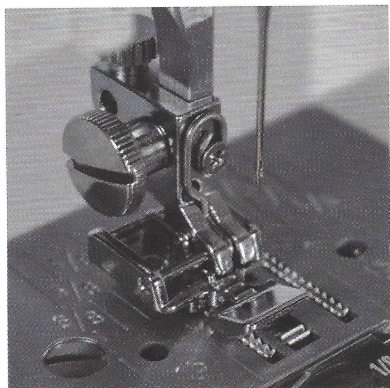
Notes:

Because you will be sewing on the right side of the fabric, using adhesive tape to secure the zipper to the fabric is easier than trying to remove pins that are on the underside while you are sewing.

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8. Remove Zig-Zag foot A. Before attaching the Zipper foot, notice that it has a double attachment pin, allowing you to attach it in the left or right position. To sew the right side of the zipper, attach the Zipper foot with the left side pin. The foot will be to the right of the needle.



Note:

The Zipper foot for Janome 9mm machines is constructed a little differently than the Zipper foot for most Janome sewing machines. There is only one pin on the foot. When sewing a zipper, move the needle position to sew on the right or the left side of the zipper teeth.

9. With right side up, sew on the drawn line. When you reach the pin, stop with the needle down. Pivot to sew the bottom of the zipper. Raise the Zipper foot. Remove the foot and attach it on the other side. The foot will now be on the left side of the needle.

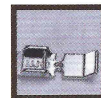
Before beginning to sew, feel where the zipper stop is located. Make sure you are sewing above the zipper stop or you will break a needle. Sew across the bottom of the zipper. Stop with the needle down. Pivot once again. Raise the presser foot.

Remove the presser foot and place on other side of the needle. The foot will now be to the right of the needle. Lower the presser foot and sew the other side of the zipper.

Notes:

Repositioning the Zipper foot to sew across the bottom of the zipper, will prevent the foot from having to sew over the hump created by the zipper stop.

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10. Carefully remove the basting stitches with a seam ripper. The zipper can now be opened.



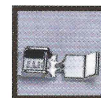
Caution: Do NOT cut off the excess zipper at the top until you have attached another piece of fabric such as a facing or waistband, otherwise the zipper pull could fall off accidentally.

“Tip:”

Tips for installing zippers.

- If your fabric is lightweight, adhere 1" strips of iron-on lightweight interfacing to the wrong side of the fabric where the zipper will be sewn. Not only will this add body to the fabric, it will also help keep the fabric from stretching.
- If inserting a zipper in stretchy fabrics, sew both sides of the zipper in the same direction. Start with the Zipper foot on the left side of the needle. Sew across the bottom. Stop with the needle in the down position. Pivot. Remove the Zipper foot and reattach on the right side of the needle. Continue sewing to the top. Remove the Zipper foot and reattach on the left side of the needle. Sew from the bottom of the zipper to the top.
- To keep the zipper from slipping, baste the zipper in place by hand using long basting stitches.
- If your fabric is delicate, or a marking pen is not suitable, use sewing tape and a quilter's ruler to mark a sewing line 1/4" from the center of each side of the seam.

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Zippers as a Fashion Statement

1. Cut two fabric pieces that are 3" x the length of your zipper. Press under approximately 1/2" , wrong sides together, on one long side of the two pieces.
2. Insert a Janome Blue Tip #11 needle. Place all purpose sewing thread in the needle and bobbin.
3. Snap on Zipper foot E.
4. Select a straight stitch. Set stitch length to 2.2mm.
5. Unzip the zipper about 3". Sewing around the zipper pull can cause uneven stitching. By unzipping the zipper part way, this issue will be prevented.
6. Place the folded fabric edge next to the zipper teeth. Secure with pins or glue stick. Lower the presser foot so that the foot is close to the folded edge. If necessary adjust the needle position so the needle drops just to the right of the folded edge.



7. Activate the Needle Up/Down feature, if available on your machine. If not, lower the needle into fabric using the hand wheel. Start sewing close to the folded edge of the fabric. Stop with the needle down when you are about to reach the zipper pull. Close the zipper by pulling the zipper pull to the top. Finish sewing the first side of the zipper.

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8. For 7mm machines, move Zipper foot to left side. For 9mm machines, move the needle position to the right side.
9. Sew the other side of the zipper.



This technique is great anywhere a decorative element would complete the project.

Fabric Covered Cord or Creating Your Own Piping

Fabric covered cord or piping can be used in garment sewing and home dec projects. A Zipper foot makes it quick and easy, plus you can pick the perfect fabric color, fabric type and dimension of the cord or piping for your project.

Notes:

For cord or piping smaller than $\frac{3}{8}$ " the Janome Piping foot could also be used. This foot is an optional accessory available for most Janome sewing machines.

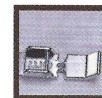
For this exercise you will need one 12" length of 1" thick cord (such as upholstery cord); one piece of cotton fabric $2\frac{5}{8}$ " x 10"; and two pieces of contrasting cotton fabric 4" x 10".

Notes:

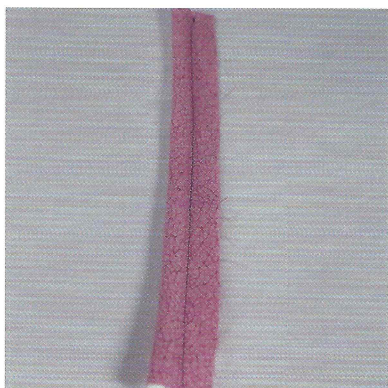
If you do not have thick cord, any type of cording will do. Cut fabric strip according to the thickness, adding $\frac{1}{2}$ " for seam allowance.

1. With wrong sides together, wrap the fabric around the cord. With raw edges even, pin to secure.
2. Insert a Janome Blue Tip #11 needle. Place all purpose sewing thread in the needle and bobbin. Select a straight stitch, center needle position. Stitch length 3.0mm.

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3. Attach Zipper foot on the left side.
4. Place fabric covered cord under foot. The needle should drop approximately 3/8" to the right of the cording. Adjust the needle position, if necessary. Sew, encasing the cording with fabric.



Notes:

You do not want the stitching to be right next to the cord. This step is only to secure the fabric around the cord. When you attach the cord to another piece of fabric, you want to be able to stitch to the left of the stitching next to the cord so that you do not see any threads on the right side when you are done.

Inserting Cording in a Seam

1. Sandwich the fabric covered cording just created between two pieces of fabric, matching the raw edges. Pin in place.
2. Decrease the stitch length to 2.2mm.
3. Place the fabric with cording under the Zipper foot with the left side of the foot snugged tightly against the cording.
4. Sew. And your cording is perfectly inserted.



Notes:

If you can see threads when stitching is complete, move the needle position closer to the cording and stitch again.