

## How to Insert a Slot (Centered) Zipper

Follow these quick instructions to learn how to easily insert a slot zipper, also known as a zipper centered in a seam. Since a number of garments have zipper openings in the front or back, you do not want to limit yourself to only those patterns that do not have zippers. Once you learn how to insert a slot zipper, the selection of patterns can be endless.

Don't forget to check out crafts that may need slot zipper openings.

### **Skill Level: Beginner**

#### **Supplies:**

Baby Lock® Ellisimo Gold Sewing Machine

Zipper foot

Garment or craft pattern with slot zipper application

Fabric recommended for garment or craft

Zipper (length recommended for garment or craft)

Hint: The length given on the zipper package is the length of the zipper teeth (opening of the zipper). The zipper tape will exceed approximately 5/8 inch above and below the zipper opening to allow for a nice finish to your zipper application.

#### **Set-up and instructions:**

1. Attach presser foot "J" to sew a straight stitch to close the seam.
2. Select stitch 1-03 on your Ellisimo Gold and change the length to 5.0mm. (On other Baby Lock machines, select a center straight stitch and change to the longest stitch length.)
3. Highlight the automatic reinforcement stitch feature, but do not highlight the automatic thread cutting feature (A).



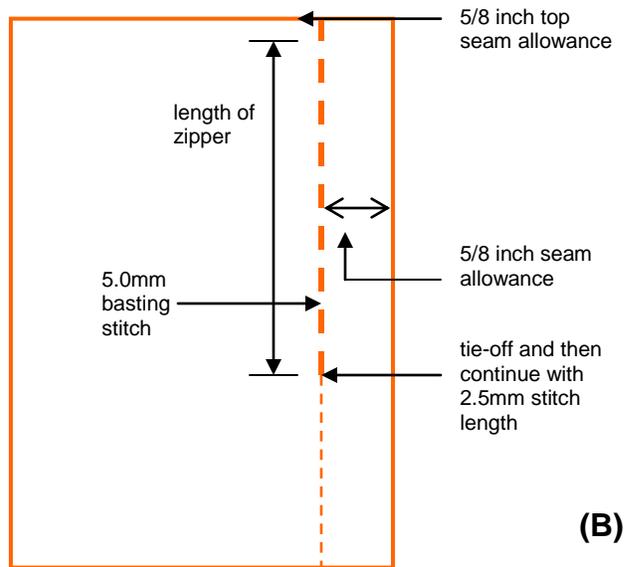
← Highlight the  
"Automatic reinforcement stitch" key

**(A)**

Do not highlight the  
"Automatic Thread Cutting" key →



4. Machine baste at the pattern's recommended 5/8 inch seam allowance from the beginning of the seam, and then down to the length of the zipper plus 5/8 inch for the top seam allowance (B).



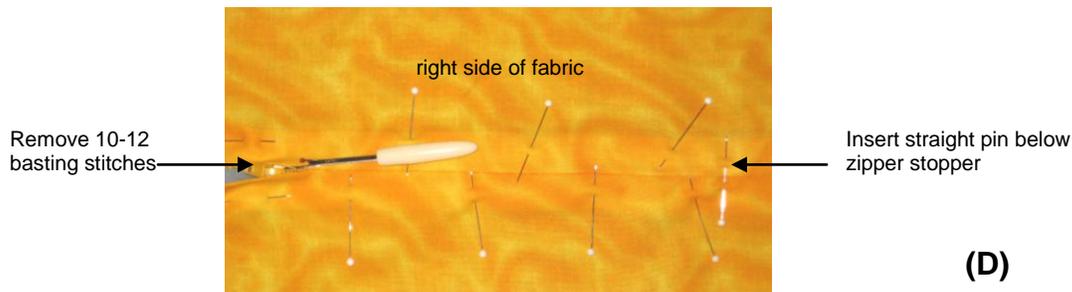
5. Touch the "Reverse/Reinforcement" button to tie-off the basting stitches. Do not cut the thread or remove fabric from the machine (B).
6. Change stitch length to 2.5mm.
7. Touch the "START" button to finish the seam allowance down to end of the seam (B).
8. Press open the seam allowance.
9. Remove "J" presser foot and attach your machine's zipper foot so that the needle is on the left side of the foot.

Note:

- Snap-on the right side of the zipper foot pin to sew the left side of the zipper.
  - Snap-on the left side of the zipper foot pin to sew the right side of the zipper.
  - When using a screw-on adjustable zipper foot, remove the presser foot holder and attach the screw-on zipper foot according to instructions in the package.
  - If using the adjustable zipper foot, adjust the foot so that the needle is on the left side of the foot.
10. With closed zipper, place the zipper right side down on the wrong side of the fabric so the center of the zipper teeth are on the center of the seam stitching (C).



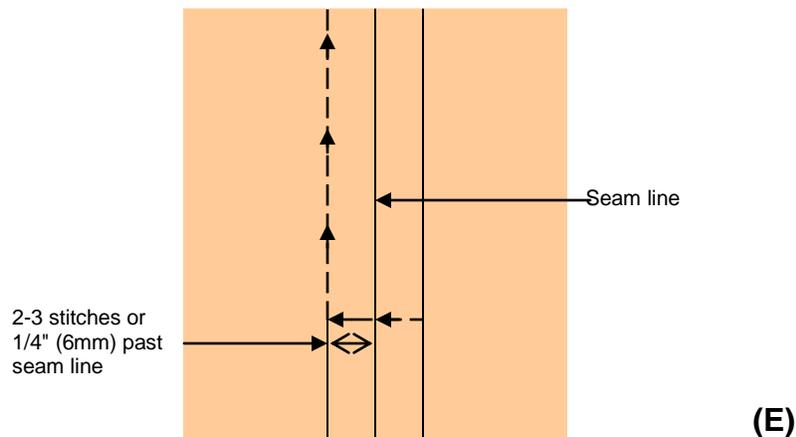
11. Place the pins on the right side of the fabric.
12. After the zipper is pinned in place, remove the top 10-12 basting stitches near the zipper pull (D).



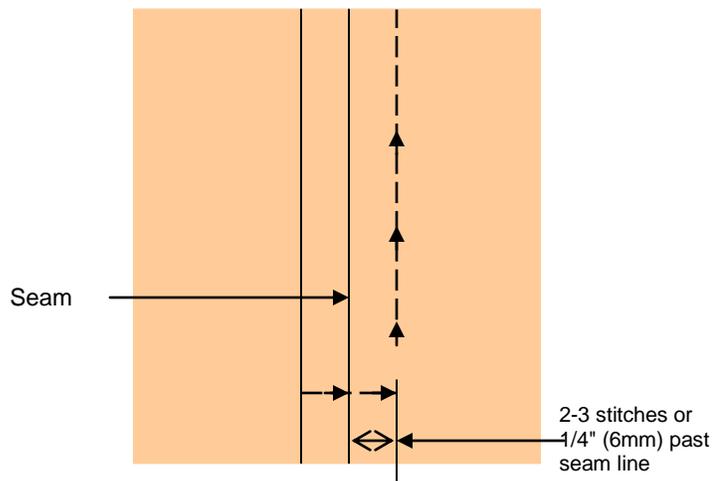
Insert a straight pin below the zipper stopper so as not to hit the zipper, break your needle, and possibly ruin your fabric (D).

### Zipper Stitching Instructions:

1. Starting at bottom of the zipper, sew 2-3 stitches (1/4" or 6mm) past the seam line and across the bottom of the zipper (E) and stop with needle down.
2. With needle down and the presser foot up, pivot the fabric to stitch up the left side of the zipper (E).



3. When you get near the zipper pull, stop with needle down.
4. Raise the presser foot.
5. Carefully push the zipper pull past the presser foot.
6. Lower presser foot and continue stitching to the end of the fabric.
7. Return zipper pull to a completely closed position.
8. Move your zipper presser foot so the needle is now on the right side of the presser foot.
9. Return to the bottom of the zipper; sew 2-3 stitches (1/4" or 6mm) past the seam line, across the bottom of the zipper (F) and stop with needle down.



(F)

10. With needle down and presser foot up, pivot the fabric to stitch along the right side of the zipper (F).
11. When you get near the zipper pull, stop with needle down.
12. Raise the presser foot.
13. Carefully push the zipper pull past the presser foot.
14. Lower presser foot and continue stitching to the end of the fabric

#### Finishing touches:

1. Remove all basting stitches down to the zipper stopper.
2. Press and you are ready to continue with your garment or craft project.

For other exciting techniques like this one, visit our website at [www.babylock.com](http://www.babylock.com)

