

The Geek-Chic iPad Case

Here's a case that's looks more like a smart handbag than a tablet cosy, so you can carry your iPad in ultimate style. The case is really easy to put together – what makes it look so professional (dare I say designer?) are the leather straps and metal hardware. There's nothing plain and boring about this case!



Front view Swish straps and shiny metalware transform a simple fabric envelop into a very chic case.



Side view The case has a neat and slim profile so your iPad will be nice and snug inside.

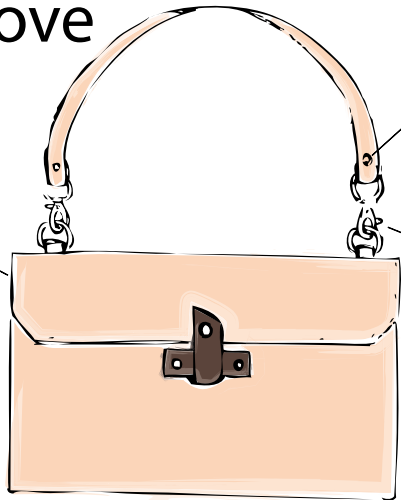


Inside view A well-cushioned inner compartment and two handy front pockets for all your essentials.

Features you'll love

Designed to be as protective as it is pretty – specialist interfacing will take good care of your gadget

Looks just as smart as a man's version – just swap the fabrics to suit and try lengthening the handle to an over-the-body length



Rivets hold the leather straps in place and look so professional

The handle clip on and off so you can wear the case as a bag or a clutch as desired

Finished size: 27 x 22cm (10½ x 8¾in)



You will need

- 1 piece of quilt-weight fabric for exterior, 50cm (½yd) x 112cm (44in) wide
- 1 piece of quilt-weight fabric for lining, 50cm (½yd) x 112cm (44in) wide
- Sewing threads to match the fabrics
- 1 piece of woven fusible interfacing, 50cm (½yd) x 90cm (35½in) wide
- 1 piece of Decovil fusible interfacing, 50cm (½yd) x 90cm (35½in) wide
- 1 piece of medium-weight fusible fleece, 50cm (½yd) x 90cm (35½in) wide
- 4 silver cap rivets, 5mm (⅜in) wide
- Set of metal popper snaps
- Leather strap, 70cm (27½in) x 1.5cm (⅝in) wide
- 2 silver trigger hooks, 2cm (¾in) wide
- 2 silver D-rings, 2cm (¾in) wide
- Pointy tool (such as a knitting needle) for turning out
- Disappearing marker
- Leather hole punch
- Rotary cutter
- Ruler
- Sewing clips or mini bulldog clips
- Pressing cloth

Need to know

- For this project you need to have a free arm on your sewing machine because the interfacing on the case is very stiff.
- ‘Clip together’ means use sewing clips instead of pins to hold pattern pieces together before stitching. Pins are not suitable for this project.
- This case uses a specialist fusible interfacing (Decovil), which gives fabric a leather-like quality and provides a high level of protection for your device. If you are unable to source this, you can use any other type of extra-stiff fusible interfacing, just be sure to use a thicker fleece interlining to compensate.
- Due to the extra-stiff interfacing, I recommend using quilt-weight fabric. Home dec fabrics will be too thick to work with when combined with the interfacing.
- Leather straps should be quite easy to source – I got mine from eBay. If using faux leather you will need two straps stitched together WST. Either way, be sure to source the correct width of rings and trigger hooks for your straps.
- All seam allowances are 1cm (⅜in) unless stated otherwise.
- There is no pattern for the case main body as all you need are fabric rectangles. Pattern measurements are given in the Preparation panel.
- The pattern piece for the case flap is given in the pull-out section and includes the seam allowance.



Preparation

Cut the fabric pieces as follows:

From the Geek-Chic iPad Case (Flap) pattern piece (see pull-out section)

- 1 x exterior fabric
- 1 x lining fabric
- 1 x medium-weight fusible fleece
- 1 x Decovil fusible interfacing

The Geek-Chic iPad Case (Main Body) is a 23 x 29cm (9 x 11½in) landscape rectangle

- 2 x exterior fabric
- 2 x lining fabric
- 2 x medium-weight fusible fleece
- 2 x Decovil fusible interfacing

Also cut:

- 1 piece of exterior fabric and 1 piece of woven fusible interfacing, 36 x 29.5cm (14⅛ x 11⅝in) (portrait rectangle), for the short front pocket
- 1 piece of lining fabric and 1 piece of woven fusible interfacing, 39 x 29.5cm (15⅜ x 11⅝in) (portrait rectangle), for the tall front pocket
- 1 piece of exterior fabric, 10 x 8cm (4 x 3⅛in), for the handle loops
- 1 piece of woven fusible interfacing, 10 x 4cm (4 x 1½in), for the handle loops
- 1 piece of Decovil fusible interfacing, 9 x 2cm (3½ x ¾in), for the tab loop reinforcement

The interfacing

1 Interface the short and tall front pocket pieces – iron the woven fusible interfacing pattern pieces to their respective WS pocket pieces.

2 Interface the flap and main body – trim off 1.5cm (⅝in) all around the Decovil interfacing flap and main body pattern pieces. Repeat for the fusible fleece. Place the Decovil onto the WS centre of the exterior pattern piece and iron in place. Repeat for the fusible fleece and the lining pattern piece. Interface the main body pieces in the same way as the flap.

3 Interface the handle loops – lay the strip of woven fusible interfacing down the WS centre of the handle loop fabric and iron in place.

The handle

4 Make the handle loops – take the handle loop fabric and make one open-end strap (see Open-End Straps in the Techniques section). Divide into two equal lengths. Thread a D-ring onto each of the loops. Set aside.

5 Make the leather handle – cut a 49.5cm (19½in) length from the leather strap for the handle. Measure and mark 1cm (⅜in) and 5cm (2in) in the centre of the handle from one of the short edges. Repeat with the other short edge. Use a leather punch to make holes at the marks you have just made. See **Fig a**. Thread one of the strap ends through the ring of a trigger hook and fold the end down over the ring (so that the two punch holes meet). Follow the instructions on your rivet kit to rivet the trigger hook in place on the strap. Repeat with the other strap end and trigger hook.



Fig a Ensure that your punch holes are slightly smaller than the width of your rivet shaft. Too small is much better than too large.

The front pockets

6 **Stitch the pockets** – take the tall front pocket piece and fold it in half by bringing the short edges WST. Iron the fold and topstitch 3mm (1⁄8in) from the fold you have just made. Repeat with the short front pocket piece. Set aside.

7 **Reinforce the tab loop area on the short front pocket** – take the short front pocket and choose which layer will be the RS (the pocket front). Position the Decovil tab loop reinforcement piece (adhesive side down) onto the centre WS of the pocket, 10cm (4in) up from the centre bottom edge of the pocket. Iron in place.

8 **Punch two holes for the tab loop on the short front pocket** – on the pocket RS make a mark 12cm (4¾in) up from the pocket bottom edge and 12cm (4¾in) in from the pocket side edge. Repeat for the other side. The marks should be positioned directly over the Decovil tab loop reinforcement piece underneath. Use the leather punch to make holes at the marks you have just made. See **Fig b**.



Fig b Punch the holes though the pocket and the Decovil interfacing layer.

9 **Rivet the tab loop to the short front pocket** – cut an 8cm (3¼in) piece from the leather strap for the tab loop. In the centre of the tab, measure and mark 1cm (3⁄8in) in from both short edges of the tab. Place the tab loop onto the pocket RS so the marks (you have just made) on the tab loop and the pocket punch holes match each other. You are testing to see if the leather loop curves upwards. If necessary, adjust the position of the tab markings in order to create the curve. When satisfied, use a leather punch to make holes at the markings you have just made. Rivet the tab loop to the pocket front. See **Fig c**.



Fig c The curve in the loop will make sliding the tab in and out much easier.

The case flap

10 **Stitch the flap** – bring the flap lining and exterior pattern pieces RST. Match up all edges, clip and stitch together around the bottom and side edges. Clip off the bottom corners close to the seam and trim the seam allowance to 5mm (3⁄16in). Do not trim from the top edge of the flap. Iron the seams open. Turn the flap RSO through the top edge. Topstitch around the bottom and side edges of the flap, 3mm (1⁄8in) from the edge.

In a flap ...
If you like after you have turned the flap RSO you can also stitch the top edges shut if you don't like it flapping open while you construct the case

11 **Make the leather tab** – take the remaining length of leather (it should be 12.5cm/5in long). Measure and mark in the centre 13mm (1⁄2in) in from one of the short edges. Make another mark 23mm (15⁄16in) in from the other short edge. At this short edge cut the edge at a 45-degree angle. Use the leather punch to make holes at the marks you have just made.

12 **Attach the leather tab to the flap** – on the RS of the flap measure and mark 2cm (¾in) up from the centre bottom edge. Use the leather punch to make a hole at the mark you have just made. Follow the instructions on your popper snap kit to apply a set of poppers to the tab. Insert the domed button (female) part of the popper into the angled short edge of the tab. Insert the dimple (male) part through the flap and the tab. In this way, the male part of the popper secures the tab to the flap. See **Fig d1–d2**.

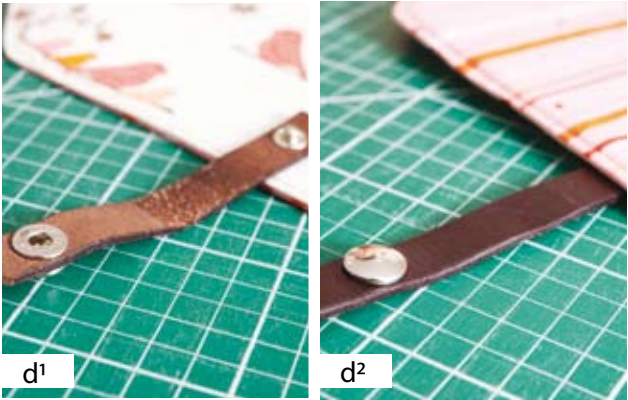


Fig d1–d2 Apply the two popper halves to the tab and the flap as shown.

The case exterior

13 **Attach the front pockets to the case front** – lay the RSO short front pocket onto the RSO tall front pocket. Place both pockets RSO onto the main body front exterior RS. Match the bottom and side edges of all layers and clip together. Ensure both pocket top edges look nice and straight. Stitch the pockets to the main body piece around the bottom and side edges 5mm (3⁄16in) from the edge.

14 **Stitch the case exterior** – bring the main body exterior pieces (with pockets attached to front piece) RST, match all edges, clip and stitch together. Clip off the bottom corners and trim the seam allowance to 5mm (3⁄16in), but do not trim the seam allowance from the top edge. Iron the seams open. Turn the case RSO.

The case lining

15 **Stitch the flap to the lining back** – select a main body lining piece to be the lining back. Take the case flap RSO and place the raw top edge of the flap onto the RS centre top edge of the lining back. Match the edges, clip in place and stitch with a 5mm (3⁄16in) seam allowance. See **Fig e**.



Fig e Stitch the RSO flap to the case lining RS as shown.

16 **Stitch the handle loops to the lining back** – on the lining back RS top edge, measure and mark 4.5cm (1¾in) in from one of the side edges. Repeat for the other side edge (you will actually be placing the marks onto the RS case flap, and that is fine). Take one of the folded handle loops (with D-ring attached) and place it onto one of the markings. Ensure the raw edges of the handle loop, flap and lining top edge meet. Stitch the handle loop in place with a 5mm (¾in) seam allowance. See **Fig f**. Repeat for the other handle loop.



Fig f Stitch the handle loops to the markings on the case flap. The D-ring needs to be pointing down.

17 **Stitch the case lining** – stitch the case lining in the same way as in Step 14 except leave a 16.5cm (6½in) gap in the bottom edge and do not turn the case RSO. As you stitch along the side edges, be sure to avoid stitching through the flap. If necessary, fold the flap out of the way.

Carry your tablet in total comfort and style in this sleek and pretty case. Geek chic has never looked so good!

Assembling the case

18 **Stitch the lining and the exterior together** – stitch the lining to the exterior using the pull through and turn out method (see Inserting Linings: Pull Through and Turn Out Method, Steps 4–6 in the Techniques section), stitching all around the top edge with a 1cm (¾in) seam allowance. Clip the leather handle to the handle loops. Well done. That's a snazzy case don't you think? Now you can pop to your local chi-chi café for a double skinny mocha latte and a spot of web surfing in style!

Make it mine ...

Size – if you don't have an iPad but do have an iBook (or similar) try enlarging the pattern to make a swish laptop case using the following formula: For pattern width: laptop width + laptop depth + 1cm (½ in) + two lots of seam allowance. For pattern height: laptop height + laptop depth + 1cm (½ in) + two lots of seam allowance.

Pockets – if making the case larger you may have room to add a third front pocket.

Strap – if you want to be able to alter the length of the strap, replace the leather strap with an adjustable strap made from the exterior or lining fabric (see Adjustable Straps in the Techniques section).

