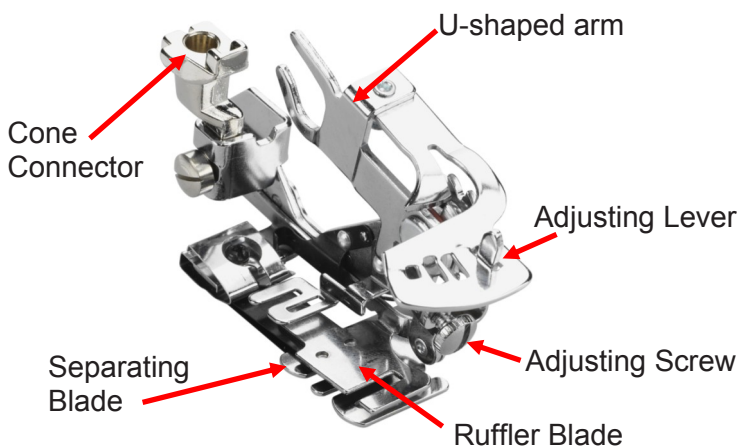**BERNINA Accessory Spotlight**

Ruffler Attachment #86

Created by Susan Beck

An unusual looking device, Ruffler Attachment #86 takes tiny tucks to give a pleated or gathered look to fabric, lace, and ribbon. While this attachment looks complicated, its clever design actually makes it easy to use. When attaching the ruffler to the machine, the U-shaped arm fits around the needle bar as the ruffler is clamped into place on the cone in the usual manner.

Cone Connector
U-shaped arm
Adjusting Lever
Adjusting Screw
Separating Blade
Ruffler Blade

The ruffler moves up and down with the needle bar as the machine is stitching and the ruffler blade moves in and out, pinching small amounts of fabric and pushing them under the needle. The separator blade holds fabric in position, and keeps the ruffler blade from coming in contact with the feed dog of the machine.

Ruffler Tips

Use the Freehand System when attaching the ruffler to the machine. The extra lift and the lowering of the feed dog gives a little more room to maneuver the U-shaped arm into place while sliding the shank onto the cone.

Place the fabric on the ruffler blade and position it under the needle to start. Note: *The ruffler does not "pick up" the fabric at the start. The fabric must be under the needle so the ruffler can make a pleat and move the fabric.*
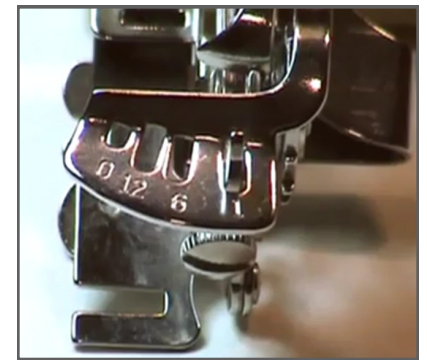
Stitch at a slow speed (medium or below) to allow the ruffler to "push and pull" the fabric as needed.

Ruffler Settings

Set the amount of pleating or gathering desired using the lever on the front of the ruffler:

0 = no pleating

12 = pleat every 12th stitch

6 = pleat every 6th stitch

1 = pleat every stitch

Change the depth of each pleat by adjusting the screw on the front of the ruffler. Turn the screw clockwise for deeper pleats, counterclockwise for shallower pleats. Deep tucks give a pleated look and shallow tucks give a gathered look.

Adjusting the stitch length can also affect the look of the gathered fabric. Set the stitch length between 2mm and 5mm. A longer stitch length gives a softer, looser look to the gathered/pleated edge and a shorter stitch length results in a tighter, fuller edge.

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