

# The Big Reveal Picture Frame



Technique:	Sewing, Fabric Crafting
Designed By:	Linda Turner Griepentrog
Skill Level:	Beginner
Crafting Time:	An evening
Finished size:	8" x 10" (20.32cm x 25.40cm)

## Featuring Tim Holtz Eclectic Elements, Coats Dual Duty XP®

Pick a great photo and show a sneak peek of it under a zippered fabric "mat". It's a fun technique perfect for a new baby's photo or a new canine friend. Make it seasonal (or not), depending on your fabric choice. Ours showcases FreeSpirit Holiday Homies Peppermint Stars by Tula Pink.

## Supplies

- Coats Dual Duty XP® All-purpose thread
- 14" (35.56cm) Time Holtz Eclectic Elements zipper
- 8" x 10" (20.32cm x 25.40cm) photo frame
- ¼ yd (22.86cm) fabric
- Craft glue
- Spring clips
- Photo printing paper

## Preparation

Disassemble the frame and recycle the glass portion, as you won't be using it.

Size and print your photo onto the photo paper using the "best" ink setting (or whatever your printer recommends as a setting). Keep in mind that the more background you have, the more flexibility you have for positioning the photo within the frame. It's a good idea to test-print a sample first on regular paper and play with positioning within the frame.

When you're satisfied with the look, print the photo onto good paper. Trim if needed and glue the photo edges to the backing cardboard.

## Assembling the Mat

1. Lay out the zipper in a pleasing manner to reveal a portion of the photo as desired. Keep in mind that it's easier to work with a flat zipper, than one you've put a curve into.
2. Overlay a piece of scrap paper and roughly trace the shape of the fabric sections for both sides of the zipper, allowing at least 2" (5.08cm) all around for later adjustments. Cut out each shape from fabric and slide the edges under the zipper tape on both sides. Pin in place and test-fit into the frame.
3. Working with one side at a time, sew the zipper to the fabric along the edge of the zipper tape using matching thread. Move the zipper pull out of the way as needed for stitching.
4. When side one is complete, relay the pieces over the photo for another test fit. Adjust the second side as needed, then repeat Step 3.
5. Lay the zippered piece over the photo and adjust positioning as needed. When satisfied with the look, glue the fabric to the cardboard along the edges and along the underside of the zipper tape. Use clips around the edges to hold the fabric mat in position until the glue dries.
6. Trim off excess fabric and zipper length to match the edge of the backing cardboard.
7. Reassemble the frame adding the back support/easel so the photo is right side up in the finished frame. Push the metal clips in place to securely hold the photo.