



“SUMMER PICNIC FUN”



Complete construction on your Baby Lock Evolve Serger, featuring Elastic Foot & Fabric Guide

Just in time for summer picnic season. Create this quick and easy picnic tablecloth for tables in the park or make one to fit your patio table. The simple fabric lined basket and napkins make a perfect complement to your table setting.

Skill Level: Beginner

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Table Cloth

Supplies:

Baby Lock Evolve Serger with all accessories
Elastic Foot (BLE8-EF)
3 yards fabric (will fit 8'—picnic table)
2 cones Jeans Stitch Thread™
1 cone matching serger thread
1 pkg. round elastic cording (5 yards)
1 cord stopper
Double eyed needle
Rotary cutter, mat, ruler and tape measure.

Instructions:

Cutting & Preparation:

1. Measure length and width and depth of table; add 4 inches to these measurements.
2. Cut fabric to measurement and slightly round corners. Example: for 8-foot picnic table--length is 96" plus 2" depth of boards at each end and add 4 inches (1-1/2" for 'pull under' on each side, plus 1" allowance for trim and ease) which makes the total length of cloth 104". Table width is 30" plus 2" drop each side plus the added 4", which makes it 38" wide. So cut fabric 104" x 38".

HINT: Iron and slightly starch fabric before beginning to serge gives more body and ease for stitching.

Construction:

HINT: When starting a new project, insert new needles!

1. Set up machine for 3-thread wide overlock, using Jeans Stitch Thread™ in both loopers and matching serger thread in the left needle. Set stitch width to the widest width and stitch length to 2-1/2. Snap on Elastic Foot. Put round elastic cording through the holes in the foot and under the foot and to back of machine. Attach cord stopper to elastic behind the foot (this will eliminate the elastic cording from pulling back out of 'casing' as you pull elastic later.)
2. With the wrong side of the fabric up, start at the center of one of the short ends leaving a 6-8 inch tail of thread. Serge, barely trimming fabric. The thread forms a casing around the cording. As you come to the corners, using a slow speed and carefully guide fabric around the corner so not to fall off the edge. When serging along the straight edges, stop every so often with needle in the fabric, and pull the cording slightly to gather up some of the cloth and this will allow for enough elastic to make it all the way around the cloth.
3. When coming to the point where serging started, lock the blade and carefully serge just to the point where the serging stitches meet; stop, raise foot, rotate hand wheel for automatic thread release; pull threads out 6-8 inches. Cut threads. Tie the beginning and ending threads together into a knot and use the double-eyed needle to weave the tails into the casing.
4. Slip the other end of the elastic cording into the cord stopper.
5. Place tablecloth on table and pull the cording to fit cloth snugly around table and adjust cord stopper to hold---just think, no more chasing the picnic table cloth all over the park when it flies off in the wind (or am I the only one that happens to?!)

Reversible Napkins

Supplies:

Jeans Stitch Thread™
1 cone matching serger thread
3/4 yard each of two coordinating fabrics
Temporary spray adhesive
Fray Check™ or other seam sealant
Rotary cutter, mat and ruler

Instructions:

1. Cut out 6 squares of each fabric 13" square.
2. Lightly spray wrong side of one fabric and lay coordinating fabric right side up so the wrong sides are together on top of it. Do this to each of the 6 napkins.
3. Set up serger for 2-thread rolled edge.
4. Serge down each of the four sides of each napkin. Fray Check each corner.

Fabric Lined Basket trimmed with fabric Garter Basket

Supplies:

Fabric Guide (BLE8-FG)
Basket (sample is about 13" square basket)
1/2 yard fabric for lining basket (or amount you need for your basket)
10" square of batting (or whatever the bottom measurement is of your basket)
4 cones serger thread to match fabric
Disappearing marking pen
Rotary cutter, mat, ruler and tape measure
Pins
Glue gun & glue sticks or glue of your preference
Ironing board and iron

Calculation:

1. Measure the inside bottom of basket add 1" and cut one piece of fabric to fit.
2. Measure inside depth and add 1-1/2".
3. Measure inside circumference and cut fabric 1-1/2 times that measurement.

Note: Directions are given for 13" square basket, approximately 6" deep. Make notations of changes for your size basket if they differ from this.

Instructions:

1. Cut one strip of fabric 10" by width of fabric. Cut off one end to make a 10" square for basket bottom. Slightly round corners of the square.
2. Take the remainder of that strip and cut down to 7-1/2" wide by remaining length
3. Cut another strip of fabric 7-1/2" by width of fabric.
4. Set up serger for 4-thread overlock. Serge the two strips together to form a cylinder. This is the side panel for the inside of basket. Use the disappearing marking pen to make marks at quarter markings on both edges. (This will make it easier to adjust gathers to fit within each side of the basket.)
5. Set stitch width to M, length to 4 and differential feed to 2 and gather the bottom of the panel strip. Adjust gathers as needed between quarter markings and pin to 10" square bottom piece.
6. Set stitch width slightly wider (so it will cover gathering serge stitches), length to 3 and differential feed to normal and serge side panel to bottom, taking care to remove pins before reaching the blade!!

HINT: Serge at a slower speed and stop often to lift foot to pivot and smooth gathers and smooth bottom layer around each rounded corner--don't forget to lower foot after adjusting each time!!

7. At ironing board, press under one inch along top of panel. (This will eliminate the need of pins and also holds that double thickness of fabric for easier maneuverability for gathering.)
8. Set up serger for 3-thread cover hem. Attach the fabric guide so fabric feeds through at the one inch marking. Set differential feed to 2 and stitch along the one-inch line.

HINT: Hold your finger at back of foot to help gather up the stitches more. Serging at a slower speed will keep the fabric feeding smoothly.

9. Serge right up to the point where stitching began. (You can make slight adjustments to your gathering by pulling a needle thread if needed.)
10. Attach the 10" square of batting to the bottom of the basket using glue.
11. Put lining in basket, and use glue gun to attach lining to inside of basket along the gathered stitching line to the inside rim of basket.

Garter

Supplies:

Elastic Foot

1/4 yard of coordinating fabric to basket liner

4 cones serger thread to match fabric

1 cone Jeans Stitch™ Thread to accent fabric

1 cone serger thread to match Jeans Stitch Thread

38" of 3/8" elastic

Chalk or disappearing marker

Ruler

Instructions:

1. Cut two strips 4" by width of fabric.
2. Set up serger for 4-thread serge and seam the two strips together into one long strip.
3. Set up serger for 2-thread rolled hem using Jeans Stitch Thread in lower looper and matching serger thread in the needle. (This is an alternative to a 3-thread rolled hem and makes for a 'crocheted look' edging.) Stitch length should be set at 2 or 2-1/2 to accommodate the heavier thread. Serge both edges, trimming slightly to make a nice even roll.
4. On the wrong side of the fabric, use chalk or disappearing marker and draw a line down the center of the fabric strip.
5. Set up serger for 3-thread cover hem using serger threads to match fabric in chain looper and needles. Attach Elastic Foot. Adjust guide so elastic feeds through under the cover hem needles. Set stitch length to 4. Serge the elastic to fabric strip, tightening screw to get the desired gathering. (You will have some of the fabric strip left over when you come to the end of the elastic.) Trim off excess fabric.
6. Attach all-purpose foot. Set up serger for 4-thread serge and seam the strip into a circle to create the 'garter'.
7. Place garter on outside rim of basket.

You are ready for your picnic! Enjoy!!!

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