

Name Tag Holder Pattern

By Leah Day

I created this pattern out of necessity when I joined my local quilt guild. The name tag holders they gave us were very unimaginative. I wanted a name tag where I could show off my favorite fabric and decorate with quilt pins and beads if I desired.

This pattern is very easy once you get the hang of it. You can either pin it to your shirt using a quilt pin through the front or make a loop with a piece of yarn and hang it from a beaded necklace.

The pattern itself is comprised of two parts: a background shape that's sandwiched just like a normal quilt, and a front vinyl window that can be bound with fabric or left unfinished. A normal business card can be slipped behind the vinyl window to display your name.

Materials:

Fabric A - Large Scraps of fabric at least 7" long and 6" wide
Fabric B - Smaller scraps of fabric of a contrasting color
Scrap batting - choose an thin, low loft batting for the best results
Plastic upholstery vinyl

Directions for Background:

1. Select a template for your name tag and cut out 2 pieces of fabric A and 1 piece from the scrap batting.
2. Layer fabric A pieces right sides together and place the batting on the bottom. Backstitch at the beginning to secure and then sew around the edge using a precise 1/4" seam, leaving a 1" gap to turn.
3. Trim the excess fabric and batting close to stitching and turn background fabric right side out.
4. Using a blunt point, shape your background piece carefully. Fold in fabric left from the turning hole and press smooth.
5. Using a edge stitching foot, stitch 1/8" around the edge of the background, closing the turning hole and backstitching to secure.

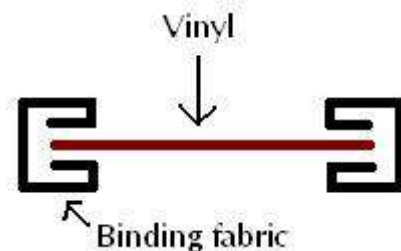
Directions for Window:

Note: upholstery vinyl can be a trial to work with. Always use paper on the back side of it so you can see it when cutting. When sewing, use a piece of paper on the wrong side so that the vinyl will glide smoothly over your feed dogs. Tear off the paper when you're finished sewing and use a needle to pick out any bits that get stuck in the stitches.

If you find yourself fighting with the vinyl and struggling to get it bound, just opt for an easier, unfinished version of the pattern. Vinyl isn't like 100% cotton - it's not going to unravel!

Directions for fabric bound vinyl window:

1. Cut fabric B into 1 1/4" wide strips.
2. Using a piece of paper behind it so you can see the vinyl, cut out a 4" x 2 1/2" rectangle using an old rotary cutter.
3. Starting with the long edges, stitch a strip to the vinyl right side down, using an exact 1/4" seam.
4. Tear away the paper and fold the fabric up and over, encasing the raw edge of the fabric and the vinyl. Fold the edge of the fabric in 1/4 and using an edge stitching foot, stitch right along the edge to secure this binding in place. See image →
5. Repeat stitching the fabric strip to the short sides, making sure to fold down the top and bottom of the strip 1/4" so that no raw edges poke out.



Directions for an unfinished vinyl window:

1. Using a piece of paper behind it so you can see the vinyl, cut out a 4" x 2 1/2" rectangle using an old rotary cutter. You don't have to do anything to it now except attach it to the background.

Attaching the Vinyl Window to Fabric Background:

Center your vinyl window over the background. Using a walking foot, stitch over the edge stitching on the finished vinyl window, or stitch 1/4" away from the unfinished vinyl edge on the sides and bottom to secure. Do not stitch over the top edge or you won't be able to get your name tag in place!

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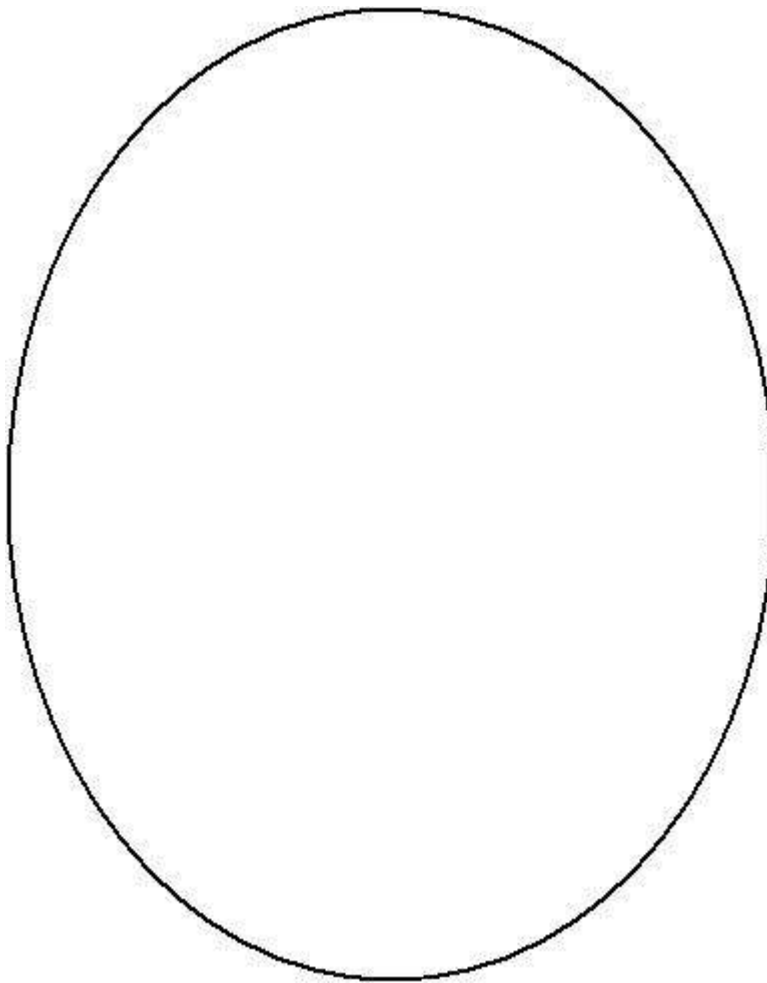
Take a business card and print your name clearly on the front. Slip it into the front pocket created by the vinyl window.

Decorate your new name tag holder with quilting pins, beads, sequins, or decorative stitching! Make this piece a reflection of yourself so that people can easily get to know you at quilting events and workshops just by looking at your name tag.

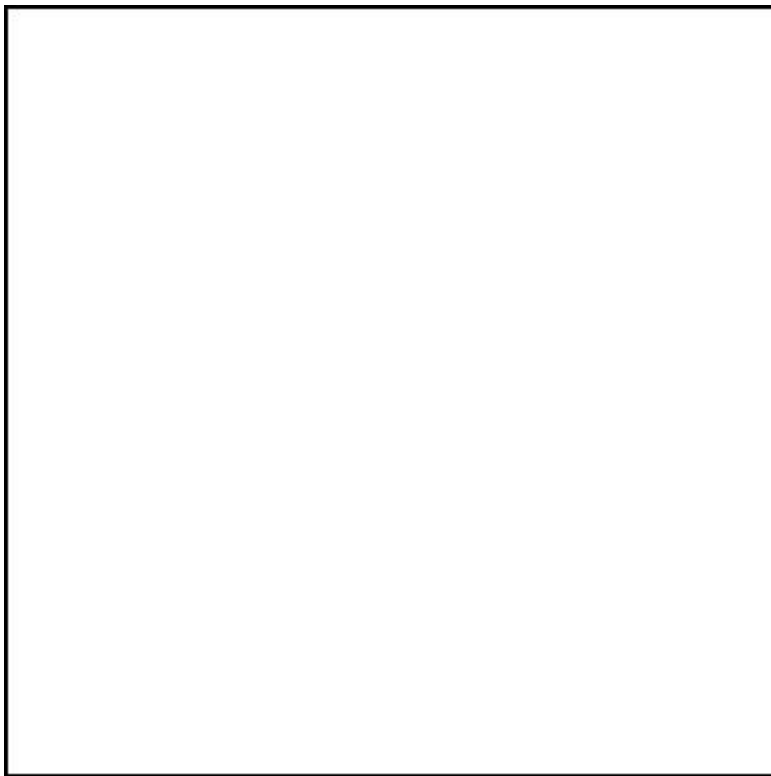
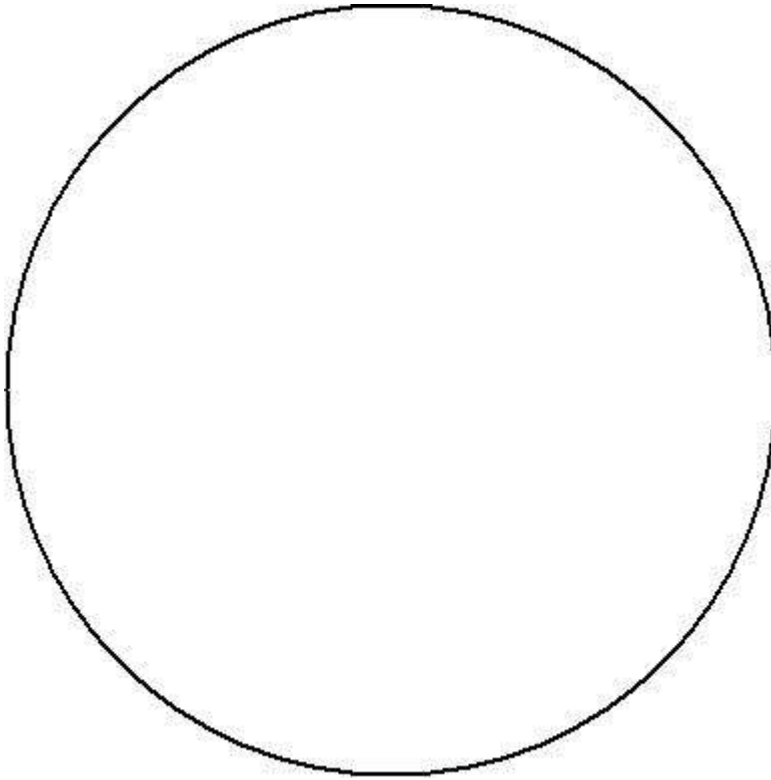
To attach the name tag to your shirt, just use a decorative quilting pin at the top and pin it through the background to your shirt.

If you wish to attach a beaded chain, use a piece of yarn or ribbon to create a small loop, tie a knot, and using an upholstery needle slide this through the top of the background. Now run your beaded chain through the loop for a name tag necklace.

Templates:



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