

Zipper Advisor II



A zipper is one of those little inventions that make our lives easier. The zipper we use today, however, has come a long way from its crude beginnings. The origin of today's zipper was actually a series of hooks and eyes that closed mechanically. Invented in 1891, it was first used as a closure for mail bags, tobacco pouches and boots. It was not an immediate success because it was rather primitive and tended to come open. In 1913, a zipper was developed using metal teeth instead of hooks and eyes. This was the prototype for today's zippers. Around 1940, research on coil zippers began in Europe. The early ones were made of brass which tended to bend and make the zipper impossible to operate. After the discovery of stronger, more flexible synthetics, the polyester coil zipper was developed. Today there are many different types of zippers available to the home sewer. Coats Zippers are manufactured in a multitude of different lengths and styles. This ZIPPER ADVISOR will help you to select the zipper that best suits your project every time.

ASK THE ZIPPER ADVISOR

QUESTION:
The zipper in my jacket broke but I can't find a zipper the same length to replace it. What length should I try?

ANSWER:
If the exact length is not available, it is best to go slightly shorter rather than longer. If a longer zipper is the only choice, shorten the zipper by stitching a bar tack by hand over the teeth at the top on one side of the zipper.

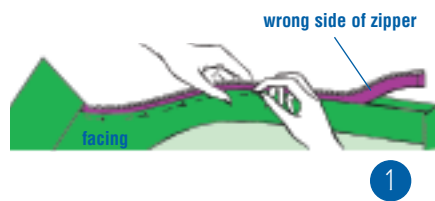
QUESTION:
How do I replace the zipper in my jacket?

ANSWER:
Follow these steps:

1. Remove the original zipper, paying close attention to how it was installed. Adapt these instructions as needed to use the original fold and stitching lines.



2. Working on the inside of the jacket with zipper face down, pin or hand-baste the folded edge of the facing to the zipper tape 1/4" from the teeth (1).



1

3. Fold under top of zipper (2) or slip it under the collar. Using a zipper foot, machine-stitch folded edge of facing to zipper only.

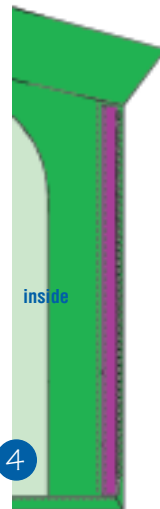


2

4. Working on the outside of jacket, pin folded edge of the jacket to the zipper so the teeth are just covered. Machine-stitch following the original stitching line from bottom to collar (3).



3



4

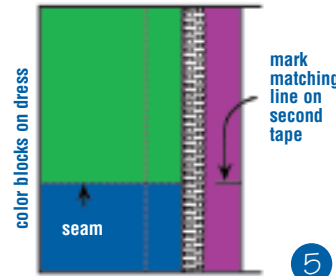
5. Hand overcast end of zipper tape to facing if it was folded under, slipstitch collar seam closed if slipped into collar (4).

6. Zip the other half of the zipper to the sewn-in side.

7. Turn jacket wrong side out. Line up neckline seam and hem of jacket fronts. Pin or baste the folded edge of the facing to zipper tape as before. Unzip and separate the zipper. Repeat steps 3 thru 5.

QUESTION:
My jacket is color blocked and the right and left sides have to match at the center front. How can I be sure these seams will line up after I put the new zipper in?

ANSWER:
Follow the above instructions through step 6. While you have both sides of the zipper together, use a washable marker and mark any details or seams that must match on the unstitched zipper tape (5). When you attach the second front, align seams, etc. with these markings.



5

KEEP THE ZIP IN YOUR ZIPPER

- When pressing the zipper area, use a medium iron setting. Do not press the zipper coil.
- Keep the zipper closed during washing, drying, and dry cleaning and while the garment is not being worn.
- If fabric or threads accidentally become caught in the teeth when closing a zipper, gently pull the slider down and start again. Do not try to force the slider up.

Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet. We hope that you have benefited from it. If you have questions or would like to share your ideas, please write to us.

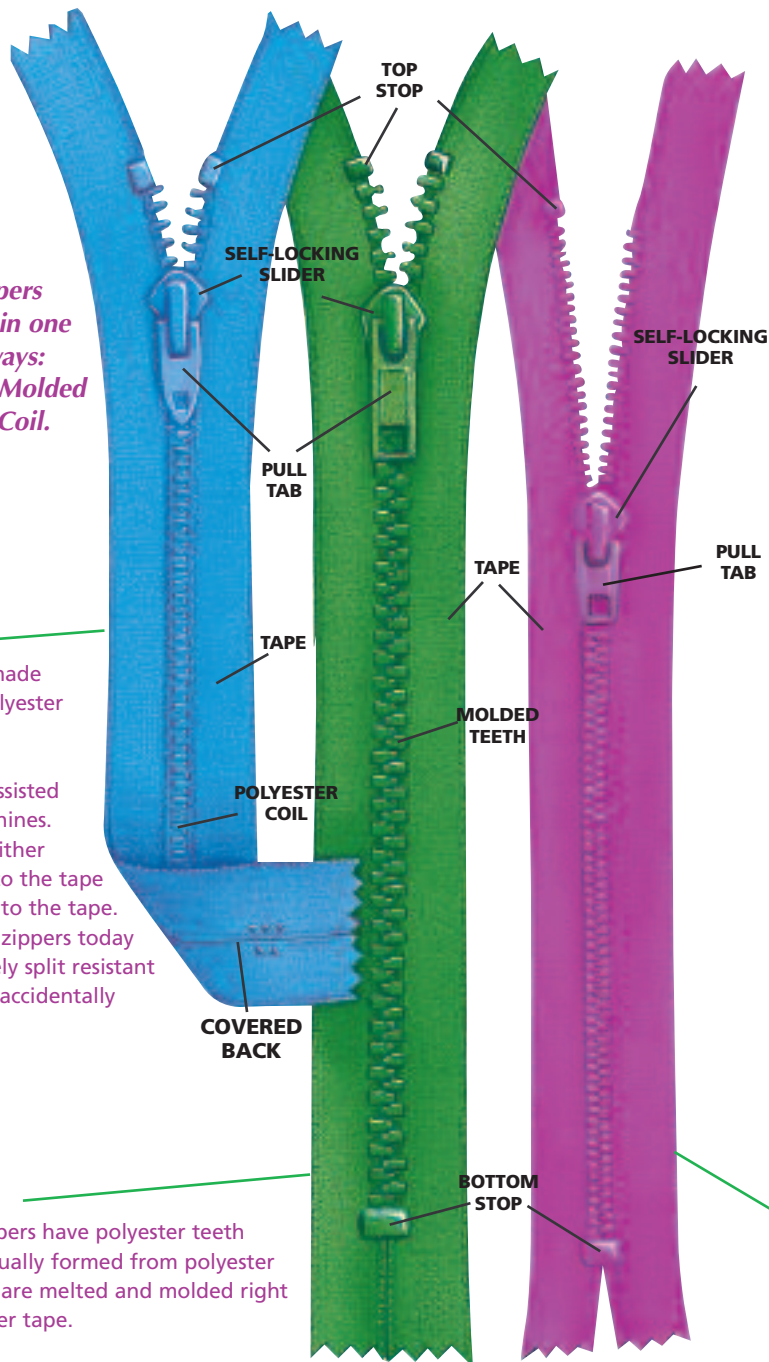


PARTS OF A ZIPPER

Coats Zippers are made in one of three ways: Stamped, Molded or with a Coil.

COIL
The coil is made of 100% polyester using high technology computer-assisted coiling machines. The coil is either stitched onto the tape or woven into the tape. Quality coil zippers today are extremely split resistant and do not accidentally pull open.

MOLDED
Molded zippers have polyester teeth that are actually formed from polyester pellets that are melted and molded right on the zipper tape.



This chart outlines the different types of zippers available. For your convenience, article numbers are included.

USE	ZIPPER	CHARACTERISTICS
GENERAL PURPOSE		
Use in skirts, pants, dresses, sportswear in most weights of fabric, home dec	Polyester All-purpose (F72)	100% polyester coil, 4"-22"
	Metal All-purpose (F21)	Enameled metal teeth, 7"-22"
Formal wear, velvet, pants, dresses, skirts	Invisible (F84)	100% polyester coil, 9"-22" When stitched in, only the pull tab is visible
SEPARATING		
Jackets, sweaters, sportswear	Medium-weight Separating (F23)	Molded teeth, 12"-22"
	Heavy-weight Separating (F25)	Brass teeth, 18"-24"
	Heavy-weight Separating (F25A)	Aluminum teeth, 18"-24"
	Molded Separating Sport (F43)	Polyester teeth molded to tape, 12"-36"
	Reversible (F52)	Brass teeth, 16"-22"
Light Jackets, sportswear, hand knitted garments, children's clothing	Coil Separating (F48)	100% polyester coil, 14"-24"
Camisoles, bustiers especially for formal wear	Lightweight Coil Separating (F49)	100% polyester coil, 7"-16"
Parkas, ski jackets, ski pants	Parka Molded Dual Separating (F44)	Two sliders, molded teeth, 26"-48"
Sleeping bag construction or replacement	Sleeping Bag Zipper (F55)	Dual separating slider, 100% polyester coil, 100"
SPECIAL PURPOSE		
Pockets, sleeves, jumpsuits, bags, crafts	Closed Bottom Molded Sport (F45)	Polyester teeth molded to tape, 5"-22"
Pants, construction or replacement	Trouser Metal (F26)	Enamelled metal teeth, 11"
Jeans	Brass Jean (F27)	Brass teeth, 6"-9"
Slipcovers, pillows, crafts	Extra Long Metal (F28)	Brass teeth, 24"-36"
Coveralls, jumpsuits	Coverall Zipper (F51)	Brass teeth, top and bottom locking sliders, 22"-26"
Bath robes, caftans	Robe Zipper (F50)	Polyester coil, 30"-36"

STAMPED
The stamped zipper has metal teeth that are clamped onto the zipper tape. The size of the teeth varies depending on the purpose of the zipper.