

Button Up Cases

Adapted from TheSpruceCrafts.com

Required materials:

- Sewing Machine
- Thread and bobbin
- Fabric
- 3 or 4 buttons
- Straight pins or sewing clips
- Ruler
- Seam ripper or exacto knife
- Cut mat
- Iron and ironing board
- Hand sewing needle
- Marking pen or tailors chalk

Part 1: Sewing the Case

1. With **WRONG** side facing you, fold in bottom $\frac{1}{2}$ " of fabric and press in place. Secure with pins or fabric clips.



2. Repeat step 1 with top $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
3. Sew down both folded-over strips using a zigzag or locking stitch. On Brother sewing machines, stitch #15 is recommended.



4. Repeat steps 1-3 with the two remaining raw fabric edges.
5. Still with **WRONG** side facing you, fold bottom $\frac{1}{3}$ of your fabric up along the long edge to create a flap. Press in place and secure with pins or fabric clips.

- Switching to a straight stitch, sew down both sides of flap. Align seam with edge of zigzag or locking stitch.



- Using a ruler and tailor's chalk or marking pen, mark out the segment dividers for your case. These can be just an inch or so apart for small items like paintbrushes, or wider for a small tool like a screwdriver. They can also vary in size. **Leave the last 3 inches on the right of the case unmarked.**



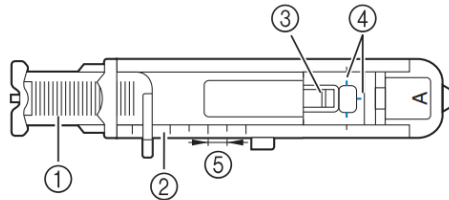
- Sew down each segment line using a straight stitch and locking at either end. To help the fabric keep its shape, it is best to sew all the way from the bottom of the case to the top with each line.



Part 2: Adding Buttons

1. Choose 3-4 buttons to use as the closures on your case. It is recommended to use buttons at least ½” in diameter.
2. Switch out your sewing machine foot to the buttonhole foot (A):

■ Part names of the buttonhole foot “A”

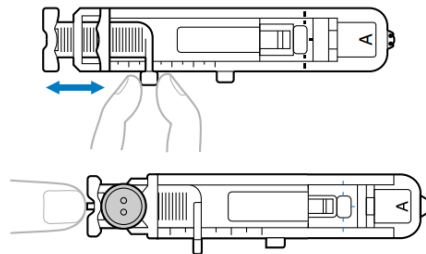


- ① Button guide plate
- ② Presser foot scale
- ③ Pin
- ④ Marks on buttonhole foot
- ⑤ 5 mm (3/16 inch)

3. In the 3-inch margin left on the right side of the case, use a marking pen or tailor’s chalk to mark where the buttonholes will fall.










4. Pull out the button guide plate at the back of the buttonhole foot and insert your first button. Push the back of the guide plate back in until it fits the button snugly.

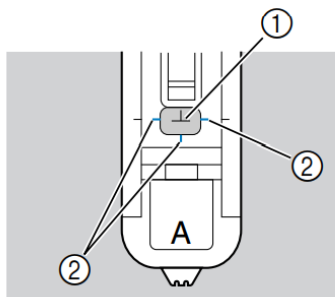


► The size of the buttonhole is set.

5. Choose a stitch. The chart below shows the buttonhole stitches available on the Brother CS 6000i and the fabrics they are recommended for.

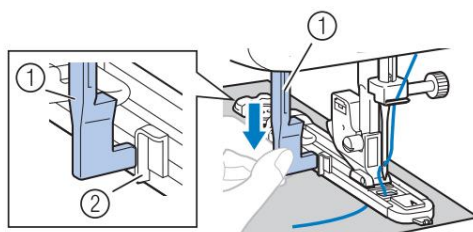
Buttonhole stitch		A	29	29	29	25	Horizontal buttonholes on thin and medium weight fabrics
		A	30	30	30	26	Secured buttonholes for fabrics that have backings
		A	31	31	31	27	Buttonholes for stretch or knit fabrics
		A	32	32	32	28	Buttonholes for stretch fabrics
		A	33	33	33	29	Keyhole buttonholes for thick or furry fabrics
		A	34	34	-	-	Keyhole buttonholes for medium weight and thick fabrics
		A	35	35	-	-	Keyhole buttonholes for thick or furry fabrics

6. Make sure your top thread passes through the hole near the front of the buttonhole foot and out the back. Then, align the red marks on the buttonhole foot with the front end of your buttonhole mark and lower the presser foot.



- ① Mark on fabric
② Red marks on buttonhole foot

7. On your sewing machine, just left of the presser foot mechanism, is a small gray tab which can be pulled down. This is called the buttonhole lever. It should be pulled down and positioned **behind** the small bracket which sticks out from the back of the buttonhole foot.



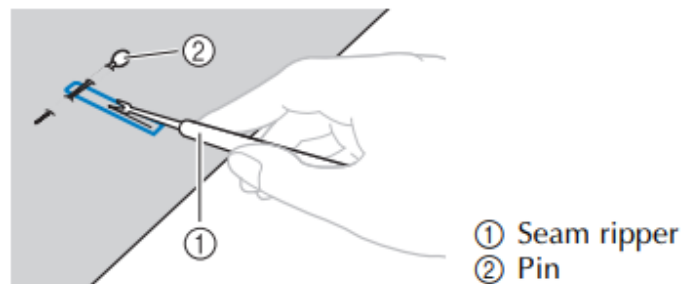
- ① Buttonhole lever
② Bracket

8. Gently hold on to your top thread and press the foot pedal to begin sewing your buttonhole. The machine will complete the entire buttonhole itself, including moving the fabric backward and forward and moving the needle from side to side. It will even sew a locking stitch at the end! Once the buttonhole is complete, the machine will stop, even if you are still pressing the pedal.

****Tip:** Use a light hand when guiding your fabric. Unlike a straight stitch, a buttonhole stitch will sometimes feed the fabric back toward you. You don't want to fight this motion by pushing the fabric forward.



9. Raise the presser foot and return the buttonhole lever to its original position.
10. Repeat steps 4-9 to create a buttonhole for each remaining button. If you are using identical buttons, you can leave the same button in the guide plate for each buttonhole.
11. Open each buttonhole using a seam ripper or exacto knife and cut mat. For keyhole buttonholes, an eyelet punch can be used to cut out the round end of the buttonhole. It can be useful to place a straight pin across the stitching at the end of the buttonhole to prevent its being accidentally cut.



12. Using a hand sewing needle, sew each button onto the case opposite its buttonhole.

Black and white illustrations were taken from the Brother CS 6000i manual, available for free at: https://download.brother.com/welcome/doch101696/888_s33_s36_om01en.pdf