

Cover, sewing machine

By: gwynedd

<http://www.burdastyle.com/projects/cover-sewing-machine>



A serger cover, lined in canvas, with pockets. My own pattern, drafted as one does slipcovers on chairs. Self welting on top.

Materials

3-4 fat quarters main fabric (cotton quilting) and 1 fq of contrast, about 1/2 yard heavy canvas. Some cording.

Step 1 — Front and back

Drape one fat quarter across front of serger (with your thread holder locked down) and pin across the back top. Drape a second fat quarter down the back, pinning it to the top of the back of the front piece. If there is not enough of the front fq to drape all the way down, pin a contrasting piece to the front; this will be the pocket lining. You should have main color vertically down the back, across the top and front, and a contrast piece dropping to the bottom of the front. Cut your cover, leaving an inch on each side for ease and a 5/8" seam allowance.

Sew seam on front pocket lining, top seam (optional cording: insert a cord inside top front seam area, sew a welt), and attach back with seam, again adding an optional welt at the top by inserting cord and sewing next to it with a zipper foot.

Step 2 — Pocket

Cut a pocket the same size as the lined area on front. Cut a matching lining (from contrast fabric) and add 1" extra on lining for false binding. Sew top seam between lining and pocket front. Press seam allowance toward body of pocket. Press extra inch of lining above pocket to make a false binding. Sew down binding "in the ditch" Pocket now is a doubled length of fabric with a binding at the top and lining matching at the bottom. It should be the same size as the contrast on the cover front.

Sew the pocket onto the front by basting the side seams. Stitch down the center with a double row of top stitching or use a twin needle. Optional ideas include a smaller pencil-sized pocket in the center, with top stitching on either side to hold the serger tweezers. Or no top stitching for a large pocket.

Step 3 — Sides

Drape front and back piece over top of the serger. Measure for sides. Add at least 5/8" for seam allowance and an inch for ease. Draft a pattern onto wax paper that matches the side shape plus ease.

If you have insufficient fat quarter fabric to drape the area, piece with a false binding of the contrast material to match the front binding. Measure to sew in a strip of contrast material to make the binding run around the sides. Piece by sewing the contrast material in the middle and press seam allowances toward the binding.

Step 4 — Canvas Lining (optional)

If you desire a stiffer cover, cut canvas pieces to match front and back plus sides. Baste canvas inside seam allowances. Finish inside seam allowances with serger or zig zag overcast to prevent fraying.

Step 5 — Sew sides

Sew in the sides: pin to front and back and baste by hand, along seam allowance and matching the false binding, if you used it, to the front binding of pocket and sew an inside seam (a serger is good, or a sewing machine plus seam finishing like overcasting.) Make a false welting to match front and back welting if desired, by sewing on the outside top sides to match the corded welt on front and back. (basting first helps.) Your machine may not be able to handle so many layers. This step is optional.

Step 6 — Hem (Finish)

Sew a hem: cut canvas back to leave an inch of cotton on the outside, press a double fold and top stitch. Or use seam binding or strips of contrast fabric to sew on a binding instead. Lightly steam cover to set shape. Finished.

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