

Pretty Penny Coin Purse Pattern



Sew a Hexagon Coin Purse with Bobble Clasp
Designed by Lauren Wright from MOLLY AND MAMA

Designed
for 3"
clasp





'Pretty Penny Coin Purse'

Template and Instructions to sew a Hexagon Coin Purse with a 3" Kiss Lock / Bobble Clasp

Created by Lauren Wright from Molly and Mama, in collaboration with Ava & Neve
FOR CONFIDENT BEGINNERS

Finished Size – approximately 4.5" wide and 6" high including clasp

MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Pretty Penny Coin Purse Kit from Ava & Neve (<http://www.avaandneve.com.au>), which contains your Liberty fabric and bobble clasp

OR

- 3" bobble clasp (or kiss lock clasp) for purse top – measurement across the clasp from hinge to hinge
- 36 x 2" or 2.5" fabric squares for making hexagons (I used 10 different prints and made 3 - 4 hexagons from each print)
- 2" x 6.5" fabric strip for the contrast base on the front of the purse
- 2 x 6" squares of fabric for the purse lining

YOU WILL ALSO NEED

- 36 $\frac{3}{4}$ " hexagon papers (make a template from the hexagon provided on the pattern sheet)
- Sewline (or similar) glue pen to glue baste your hexagons (or a needle and thread)
- Fine needle and thread to stitch hexagons together (I have used an embroidery needle and bobbin thread)
- 4 x 6" squares of light weight iron-on interfacing (Vilene), or light weight iron-on wadding (Pellon), or 2 of each. I used interfacing for the purse outer, and wadding for the lining)
- Embroidery floss and needle for embroidered bow detail on the purse front (optional)
- Skein of embroidery floss to make tassel (optional)
- Water-erasable or heat-erasable fabric marking pen
- Chopstick (optional) to help turn the purse fabric and also make the tassel
- General sewing supplies
- Print out of the template

TERMS OF USE

This pattern is for personal use only. If you are an individual sewing from home, permission is granted to make and sell small quantities of these items. Please credit Molly and Mama with any online descriptions of products made using Molly and Mama patterns. The web link is www.MollyandMama.com.au. This pattern may not be sold, printed, shared, distributed or re-produced in any form. This pattern may not be used to mass-produce items.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Be sure to read the pattern from beginning to end before starting. This pattern is great for confident beginners. You will learn how to hand stitch hexagons (using the English paper piecing method) and then use them to create a purse with a kiss-lock or bobble clasp.

Which stitch?

For this project, you'll hand sew your hexagons using whip stitch. And we'll also use running stitch and back stitch for the optional embroidery detail. If you need a refresher, a quick Internet search brings up lots of videos, images and tutorials for the different stitch types. You can also see my tutorial for back stitch (for the bow detail) here; <http://mollyandmama.com.au/2015/01/18/how-to-back-stitch-practical-tips-for-hand-embroidery/>

Print The Pattern

Print your pattern template in full size without any scaling or cropping. After printing, measure the one inch test box to ensure your template has printed at the correct size.

LET'S GET STITCHING

1. Make the Hexagons

The hexagons (hexies) in this design are made using a process called English paper piecing. Each hexagon is made individually and then stitched together to form the 'fabric' used for the outside of the purse.

Using the template as a guide, trace 36 hexagon shapes onto plain paper or fine card and cut out. Be sure to be very precise. Your hexies will have $\frac{3}{4}$ " sides and measure $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from point to point. You can also use ready made die-cut hexagon papers available from quilting stores.

Select different fabrics to create a total of 36 hexagons; 16 for the front of the purse and 20 for the back. I used 10 different fabric prints.

Hexagons can be hand basted with needle and thread. However, I prefer the glue baste method.

Place your hexagon paper on the wrong side of your fabric and hold in place. Cut around the hexagon shape leaving at least a $\frac{1}{4}$ " or 0.5cm seam allowance.



Using the glue pen, run a small amount of glue along the edge of one side of the hexagon paper (being careful not to use too much glue, or to glue too close to the edge of the paper). Fold the fabric over firmly and secure.



Repeat this process to fold over all 6 sides of the fabric. Be especially careful to keep the fabric folded firmly near the points or corners.



The back of your completed hexagon will look like the image below.



Repeat this process until you have made 36 individual hexagons.

2. Arrange the Hexagons

The front panel uses only 16 hexagons as we add a contrasting fabric band to the base. The back panel has 20 hexagons.

Lay out your hexagons in a balanced arrangement. The points of the hexagons will point up, with the left and right hand sides having a flat edge.

The next image shows the layout for the front purse panel on the left, and the back panel on the right.

They are arranged as follows;

First Row – 4

Second Row – 3

Third Row – 4

Fourth Row – 5

Fifth Row (for the back panel) – 4



It is important to sew the hexagons together as pictured, so that the purse template fits nicely over the hexagon fabric design.

3. Sew the Hexagons Together

Now it's time to stitch the hexagons together. This is the time consuming part of the process but the effect at the end is well worth the effort. Photograph your arrangement if you wish, so that you can refer to it as you sew. Choose two hexagons, and identify the sides to be joined. Hold them right sides together, being sure to line up the edges and corners of the side you wish to sew.



Thread your fine needle with a single strand of fine thread (choose a colour that will blend nicely) and knot one end. Use very fine, and small, whip stitches to sew the two sides of the hexagons together, starting at one corner and stitching along the edge to the next corner. When you start, sew a couple of stitches in the same place, to secure the start of your stitching.

As you stitch, catch 2 - 3 threads from the folded edge of both pieces of fabric, being careful not to stitch through the actual paper. Small, closely spaced stitches sewn straight across the paper top are best.

When one edge is sewn, secure your stitching with a couple of stitches repeated in the same place, at the end of your hexagon side. This keeps the stitches tight and the seams (for each side of the hexagon) neatly intact. Next, fold the hexagons out flat and identify the next hexagon to be added to the design.

Repeat the method as described above to join all the hexagons together. You will find that you can join many sides together with one single strand of thread, if you sew them continuously. You can also run your needle and thread up the back of the seam stitches (on the wrong side of the hexagon) to move the thread to another spot to start stitching a new seam. But at times, the only option will be to secure your stitching with a few back stitches on the wrong side of your hexagon, and start your sewing again at a new place. You'll discover you need to fold the hexagons at various times in order to stitch certain sides together. It can be a fiddly process, but the finished effect is lovely!

When all the sides in the interior of the design are sewn together, your completed purse front will look like the image above.

Use the same method to sew the purse back, being sure to add an extra row of four hexagons to the bottom of the design. It will look like the image below.



When the front and back panels of hexagons are secure, it's time to remove the papers. Remove the papers from the centre of the design first and then work your way out to the edges.

Carefully remove the papers by lifting up the fabric on one side of the back of the hexagon and sliding your finger along to tease the fabric from the glue. When you find the corner of the paper, you can carefully manoeuvre the rest of the paper out.



You may like to press the back of each hexie with a warm iron as you go. This will help the hexagons retain their shape.

When finished, you will still have raw fabric edges on the outside of your design. But this is fine because these edges will be removed when you cut out the purse shapes.

4. Add Interfacing or Wadding

The last step in preparing your hexagons for sewing the purse, is to line both the front and back purse panels with iron-on interfacing or iron-on wadding.

To start, be sure the front and back purse pieces of your hexagon fabric are well pressed and sitting flat.

With the adhesive side facing the back of your hexagons (the wrong side of the fabric), carefully cut the interfacing / wadding in a shape to match the hexagons. You'll find that you have a small strip of interfacing left over after cutting the shape from the front purse panel. Keep this strip.

Using the manufacturers instructions, use your iron to secure the interfacing or wadding to the wrong side of the purse front and the purse back. This interfacing will give the purse structure and will also help keep the hexagons intact as you sew.



Take the small strip of left over interfacing from the purse front and secure it to the wrong side of the 2" x 6.5" fabric strip for the front of the purse. Ensure one edge of interfacing lines up with the top of the long edge of the fabric strip, and that the interfacing is centred on the piece of fabric.



Now you're ready to make the purse front and back.

5. Sew the Purse Front

With right sides together, line up the base of your hexie purse front piece and one long edge of your 2" x 6.5" strip of fabric and pin in place.



Sew a straight seam to join the two pieces of fabric. Be sure your seam is lower than the base of the hexies (as indicated by the arrows on the image below).



Press the right side of the fabric flat, with the seam allowance facing down.



Cut around the outline of the purse template from your paper pattern print out. Place the template over the right side of the purse front piece and pin in place. Be sure that the centre of the template lines up with the centre seam between the top two middle hexagons.

Cut neatly around the paper template to cut out your purse front.

Use your water or heat erasable pen to mark the dots on either side of the purse, as shown on the template. There's no need to mark the dots on the base of the purse. That's for the lining.

Use the bow pattern provided on the template to add a bow outline on your purse front. Use your erasable marker and trace the bow shape or draw it free hand about 1.5" or 4cm from the right hand edge of the purse front. You can make it overlap onto the hexagon fabric for added interest.



Thread an embroidery needle with three strands of embroidery floss that contrast the colour of the base of the purse front. I chose candy pink on my green Liberty floral. Use small backstitches to sew around the outline of the bow. Be sure to secure your thread well when your stitching is complete.

Next embroider a small running stitch along the purse front, about 1/4" or 0.5cm below the seam line. Again, secure your stitching well when complete.



Now it's time to cut out the purse back.

6. Cut the Purse Back

Just like before, place the template over the right side of the purse back piece and pin in place. It should fit just nicely. Be sure that the centre of the template lines up with the centre seam between the top two middle hexagons. You can fold the template in half (as shown below) to help.



Cut neatly around the paper template to cut out your purse back.

As in the previous step, use your water or heat erasable pen to mark the dots on either side of the purse, as shown on the template.

7. Sew the Purse Outer

It's time to sew the purse outer together. Pin the front and back purse pieces together with their right sides facing. Starting at the dot (on the pattern) on the side of the purse, sew a seam down the purse side, along the base of the purse, and back up the other side to the other dot. Use the seam lines shown on the pattern template as a guide. Your seam allowance should be approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ " or 0.5cm. Secure the beginning and end of your stitching well with reverse stitches.

Clip the side seam allowance and cut a notch in the corner as shown in the image below. Also cut a slit in the seam allowance at the side dots as indicated on the pattern template by the dashed line.



Turn the purse the right way out and press flat. Then set it aside as you make the lining.



8. Make the Purse Lining

Following the manufacturer's instructions, secure your iron-on wadding (or interfacing) to the wrong side of your two squares of lining fabric.

Pin the template to one piece of your lining fabric and cut it out. Be sure that if your lining fabric has a directional print, that the print is upright on the template. Repeat for the second piece of lining fabric.

Use your erasable pen to mark the wrong side of one of the lining pieces with the dots shown on both the sides and the base of the purse (as indicated on the pattern template).



Pin your two pieces of lining fabric with right sides together. Sew the pieces together as indicated by the seam line between the dots shown on your pattern. The base of the purse is left unstitched so that it's open for turning later.



Clip the side seam allowance and cut a notch in the corner as shown in the image below. Also cut a slit in the seam allowance at the side dots as indicated on the pattern template by the dashed line.



Keep the lining inside out as we prepare to sew the lining and the purse outer together.

9. Sew the Purse Together

Carefully place the purse outer inside the purse lining as shown below.



Line up the side seams at the dots and the slits you cut, making sure you push the purse outer well down into the lining. Finger press the side slits so that the two layers of fabric sit nice and flat. You will now have two sides of the purse top to sew together.



Pop the purse on the sewing machine and stitch a ¼" or 0.5cm (or smaller) seam around the top curve of one side of the purse (between the two layers; the bag front and lining). Start at one dot and stitch around the top of the purse to the other dot.



Remove the purse from the machine. Flip it around and then sew the top of the other side of the purse. Be sure to make these seams as close to the original side seams as possible.

When both tops of the purse are sewn together, you will need to clip notches into the seam allowance so that the curve sits nicely when the purse is pulled right way out. My notches are spaced 3/8" or 1cm apart (as shown below).



Now it's time to pull the purse the right way out. Pop your fingers into the gap in the base of the lining, and gently pull the purse outer through the lining hole. Use your fingers, closed scissor blades or a chopstick, to gently tease the curves and corners out.



Push the lining back into the purse outer to make sure everything fits, and is stitched correctly, before sewing closed the turning hole at the base of the lining.

Use an invisible ladder stitch or even a whip stitch to hand sew the opening closed. Then push the lining

neatly back into the purse outer. At this stage, you may also wish to press the purse (with a warm iron) one last time before sewing it into the bobble clasp.



When done, your purse will have two curved tops (to fit into each side of the bobble clasp), and a base.



10. Sew the Purse into the Clasp

It's time to sew the two tops of the purse into the open sides of the bobble clasp. Before you do, you may wish to double check that the purse tops fit well into the little channel on the underside of the clasp.

Then thread your embroidery needle with three strands of embroidery floss, and knot one end.

Find the centre of one side of the purse top. Sew through the top seam (which will be hidden inside the clasp) and bring the needle out about 1/8" to 1/4" (or 0.5cm) from the top edge (as shown below).



Pop one side of the bobble clasp over the curved edge of the purse, feeding the needle through the inside of centre hole as you do.

Stitch the clasp onto the purse top by sewing small neat back stitches through the holes in the front of the clasp, and through both layers of purse outer and lining. Stitch from the centre and down one side, then back up and across to the end of the other side.



Ensure your stitching is neat on the inside of the lining too.



Repeat the same process to secure the other purse top inside the opposite side of the bobble clasp. Secure your stitching well.



11. Make the Tassel

Now all that is left, is to add the finishing touches.

You may wish to make a tassel to add to your bobble clasp if it has a little ring on the top side.

To make a tassel, open a skein of embroidery floss. Cut a 12" or 30cm length from one end. Then tie one end of this thread around the embroidery floss as pictured below.



Use a chop stick to hold the floss at the point where the knot is, and use the long length of floss to wind it around the skein over the chopstick.



After 8 – 10 winds, tie the ends of the length of floss together. Trim the bottom of the floss to create a tassel at your preferred length. Trim the ends of the wound thread at the same time. (My tassel threads are 1 ¼" or 3cm long.)

Slide the chopstick out of the tassel. Thread a spare length of floss through the centre of the tassel (where you pulled out the chop stick) and use this thread to knot the tassel onto the bobble clasp. Trim the ends and twist the knot to the underside of the tassel.



You're all done! How cute is your little hexie purse?

I hope you enjoyed sewing this little purse as much as I did! It can be a fiddly project, but I think the finished effect is well worth the effort! Wouldn't you agree? Now you'll be making hexagons for everything!

Thanks for being here for this Molly and Mama project.

Happy sewing, Lauren x



EXTRA PROJECTS

- Now that you've sewn hexagons, use them to decorate other pretty projects too.
- Make another purse with plain fabrics but add lace, braid or trims for interest.
- For more ideas and bonus tutorials be sure to visit the Molly and Mama blog - <http://www.MollyandMama.com.au>.

LIBERTY SUPPLIES

A big thank you goes to the lovely ladies at Ava & Neve who supplied the beautiful Liberty of London tana lawn fabric for this project, and also the bobble clasp. Please visit their website for your purse kit and for all of your Liberty of London needs; <http://www.avaandneve.com.au>.



QUESTIONS AND FEEDBACK

Do you have questions or need help? I'd love to hear your feedback on any Molly and Mama patterns. Please email Lauren at: MollyandMama@gmail.com.

And feel free to share your creations on the Molly and Mama Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/MollyandMama.

Use the hash tag #prettypennypurse along with #avaandneve and #MollyandMama on Instagram:

www.instagram.com/MollyandMama.

See more patterns at: <http://www.etsy.com/au/shop/MollyandMama>.

Find lots of free tutorials and more, over on the Molly and Mama blog: www.MollyandMama.com.au.

Thank you for choosing a Molly and Mama pattern. I hope you have fun making and creating with it!

Happy sewing, Lauren x

MORE MOLLY AND MAMA PATTERNS AND DESIGNS?

Discover more at <http://www.MollyandMama.com.au>





Pretty Penny Coin Purse Template

