



Technique:	Sewing
Designed By:	Linda Turner Griepentrog
Skill Level:	Intermediate
Crafting Time:	Weekend
Finished size:	Approximately 28" x 36" (71.12cm x 91.44cm)*

Featuring Coats Dual Duty XP®

Pick your pocket shapes and holiday prints to create this colorful Advent calendar. Place a small gift or treat in the pockets as a countdown to Christmas, and each day as the item is revealed it's one day closer.

***Note:** The actual finished size varies depending on the pockets you choose.

Supplies

- Coats Dual Duty XP® All-purpose Threads
- 1 yd (.91m) white fabric
- 1 yd (.91m) backing fabric of your choice
- 1 yd (.91m) fusible fleece
- 1/3 yd (30.48cm) binding fabric
- 2 2/3 yds (2.44m) ribbon for ties, 5/8" (1.59cm) wide
- Assorted Christmas print fabrics, enough 7" (17.78cm) squares to make 24 pockets, noting that some pockets are double layer; the elasticized pocket requires a 7" x 12" (17.78cm x 30.48cm) rectangle—so figure out how many of each pocket you want to make and select fabric amounts accordingly
- 1/4" (.64cm) elastic
- Assorted small pre-made ribbon bows and/or small buttons
- Bodkin or small safety pin

Cutting

From assorted holiday prints:

There are five pocket pattern shapes to choose from—elasticized, square, circle, pointed patch and rounded patch. Note that both the square and circle pockets can be sewn on flat or folded down to make a flap; both are lined in the same or a contrast color. Cut out a total of 24 pockets in the shapes and assorted fabrics desired.

From white fabric and fusible fleece, cut:

(1) rectangle, 30" x 36" (76.20cm x .91m)

From binding fabric, cut:

(4) 2½" x width-of-fabric (WOF) strips

Note: Seam allowances are ¼" (.64cm).

Assemble the Pockets

Square and Circle

1. Place two pieces right sides together and sew around the edges, leaving a small opening for turning.
2. Turn the pocket through the opening, press the edges and hand-stitch the opening closed.
3. To make a flap, press down the upper edge at the desired location.

Pointed and Rounded Patch

1. Press under a double ¼" (.64cm) hem at the upper edge and topstitch in place.
2. Press under ¼" (.64cm) along the remaining edges, easing fabric around the curve on the rounded pocket.

Elasticized

3. Press under ¼" (.64cm) at the upper edge, then press under a ½" (1.27cm) hem. Stitch the lower fold to form a casing.
4. Thread the elastic through the casing and pull up to 3½" (8.89cm). Sew across the elastic at both ends of the casing and trim excess length.
5. Press under ¼" (.64cm) along the curved edge of the pocket.

Assemble the Front

1. Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the fleece to the white fabric rectangle wrong side.
2. Lay out the various pockets in six rows of four pockets each on the fabric rectangle, starting about 1½" (3.81cm) from the lower edge. Note that the pockets will not line up as they're different sizes. Place colors and shapes randomly. Leave a margin of at least 1½" (3.81cm) on each side and more at the top.
3. When you have a pleasing arrangement, pin all the pockets in place. You can trim the background size if you prefer, depending on how closely you placed the pockets.
4. Using matching thread, edgestitch all the pockets in place, anchoring the upper edges with backstitching for reinforcement.
5. Sew on small ribbon bows and/or buttons as desired. These are especially helpful to hold any pocket flaps in place.

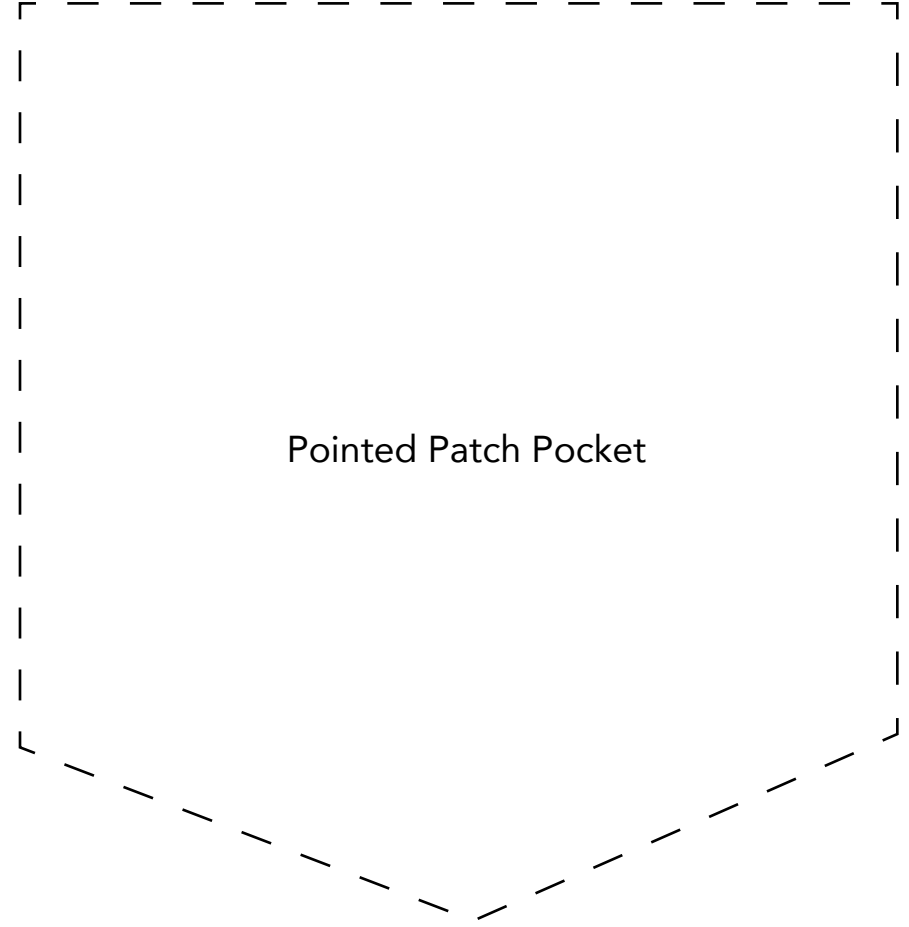
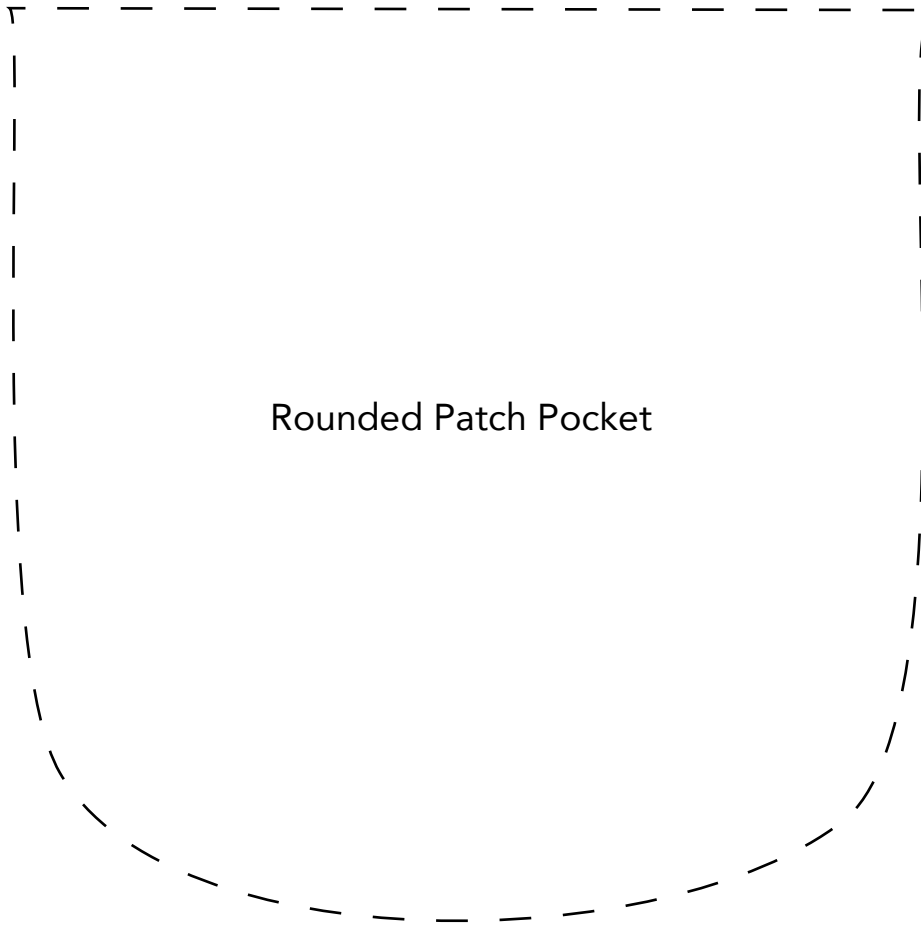
Assemble the Calendar

1. Layer the backing fabric wrong side up and top with the pocketed front right side up. Smooth into place and pin the layers together. Trim the backing to match the top and sew around the edges.
2. Sew the binding strips together end to end using diagonal seams. Press the binding in half wrong sides together.
3. Matching the raw edges, place the binding on the calendar right side and stitch in place, mitering corners.
4. Turn the binding to the calendar underside and hand-stitch the folded edge to the backing fabric.

Finishing

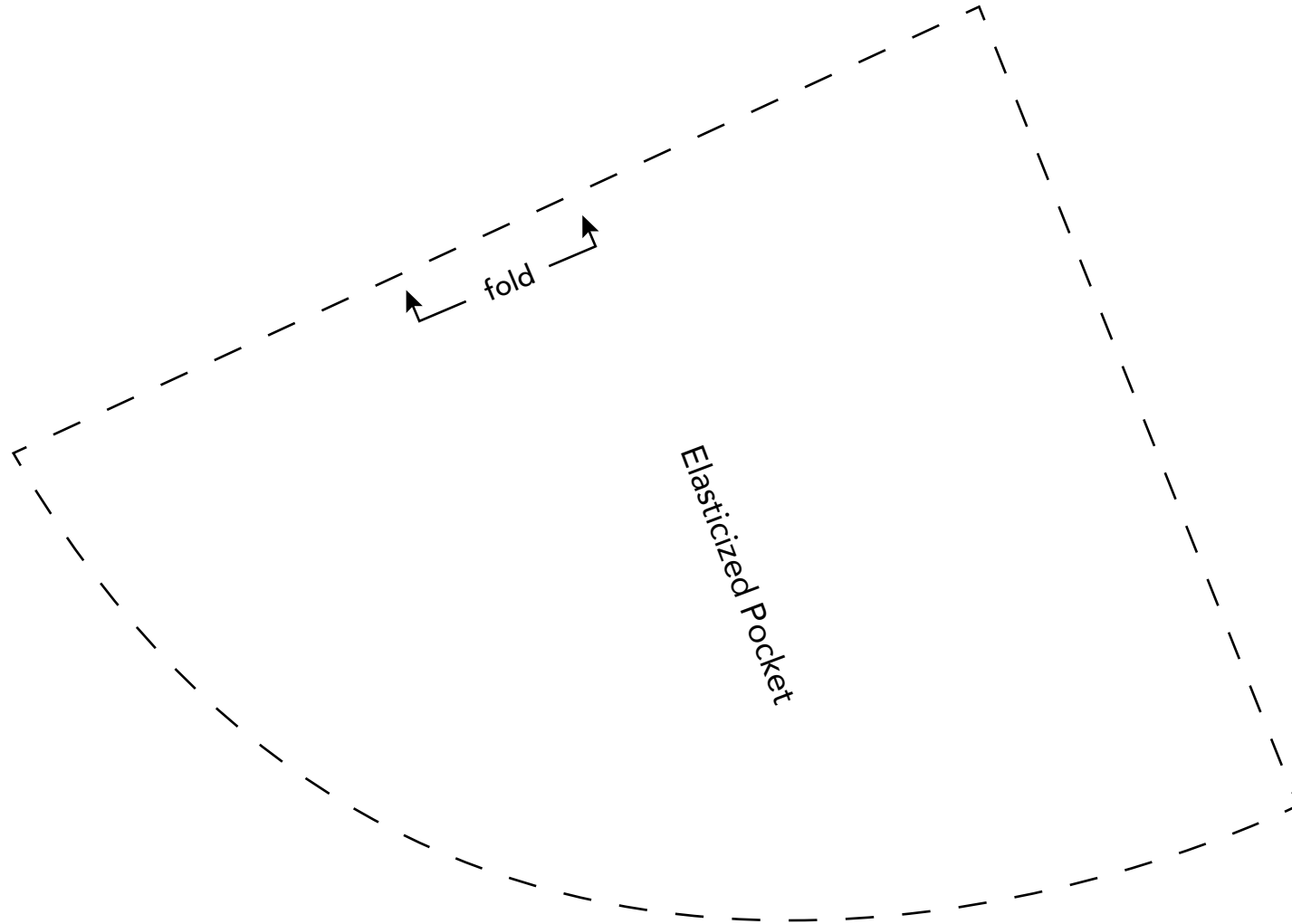
1. Cut the ⅝" (1.59cm) ribbon length in half. Fold each piece in the middle and place the fold under each upper corner.
2. Sew the ribbon in place, stitching a small box through the binding area.
3. Tie each ribbon into a bow, hang the calendar and fill the pockets with small treasures.

TIP: Make this in denim and assorted prints to use for small toy storage. The pockets are ideal to house little cars, animals, etc.



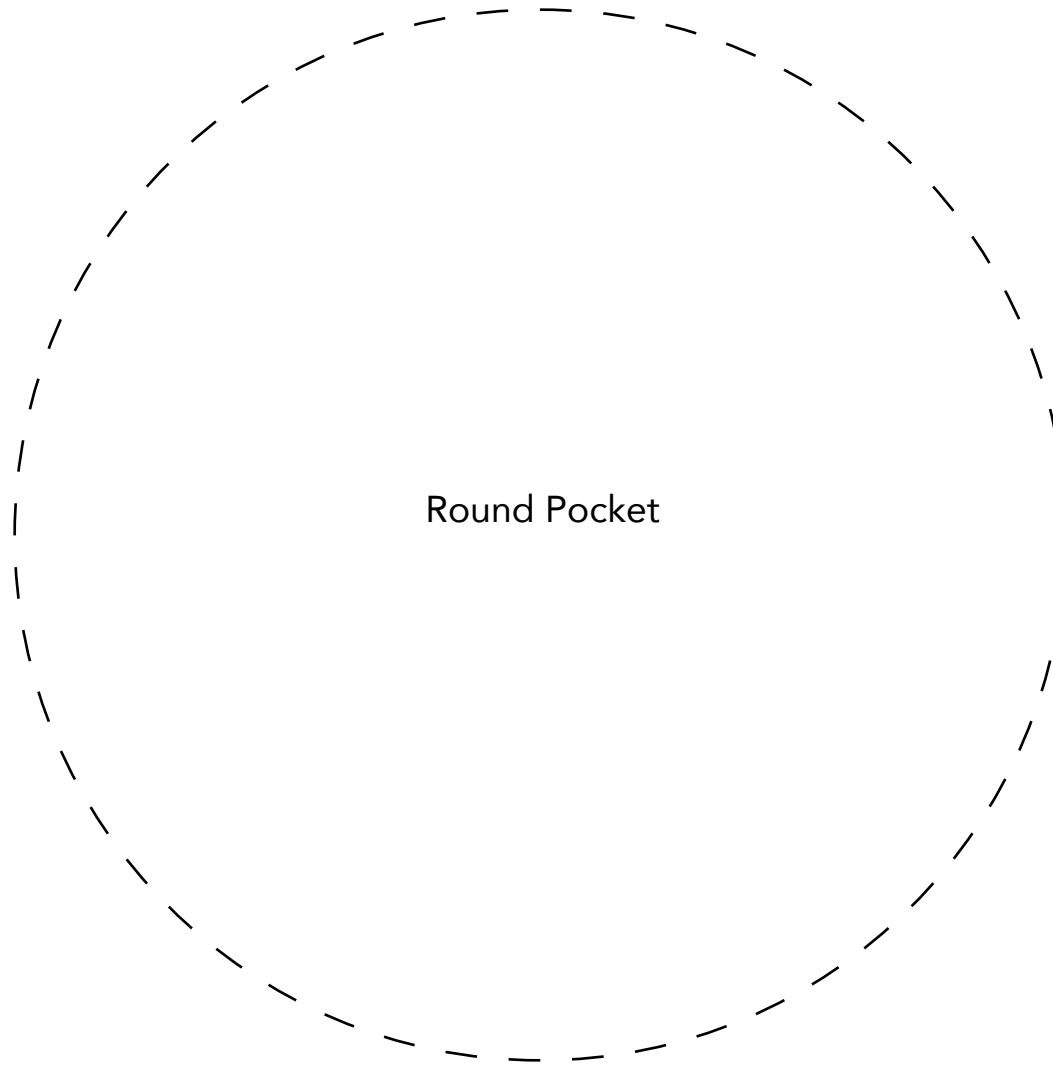
This square should
measure 1" x 1"
(2.54cm x 2.54cm)
when printed.

*** Measure templates before cutting to confirm printing at 100%***



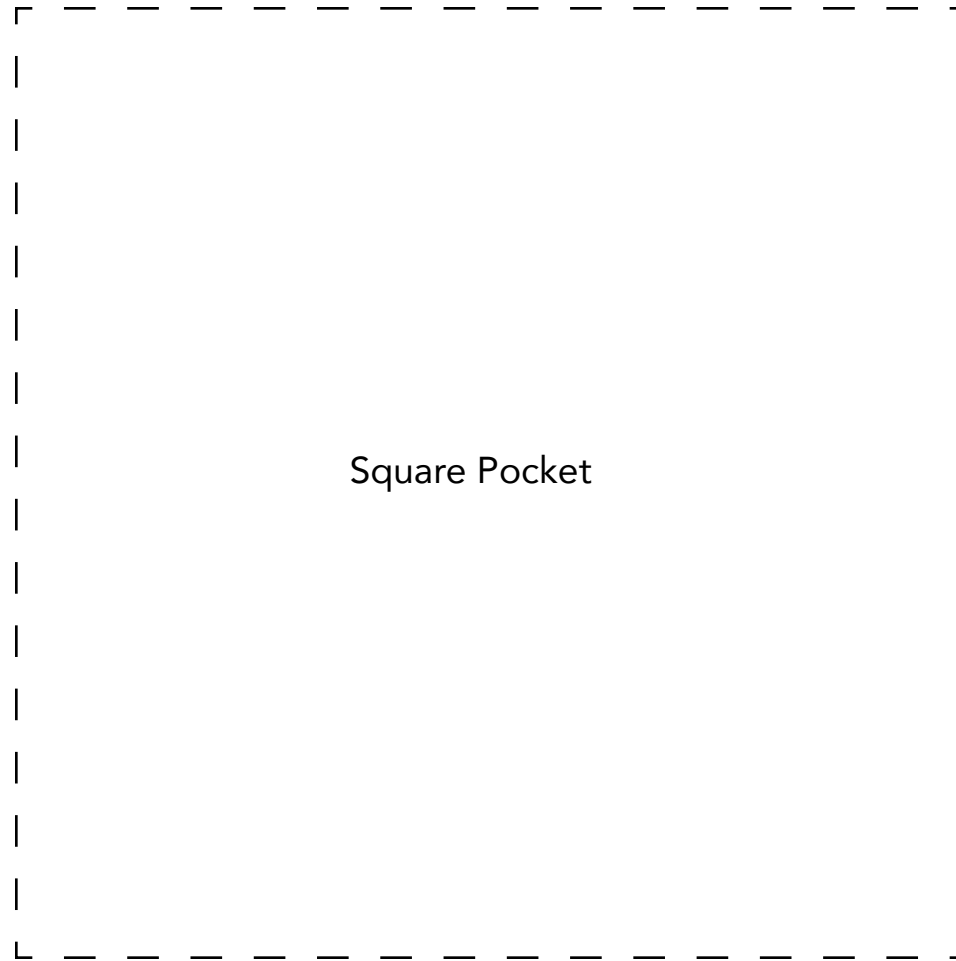
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