

# Card-Wrapper Pouches

This is a fun little project to make up (especially once you get used to the zippers). I've sewn quite a few of these, and they wow people every time. The vinyl also makes these pouches slightly water-resistant (though I still wouldn't submerge them in water). If you can get your hands on enough wrappers, you can even make a full-sized purse using this method. (Pre-order events at card-game stores are the absolute best time to get wrappers. Once, at a rather large shop, I picked up 90 wrappers this way in one day.) You'll probably want to laminate the back of your panels too, if you're making a big purse.

You will need:

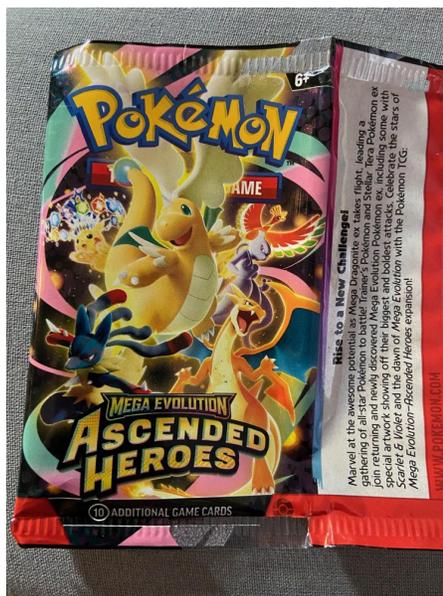
- The wrappers from trading-card booster packs (2 for a coin purse, 6 for a pencil pouch)
- A zipper: 4" or 7" for a coin purse, 9" or longer for a pencil pouch (the cheap polyester "All-purpose" zippers at the store are usually fine)
- Fusible vinyl (I've used Pellon and Heat 'n Bond Iron-on Vinyl with good results)
- An iron
- Quilting cotton for the lining (licensed fabric is great, but a "fat quarter" of any old color will do)
- A ruler
- Scissors (both fabric scissors AND regular scissors)
- Probably a sewing machine (I have never tried to do this by hand—your needles will need replacing sooner, but other than that, these sew up just like regular fabric)
- Optional: 1/8" ribbons in a matching color to tie onto your zipper pull

Fabric dimensions for coin purse: 9" x 4.5"

Fabric dimensions for pencil pouch: 9" x 8.5"

## Instructions:

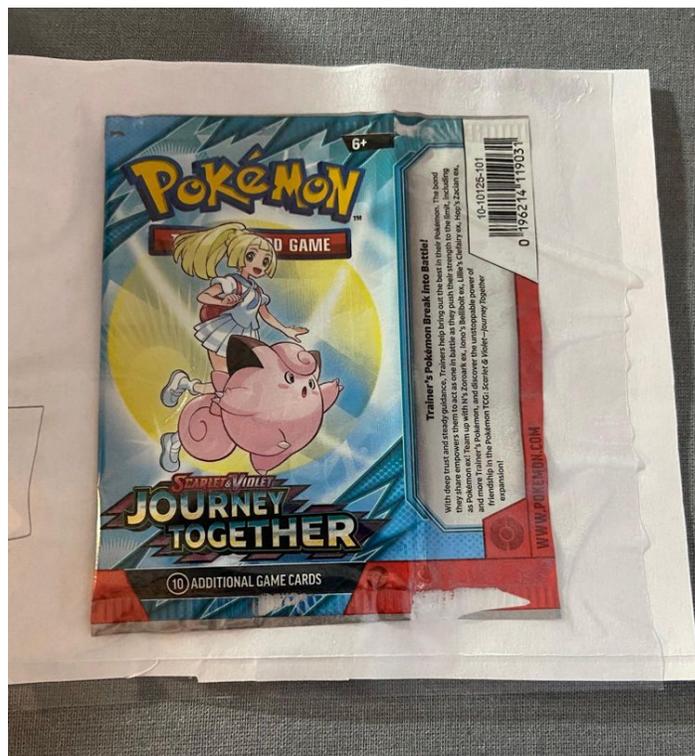
1. Go through your wrappers and select ones that are not torn all the way through in front. You should also consider the state of the back panel if you're making a coin purse. (It never hurts to have extra wrappers, just in case.)
2. Set out 2 wrappers, each cut like THIS, for a coin purse. Each wrapper will be one side.



- Set out 6 wrappers in rows of 3 like THIS for a pencil pouch. Each side will be made of 3 wrappers.



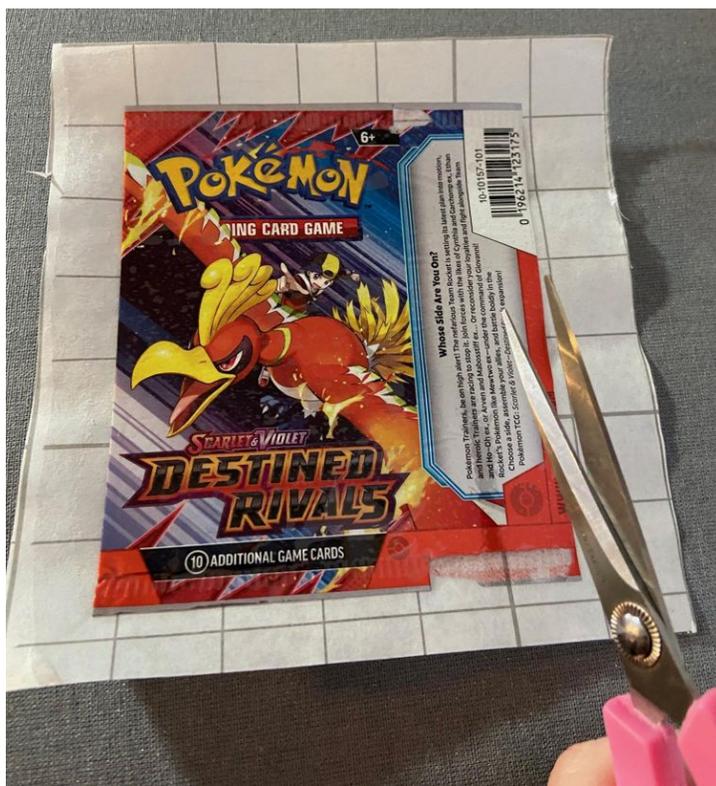
- Set your iron on the LOWEST heat setting (usually labeled “Synthetic”). It may be tempting to set it higher, but you WILL melt your wrappers if you do. Learn from my mistakes.
- Cut pieces of fusible vinyl that are a little bit larger than your wrapper panels. Stick the wrappers to the vinyl carefully, so that there are no wrinkles and the FRONT of the wrapper is touching the vinyl. Stick a piece of scrap paper on the back to hold the excess vinyl. (After my first panel, I like to use the old backing paper from previous panels for this.)



6. Set your vinyl-wrapper-and-paper sandwich on the ironing board, vinyl side UP. Cover it with the backing paper from the vinyl. **Do not iron on bare vinyl.** Iron for about 10-12 seconds, or until the vinyl is very hot to the touch. There will be a slight burning-plastic smell. This is normal. (If you're old enough to remember the Creepy Crawlers oven, it's that exact same smell.) You'll know it's done when you can't easily peel the vinyl off the back paper.



7. Wait until your panels have cooled, then carefully cut off the excess vinyl. If flaps from the back of your wrappers are sticking up, go ahead and trim them off as well.



8. Cut your lining fabric according to the fabric dimensions given above these instructions.
9. Time to start sewing! You should have 2 panels, a zipper, and a lining piece at this point. The zipper **must** be at least as wide as the project you are sewing. You can cut off extra material, but you can't make a zipper longer.

Take your zipper and your lining, and arrange them like this, with the right side of your lining touching the wrong side of the zipper. Then, sew along the top as shown.



10. Fold down the fabric away from your zipper.



11. Now take the other end of the lining, and line it up with the zipper as shown. Sew along the top again.



12. Time to add the wrappers! Turn your zipper to face right side UP. Place a wrapper panel on top of it, right side DOWN, with the top of the wrapper toward the zipper. Sew it to the zipper.



13. Repeat for the other panel. Your work should now look like this:



14. Turn your pouch to look like this. Sew along the bottom of the wrapper panels.



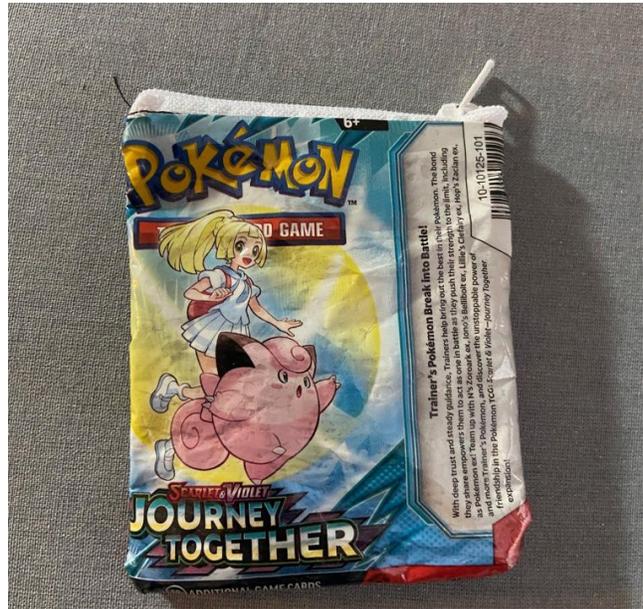
15. Next, turn your pouch so that it is basically inside-out, as shown. Close the zipper slightly so that it is **halfway open** (i.e., the zipper tab is in the middle of your pouch). Don't close it all the way!



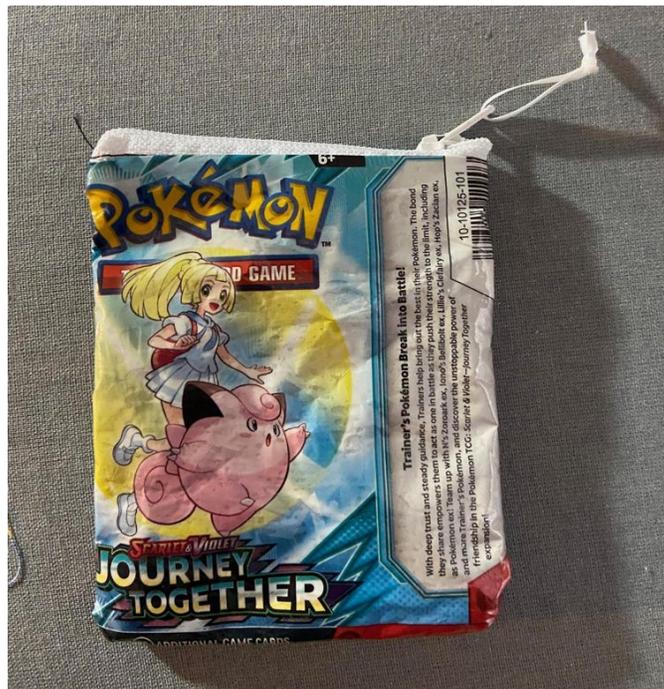
16. Sew down the sides of the pouch. Be sure to reinforce your seam with backstitching over the zipper. Then, trim off the excess zipper at the ends and clip your corners as shown.



17. Now for the tricky part. Open the zipper and turn that sucker right-side-out. You may want a pencil to poke out the corners so they look nicer.



18. Much better! The next step is optional, but makes the pouch easier to open and looks a lot nicer. Take your 1/8" ribbon and cut about 5-6" of it. Thread that piece of ribbon through your zipper pull and tie the ends together.



And that's all there is to it!