THANKSGIVING TABLE SETTING

Is it possible, a different table setting for every holiday without breaking the budget? Yes!

Using colorful fabrics, trim, and these simple to sew techniques, you can make table cloths, table runners and matching napkins for your next holiday gathering.

Economy comes from using fabrics 44/45" wide. While table cloths may require piecing to achieve the table width, "left-over" fabric can be used for napkins. Choosing a plaid or printed fabric, seams will be virtually invisible. Hint: plaids are the easiest to use - perfectly straight cutting, folding and stitching lines are woven in.

Custom Table Cloths

Supplies:

 Measure the length and width of your table. (Be sure to include any leaves you add when company comes.) Add desired amount of overhang, seam, and hem allowances.

For Example:

Table Length _____' + 22'' (10'' '' overhang plus 1'' for hemming on each end) = ____''

Table Width _____' + 23'' (12'' overhang, hem, and 1'' seam for piecing if table is wider than 24'')=____'

Divide the final length by 36^{''}. If the table width is 44^{''} or less, this is the amount of yardage you will need. If the table is wider than 44^{''}, double this amount.

Directions:

1. Cut fabric to length(s) needed for table.

2. If width requires piecing, cut second length of fabric for extra width. (Table width needed -44'' = width of second panel.)

3. Using a 1/2^{''} seam allowance, sew table cloth panels together. Hint: sew selvedge edges together. This will provide a ravel proof seam allowance. Press seam allowance toward narrower panel.

4. To hem outside edge of table cloth, press all four sides to the back 3/4'', then 3/4'' again. Stitch the pressed edges. (Follow the plaid lines for perfectly straight edges.)

Napkins

Supplies:

o For every two 16 1/2" x 16 1/2" napkins 1/2 yard fabric is needed

Directions:

1. Cut fabric into 18" squares.

2. To hem outside edges of the napkins, press all four sides to the back 3/4'', then 3/4'' again. Stitch the pressed edges.

Table Runner

Table runners can be as wide and as long as you want. (If they will be used in place of placemats, they should be at least 18"wide.) Ends can be square, rounded, or in a point.

Supplies:

- o Fabric yardage determined by length of table plus desired overhang
- o Fleece
- o Corded piping yardage determined by adding the length and ends of the runner, doubling the measurement and adding 4".
- o 2 Tassels

Directions:

1. Cut fabric for the top of runner to desired length and width-be sure to include 1" for seam allowances. (Using a bold plaid, center the plaid from side to side for a balanced look.)

2. Using the same measurements, cut fleece and a lining for the back of the runner using the remaining fabric. To make a reversible runner, use a different fabric.

3. Place fleece on a flat surface. Place top of runner, right side up on top. Pin and stitch layers together around outside edge.

4. Starting on one side, pin piping around the edge of the table runner with the raw edges of the piping matched up with the raw edges of the fabric.

5. Use a zipper or cording foot to stitch close to the cord.

6. Match the table runner top and lining, right sides together. Use a zipper or cording foot to sew seam around the outside edge leaving an opening on one side for turning. Stitching should be snug against the cord of the piping.

7. Trim seam allowances and turn table runner right side out through opening. Slip stitch opening.

8. Sew tassels on ends.

Fast and Fabulous -- Without sewing a stitch!

Table cloths

Cut the fabric, and spread on table. Don't do anything else. Fabric selvedge will provide finish on two sides. Straight cut edges will be invisible to most of your guests.

Napkins

Cut fabric squares. Fringe ends.