

made to create **BERNINA**

Just **SEW** It!

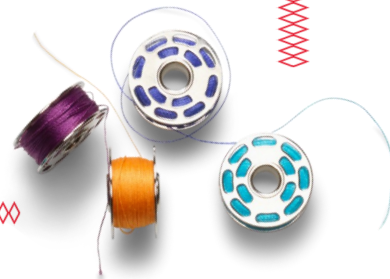
Simple projects for your holiday sewing: gift ideas, wrapping solutions, and trimming tricks.



1. Gathered Grommet Bag
2. Pen & Pencil Sleeve
3. Tablet Keeper
4. Gift Card Pocket
5. Holiday Trimmings



FREE eBook



Gathered Grommet Tote



This fun tote bag is made flat with a band of grommets across the top. A colorful cord threaded through the grommets create the closure.

Finished Size: 16" x 15" including band of grommets

Seam allowances are 1/2" unless otherwise stated



Supplies

- 1/2 yard of medium weight woven fabric for bag
- 1/2 yard of medium weight woven fabric for lining
- Thread for construction
- 1 yard of grommet tape
- Wonder Tape
- 1 yard 1" wide black twill tape for strap
- 1 cord-lock (optional)
- All-purpose presser foot

Cutting and Preparation

Cut two rectangles from the fabric, 17" x 15", and two from the lining fabric, 17" x 15".

Round the lower corners of each of the four pieces using the corner template to the right. Position the template on the corner of the rectangles and trim along the curved line.

Corner Template

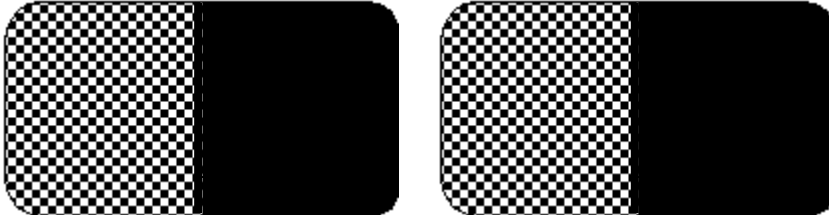
cutting line (grey area will be trimmed away from fabric)

place along edge of fabric

place along edge of fabric

Bag Construction

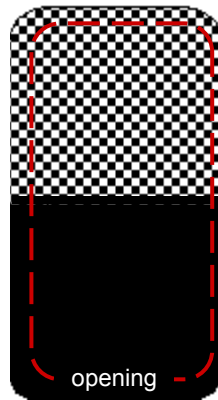
1. Place the upper edge of one bag rectangle right sides together with one lining rectangle. Stitch using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance. Press the seam allowance toward the lining side.
2. Repeat with the remaining bag and lining rectangles.



Place the two bag/lining sets right sides together. Starting at the lower lining edge, sew along all edges, leaving a 4"-5" opening for turning.

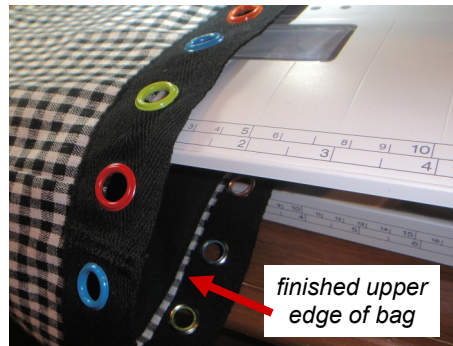
Press the seams. Notch curved seam allowances on the back and lining lower edges. Turn the bag to the right side; it should look like a tube with an opening at only one end.

Slide the "tube" over a frearm and understitch (see right) to secure all of the seam allowances to the lining fabric.



Cut a piece of grommet tape to fit around the upper opening of the bag plus $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Overlap the ends of the tape to form a circle and secure with a medium zigzag stitch.

Tuck the lining fabric down into the bag; press. Slide the bag over the frearm. Position the grommet twill on top of the finished upper edge of the bag, overlapping about $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Topstitch the band in place.



Put one end of the wide twill tape through a grommet at the side of the bag. Tie the end into a large knot to hold it in place. Repeat with the other end on the opposite side of the bag.

Pull the lining out of the bag; fold lower seam allowances to the inside and edgestitch the opening closed. Tuck the lining back into the bag.

Thread a decorative cord through the grommets and pull to gather the bag closed. Secure by tying the cord or use a cord lock closure for easy opening and closing.

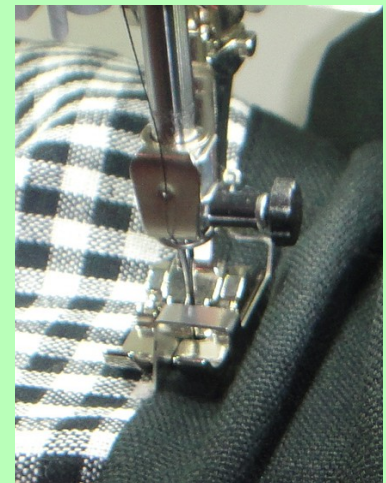
The colorful grommet tape shown in the sample is available in local quilt and fabric stores and also at:
www.rainbowresourceco.com

Skill Builder Technique

Understitching keeps lining or facings from rolling to the out side of a sewn item. Usually seen in garment making, it is also useful in bags to define & weight the bag/lining seam, helping to keep the lining inside.

After stitching the lining to the bag at the upper edge, press all seam allowances toward the lining.

Stitch next to the seam, on the lining, not on the bag. Edgestitch Foot #10 makes this step easy because you can align the guide of the foot in the well of the seam, and then adjust the needle to sew on the lining. As long as you keep the guide of the foot in the seam, the needle will stitch parallel to it.



bag

lining

Pen & Pencil Sleeve



This 15-minute project is a practical way to store a pen and pencil set and makes it easier to find your pen in the bottom of your purse. Add a journal and you got a great gift!

Sample is shown at actual size.



Supplies

- Two pieces of grosgrain, tapestry, or other firm ribbon, 1" x 15" each
Embellishment Opportunity: If using a solid color ribbon, stitch your choice of decorative stitches down the center using a contrasting thread color. Place interfacing or stabilizer on the wrong side of the ribbon before stitching.
- Coordinating or invisible thread
- Cord or chain for necklace (optional)
- All-purpose presser foot (#34)
- Edgestitch foot (#10)

Clear Foot #34

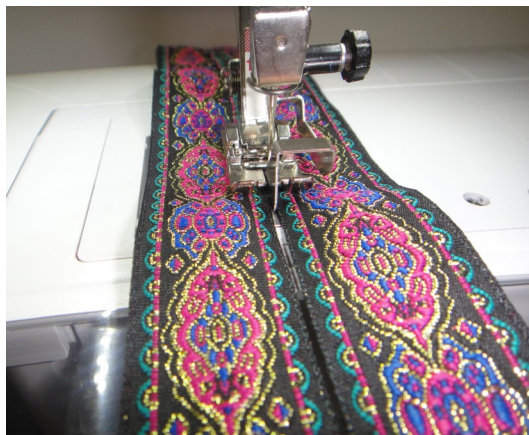


Edgestitch Foot #10



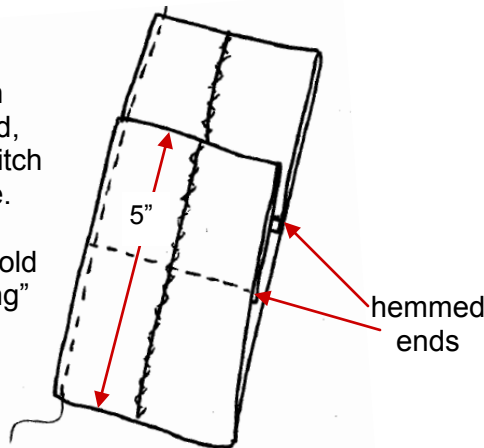
Directions:

Place the two pieces of ribbon edge-to-edge and stitch together using an edgestitch foot and a narrow zigzag stitch (SW=2mm, SL=1.5mm). Place the blade of the foot between the two pieces of ribbon.



Select straight stitch and attach an all-purpose foot. At each end, fold 2" to the wrong side and stitch across the raw edges to secure.

Measure 5" from one end and fold with the raw edges to the "wrong" side (inside of case).

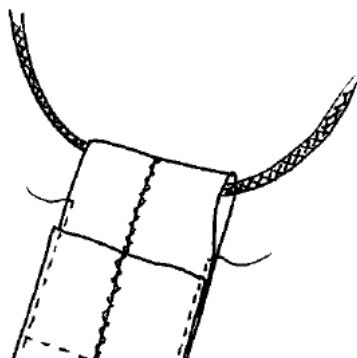


Attach an edgestitch foot and position one side edge of the case next to the blade of the foot. Sew through all layers, adjusting the needle position to stitch along the edge. Repeat for the remaining side.



Optional: Attach all-purpose foot. Straight stitch through all layers down the center of the sleeve where the two ribbons are joined to form two narrow pockets.

Note: If you want to wear the case around your neck, stop the side stitching 1/2" - 3/4" from the upper edge. Thread a cord or chain through the resulting loop to wear as a necklace.



Skill Builder Technique

Monofilament Thread

Today's monofilament thread is very different than years ago when it was introduced. Much finer and less wiry, it is available from several companies and comes in clear for light to medium colored fabrics and smoke for darker fabrics.

Monofilament Tips

Reduce the motor speed on your machine and sew at a low to mid range speed. Sewing too fast can stretch monofilament thread and cause puckering.

When using monofilament thread on the bobbin, speed is also important. If your machine has a variable speed bobbin winder, wind the bobbin slowly and fill it about half way. This will also help keep the thread from stretching as you sew.

Use moderate to low heat when pressing over monofilament thread—high heat can melt it. Using a press cloth can protect stitches as you press them.

To help the monofilament thread come off the spool easily, use a net over the spool with the thread coming up and out of it.

Tablet Keeper



This monogrammed portfolio is the perfect place to stash your tablet or eReader. Made for tablets that are 9" x 7", it's easy to resize to customize for your electronics.

Finished size:

Approximately 11" x 10"

Supplies

- 2 coordinating fat quarters: One for the body and one for the lining, binding & front panel
- Natural linen or other light colored fabric, 8" x 8" piece
- OESD Fuse & Fleece
- Thread for decorative stitching, quilting and construction (can be the same)
- Temporary spray adhesive
- Permanent ink marker such as Sharpie, in desired color
- Large decorative button
- 6" of cord or one elastic hair band (ponytail holder)
- ¾ yard 1" wide grosgrain ribbon

Cutting and Preparation

Cut the first fat quarter for outer fabric, 12" x 20".

Cut from the second fat quarter:

12" x 20" for lining

4" x 3" for upper band

4" x 12" for lower band

2 strips, 12" x 2½" for binding upper edges

Note: These strips can be straight or bias cut

Note: The linen will be trimmed after the monogram has been completed.

Following the manufacturer's directions, adhere Fuse & Fleece to all cut pieces and to the linen square.

Creating the Monogram

Using a permanent ink marking pen, draw a block letter (about 2½" x 4") in the desired initial, placing it approximately in the center of the linen fabric square. Color it in until it is the shade you want.



Stitch around the edges of the letter using a straight stitch, zigzag stitch, or blanket stitch as desired.

Fill in the body of the letter with other stitches (ex. Feather stitch, Triple Straight Stitch, etc.) as desired to create texture.



Trim the linen to 4" x 6", centering the letter.

Quilting the Keeper

Place the front and back *wrong* sides together using temporary spray adhesive to bond.

Using an all-purpose foot or a walking foot, lightly channel-quilt the layers stitching from side to side about 2" apart (see right).

Creating the Center Band

Seam the upper band to the upper edge of the linen monogram using a 1/4" seam allowance; press the seam open.

Seam the lower band to the lower edge of the monogram of the linen monogram using a 1/4" seam allowance; press the seam open.

Fold the side edge of the completed band under 1/4" and press.

Position the band down the center of the quilted keeper and pin. Stitch the long sides in place along the edges.

Binding the Edges

Bind each end of the keeper (these ends will be the opening edges of the finished keeper) using the cut strips of lining fabric. Fold each strip in half lengthwise and press.

Working with the outer fabric up, place one folded strip along the upper edge of the front with the raw edges even. Stitch, using a scant 1/4" seam.

Wrap the binding around the raw edges to the lining side and pin. *Note: Binding should cover the seam line on the lining side.*

From the right side (outer fabric) stitch-in-the-ditch (see right) to secure the binding.

Repeat the previous steps for the other end. Before stitching the folded strip to the edge, position the elastic band or folded cord on the lining edge, centering it from side to side and letting it extend down into the bag.



upper edge of lining side

Finishing the Keeper

Fold the quilted keeper with right sides together and stitch each side seam, using a 1/4" seam allowance.

Bind the seam allowances by wrapping the ribbon around the raw edges and stitching down the center using a zigzag or running stitch. *Tip: Use double-sided Wonder Tape to hold the ribbon in place for stitching.*

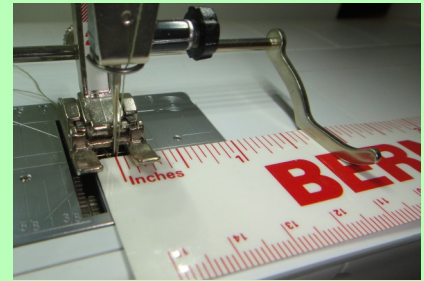
Sew the large decorative button to the front of the keeper to correspond with the loop in the back.



Skill Builder Technique

Channel Quilting

To easily stitch parallel rows of stitching, attach Clear Foot #34/34C to the machine and insert the Quilting/Seam into the back of the foot. Set the guide 1 1/2"-2" from the needle.



Mark one line at the angle desired. Sew along the first line. Sew the second line, aligning the guide with the previously sewn line of stitching. Continue until the body of the keeper is quilted.

Stitch-in-the-Ditch

Use the guide of Edgestitch Foot #10/10C/10D to precisely place the stitching along the seam line upper edge binding.

Position the guide in the well of the seam and make sure the needle is in the center position. As long as you keep the guide following the seam, the needle will track behind, sewing exactly in the "ditch".



Gift Card Pocket



Take a few minutes to make the next gift card you give extra special. This simple little buttoned pocket provides a distinctive presentation, adding a personal touch to an ordinary gift. Made of a fabric scrap, leftover cord, and one button, you probably have all you need to make several in your sewing room right now!

Supplies

- One 5¼" x 13" piece of medium to heavy weight fabric that fringes easily (such as linen)
- 16"-18" of decorative cord, about ⅛" thick
- One decorative button, ¾" - 1¼"

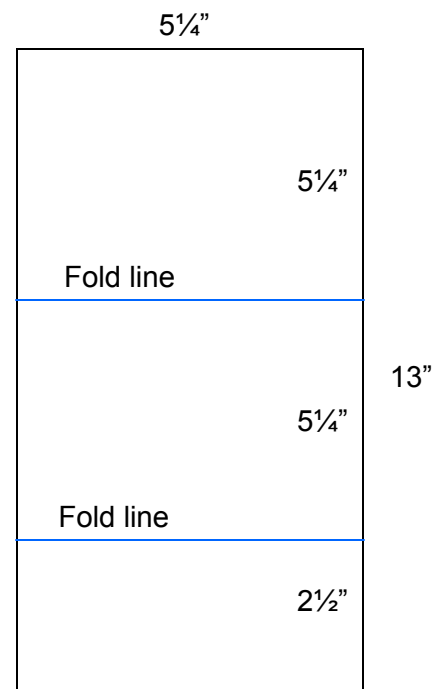
Marking

Measure and mark the fold lines on the fabric as shown in the diagram.

Fold the top edge down (to the wrong side) and pin.

Fold the cord in half to form a loop at one end. Position the loop off the folded edge. Make sure the loop is the correct size to fit the button you have selected.

Following the couching directions on the following page, stitch the cord down the center of the pocket on the outer side. Start at the folded edge and end about 1¼" from the edge (your button will be sewn over the ends of the cord).



Couching

Using a foot that has a tunnel on the sole to accommodate the cords, stitch the cords in place using a feather stitch so it goes from side to side and catches both cords.

Sew the button over the ends of the couched cords.



feather stitch

Construction

Fold the lower end up to form the pocket. Sew along the sides of the entire piece from top to bottom, stitching about 1/2" from the edge. Fringe the fabric edges by removing the vertical threads.

Fold 2 1/2" to the wrong side to form pocket



Variation

Try felt and instead of cording, use ribbon as a closure to tie the pocket closed. Simply stitch over the ribbon, leaving about 6" extending beyond the stitching. Once the pocket is folded up and stitched along the sides, then close it and the ribbons will meet and can be tied.

Use a zigzag stitch wide enough to go over narrow ribbon and an open embroidery foot to attach ribbon. Trim edges with pinking shears.



Skill Builder Technique

Couching

When stitching yarn, cord, or heavy decorative thread onto the surface of fabric (a technique called "couching"), it's easier if you use a presser foot that holds the cord in place for stitching.

Bulky Overlock Foot #12C has a large tunnel on the bottom of the sole, wide enough for the two cords placed side-by-side. The Feather Stitch sews between the cords and over one and then, the other, as it forms the stitch, holding both cords securely in place.



Holiday Trimmings



Supplies for Holiday Fabric

- 12" square of felt for base fabric
- Assorted scraps of fabric in holiday colors
- Polyester or cotton thread to coordinate
- Thread for quilting and construction

For Gift Tag

- 10"-12" of custom cord (see next page)
- One piece of cardstock about 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
- Hole punch
- Glue stick
- Pinking shears/wavy cutter

For Tree Ornament

- 10"-12" of custom cord (see next page)
- 6" square of dark green felt or wool

For Candle Wrap

- 36"-40" of custom cord (see next page)
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 2 small beads
- 2" of $\frac{5}{8}$ " hook & loop tape
- Craft glue

Creating the Holiday Fabric

Cut the scraps into small pieces and arrange them on the felt square, overlapping or not as desired. The felt can be completely covered or can show through at random places to become part of the quilted fabric.

Carefully place the covered felt under the needle. *Note: Pins or glue stick may be used to hold the scraps in place for stitching if desired.*

Using a coordinating color of thread, stitch across the fabric as desired. Make sure you stitch enough to be sure that all of the scraps are secure. Otherwise, you decide when you have enough stitching.

Note: Any all-purpose presser foot can be used but a roller foot works well on the uneven surface of this project. The rollers on the sole help it move easily and there are no "toes" to catch on the fabric edges.



Roller Foot #51

The piece shown in the photo has straight stitching vertically and horizontally placed in random lines. The spacing varies and nothing is measured or precise.

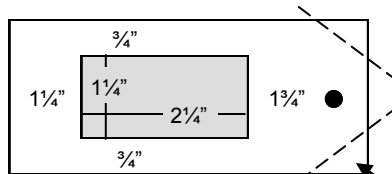


Almost any other stitch may be used but keep in mind that some decorative stitches, especially the compact, satin stitched ones will increase your sewing time greatly and cover more of the fabric pieces.

Gift Tag

Cut 2 pieces from the Holiday Fabric, 5" x 2 3/4" each.

Cut a window in one of the fabric pieces, as shown in the diagram. Position the cardstock behind the window and lightly glue in place. Stitch along all four sides of the window, sewing through the tag.



Place the remaining piece of fabric wrong sides together with the windowed piece. Shape the end of the tag, cutting off corners at an angle as shown. Stitch along the edges of the tag, about 1/4" from the edges.

Trim the edges close to the stitching with pinking shears or a wavy cutter. Punch a hole in the shaped end and tie a length of custom cord through it.

Tree Ornament

Using the pattern provided, cut out a tree from the Holiday Fabric. Place the tree right side up on the 6" square of green wool or felt, approximately in the center.

Topstitch along the edges of the tree to secure it to the fabric square. Trim the green fabric around the tree, leaving about 1/4".

Using a punch, create a hole at the top of the tree. Put a length of custom cord through the hole and tie, creating a loop for hanging.

Candle Wrap

Cut one piece of the Holiday Fabric, 10" x 3", to fit a 2.8" x 6" candle. Stitch hook & tape on each end for an overlapping closure. Wrap the fabric around the candle; secure the hook & loop tape.

Glue 2 cinnamon sticks together to form a bundle. Tie the custom cord around the cinnamon sticks.

Position the cinnamon sticks at the center front, pulling the cord to the back, and then wrapping it back around to the front. Tie into a knot and tie a bead to each end. Add a drop of glue behind the cinnamon sticks to adhere them to the cord.



Skill Builder Technique

Custom Cord

Select a filler for your cord: yarn, embroidery floss, perle cotton, several strands of sewing thread, or any or type of cord or trim.

Zigzag over the filler, holding the cord taut behind and in front of the needle. The stitch width should be as wide or wider than the filler. The stitch length will vary, depending on how much of the filler you want to show and how heavy you want the thread covering to be.

Stitch over the filler one or more times, changing the thread as desired until the cord has the look you want.

Braiding Foot #21 has a hole to hold the filler cord in place for covering.

