

CREATIVE EDGE FINISHES FOR NAPKINS



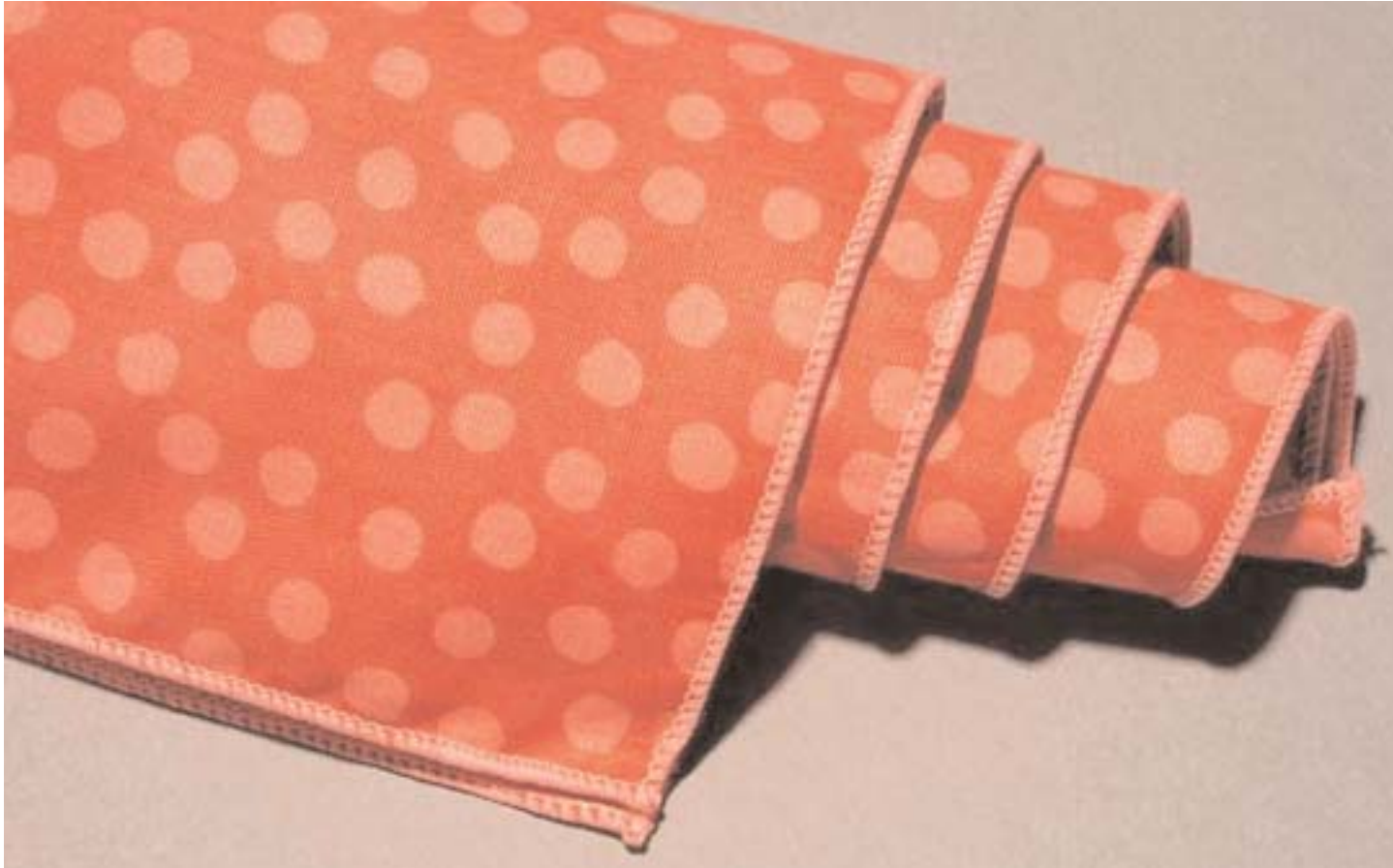
From a casual family dinner to a formal holiday meal, cloth napkins add the finishing touch to any dining table. Whether they are made from fine linen or fun cotton prints, there are numerous edge finishes that can be used on napkins depending on your time and the style you want to create with your sewing and fabric. We have used both the overlock and the sewing machine to create these beautiful hem finishes.

Cloth napkins can range in size anywhere from 6" to 20" square. The larger sizes are considered dinner napkins and the smaller are used as luncheon or tea napkins. If you plan on incorporating any decorative folding techniques on your table, the larger sizes will produce the best results.

SUPPLIES

- 1 yard of 45"-wide fabric (will make 4 single thickness napkins or 2 double thickness)
- Decorative thread – Designer 6, Pearl Crown Rayon, Textured Nylon, etc.
- Glue stick
- Rotary cutter, ruler, cutting mat
- Seam sealant
- Spray adhesive
- Water- or air-soluble marking pen
- Superlock 2000ATS
- White Sewing Machine

Ready Tonight.....Pretty in Pink quick 'n easy napkins



When your time is limited, move to your overlock machine or serger and set up for a quick rolled hem. For an very pretty napkin finish, use a 2- or 3-thread rolled hem with a decorative thread in the upper looper.

To make your serging headache free: Test, test , test – each fabric and thread requires fine tuning of the settings whether it is the tension or the stitch length. And each serger will need to be adjusted differently so check your instruction book or follow the guidelines given on your screen. Be sure to test to find the “right” setting before serging on your napkin fabric.

1. The **SINGLE-LAYER PINK NAPKIN** is serged with Textured Nylon thread. This thread is placed in the upper looper and the tension lowered. A shorter stitch length is used to produce the satin stitch appearance.

2. Do not place your iron directly on top of the stitching—the thread is NYLON and it will melt!



3. The **DOUBLE LAYER PINK NAPKIN** uses a heavy, loosely-spun rayon thread called Designer 6. The tension for this thread should also be decreased but the stitch length is increased to 3 due to its thickness. To prepare your fabric, spray the wrong side of the two layers with spray adhesive and adhere wrong sides together. Cut out the desired size squares.

4. Serge at a slower than normal even speed. This will help prevent the decorative thread from tangling or breaking as you are serging.

5. For speed, serge off the edge of the napkin at each corner, pivot and continue serging on the next edge. Use a seam sealant to seal the thread tails at each corner, let the sealant dry overnight then clip the ends.

For an extra design detail, add a 5/8" to 1" buttonhole in one corner of the napkin. Button the napkin to an upper button on your shirt or sweater to prevent drips—your own personalized lobster bib!

Still fast.....The Round Napkin

Pearl Crown Rayon thread was use in the upper looper of the serger to finish the edge of this **ROUND NAPKIN**. It is necessary to *loosen* the tension and *lengthen* the stitch length.



1. Use spray adhesive to adhere two pieces of contrasting fabric, wrong sides together.

2. Cut out a 16" circle. Using the straight stitch on the sewing machine, staystitch around the circle 1/8" from the edge. This will keep the layers from shifting and stretching while serging.

3. Serge around the circle. When you reach the starting point, overlap the stitches for 1/2" or more and then gently pull the stitch away from the machine and clip. Carefully separate the thread tails and thread the individual threads back under the serged edge. Using the seam sealant, seal the threads, let them dry and clip the ends.

For a great holiday accent, fold this circular napkin into a Christmas tree shape as shown.

A little bit longer.....The Hemmer Feet

Hemmer feet on your sewing machine allow you to fold the edges of the fabric under twice in one operation while sewing the edge down at the same time. This handy accessory has been around for a long time—our great-grandmothers even used them on their treadle machines. There are a number of different sizes of hemmer feet all based on the weight of the fabric you are hemming. Look at the groove on the bottom of the foot; it will show you the approximate width of the finished hem.

The most challenging part of using the hemmer feet is to start and stop at each corner. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Method 1

Fold the fabric over the width of the finished hem,, press, fold, and press again. Use a dab of glue to hold the hem in place. Stitch 1" to 1 1/2" and then wiggle the fabric into the foot. Repeat at all corners.

2. Method 2

With the fabric flat, stitch 1/2" into the fabric leaving long thread tails. Use the thread tails to guide the fabric into the scroll on the foot and begin stitching. Repeat on all four corners.

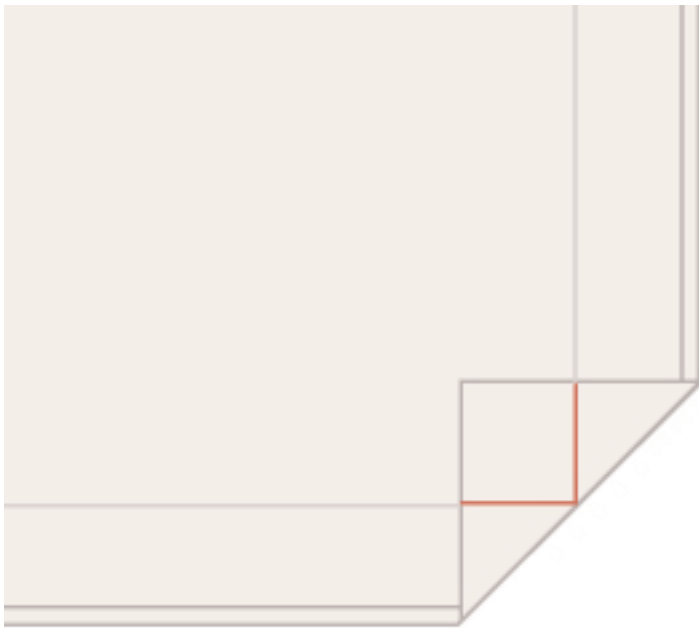
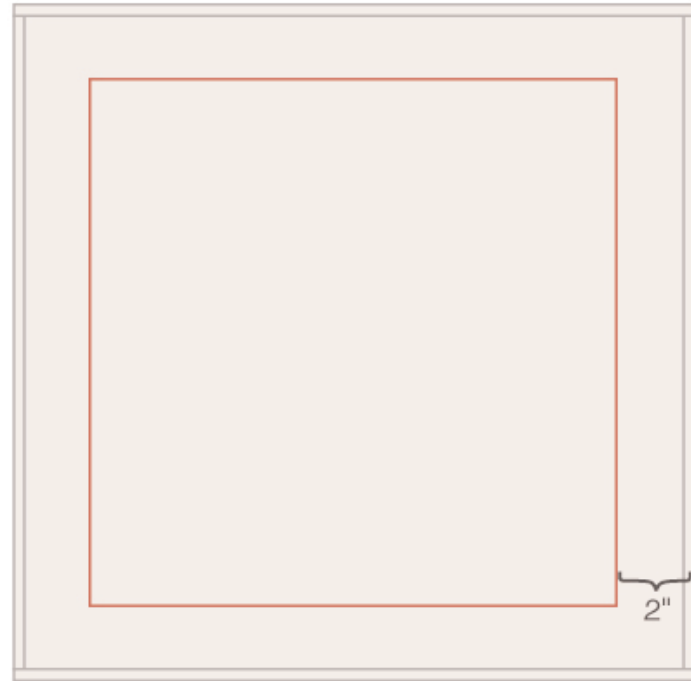


Start the day before.....The Mitered Corner

The most formal napkin edge finish is a mitered corner. Two examples are shown here. On the first one, you will achieve a double-layer napkin with a 2"-wide border; the second results in a single layer napkin with a narrow border.

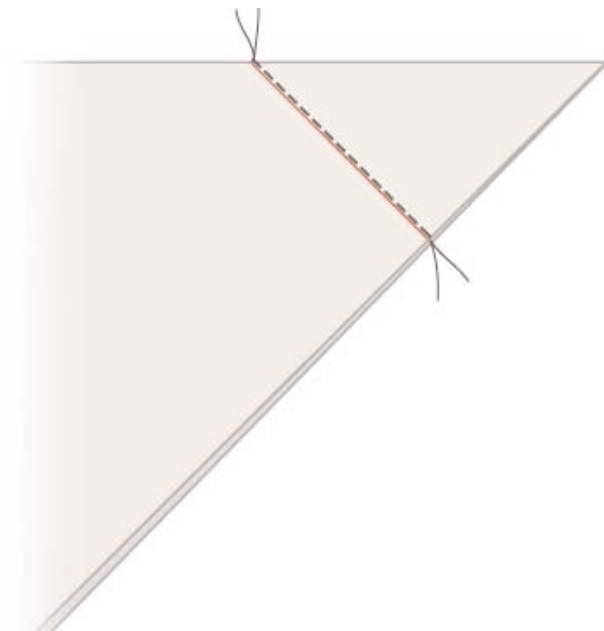
WIDE BORDER

1. For a 16" finished napkin, cut one 18 inch square and one 15 1/2" square. Set the smaller one aside.
2. Finish the edges of the 18" square by folding under 1/4" and pressing.
3. From the folded edge, measure in 2" from each edge and draw a line.
4. Turn in the edges along the marked lines and press.



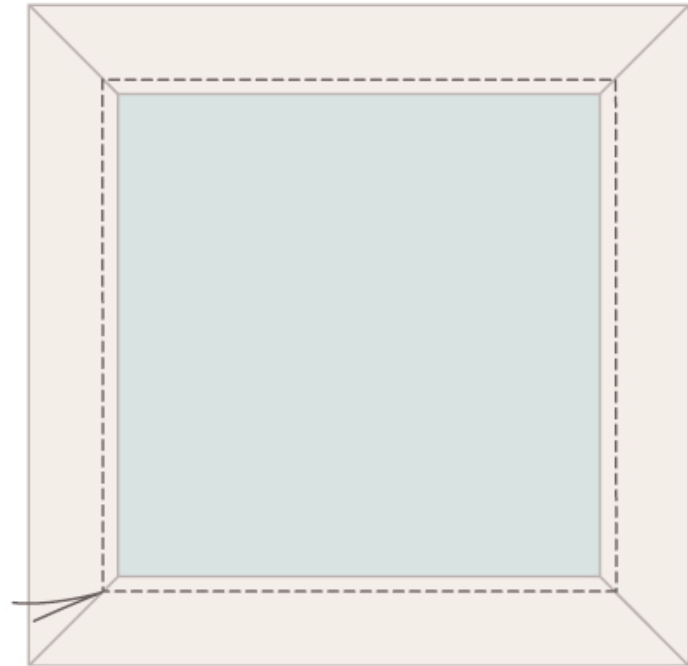
5. Fold in and press each corner on the diagonal forming a triangle. The pressed lines on each triangle will intersect with the pressed lines on each side.

6. Fold each corner triangle on a diagonal matching the side edges. Stitch across the corner using the crease as your guide.



7. Trim the seam turn right side out and press.

8. Spray the wrong side of the smaller square with adhesive. With wrong sides together, place the smaller square inside the mitered one. Topstitch around the edge close to the folded hem.



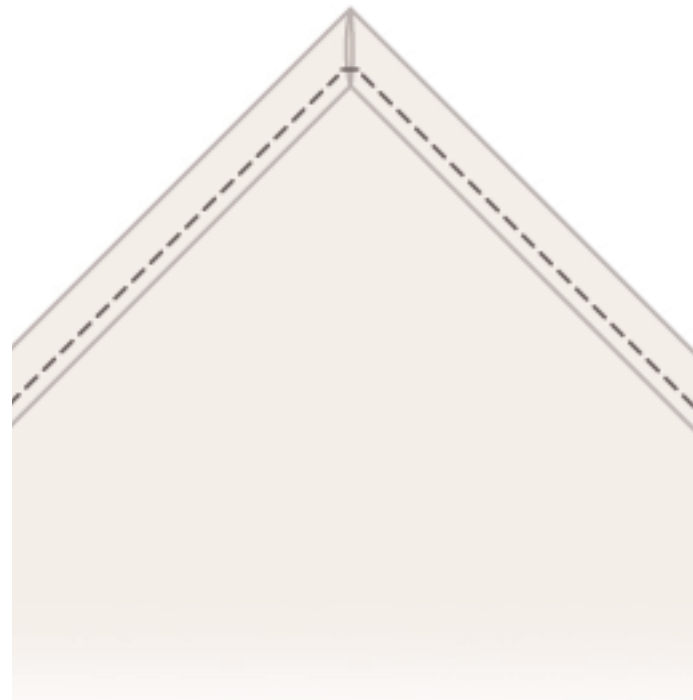
NARROW MITER

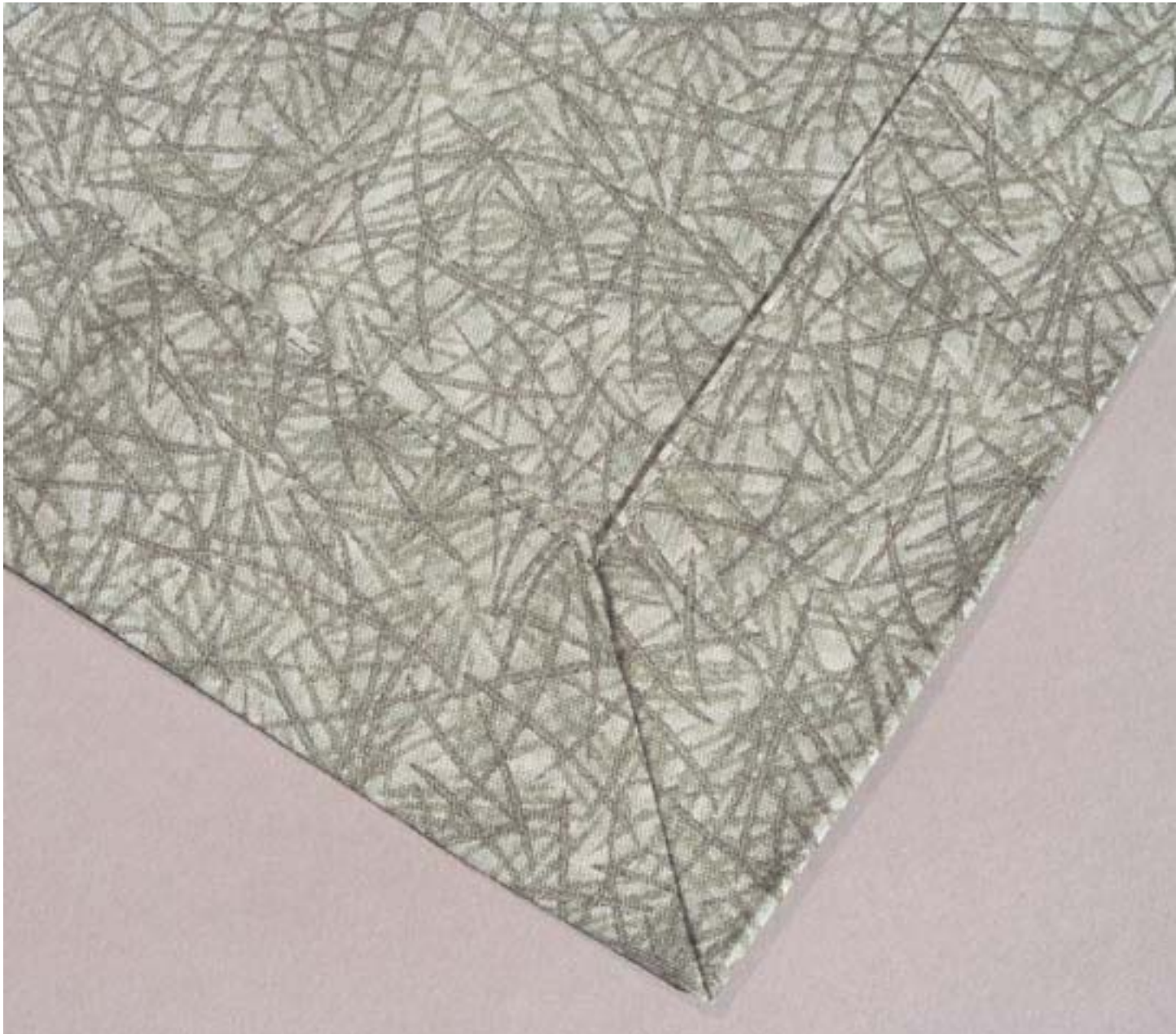
1. Press under 1/4" on all sides of a 16" square. Turn in the hem again forming a double-fold hem.

2. Using your standard presser foot and a straight stitch, start stitching in the center of one side. Stop sewing about 1" from each corner.

3. When you reach the corner, fold the corner in the miter shape and finger press in place. Use a pin to hold the small edges in place while you fold and stitch. The miter will only be tacked down as you sew around the corner.

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Once you have mastered this mitered corner technique, the application can be used on any 45 degree corner on garments or home dec items. It adds that final touch to your sewing project.