

Reversible Woven Serger Runner



The above shows both sides of two different reversible runners. The top runner is runner 1 and the bottom runner is runner 2.

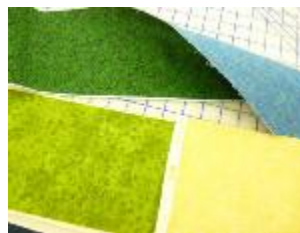
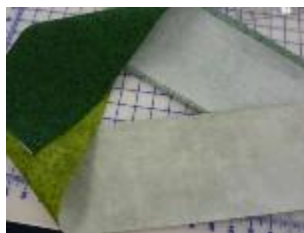
Supplies:

The runner is reversible so there will be a Side A and a Side B. Focus fabric insets, woven strips and border fabrics for each individual side should coordinate. None of the fabrics from Side A will be seen on Side B, and vice versa, so each side can be entirely different! Read through directions before you start!



1. Focus fabric insets: Two fabrics, one for each side: ($\frac{1}{4}$ yard each, if you wish to cut the long side of your rectangle on the lengthwise grain). You will need 3 rectangles cut $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ each for each side. There is an Accuquilt Rectangle die $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$, or use your rotary cutter. If using fusible fleece, you may fuse it to the back of Side A before cutting.
2. Borders: Two fabrics, one for each side, cut $2\frac{1}{4}'' \times \text{WOF}$ (width of fabric). Use Accuquilt $2\frac{1}{4}''$ Strip die, or your rotary cutter. $\frac{1}{6}$ yard of fabric for each side is a safe amount, allowing for straightening. Borders may be chosen after the rest of the runner is completed
3. Weaving strips: For each side you will need a total of $\frac{1}{3}$ yard of fabric for the weaving strips. Runner 1, above, uses a total of 2 fabrics, one for Side A and one for Side B—the fabrics go from dark to light and back to dark across the grain, giving the color variance. Runner 2, above, uses a total of 4 fabrics, 2 coordinating for each side, and $\frac{1}{6}$ yard each is needed.
4. Wonder Under: $1\frac{1}{4}$ yard is needed for the weaving strips, cut one lengthwise $12'' \times 42''$ if using 1 fabric per side, or two $6'' \times 42''$ pieces if using 2 fabrics per side.
5. Thin batting such as Quilter's Dream Request loft or Fusible Fleece: Three $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ pieces and Two $2\frac{1}{4}'' \times 42''$ pieces.
6. Four spools serger or sewing thread to blend with the fabrics of choice
7. Two spools of 30 weight decorative thread.
8. Flat pins or flower head pins are highly recommended. Size 90 Sharp needles work best.

Preparing Weaving strips:



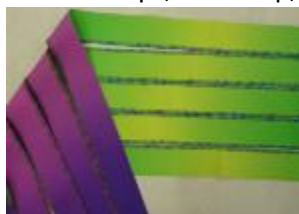
Wonder Under Application

1. If using 1 weaving fabric per side, as in Runner 1, press 12" x 42" Wonder Under to wrong side of Side A weaving strip fabric. Remove paper back and fuse wrong side of Side B weaving fabric to Side A weaving fabric
 - a. If using 1 weaving fabric per side, cut five 1 3/4" x WOF

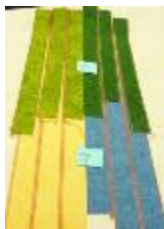
2. If using 2 weaving fabrics per side, as in Runner 2, press 6" x 42" Wonder Under to wrong side of both Side A Pieces. Remove paper back and fuse the wrong side of each Side B weaving fabric to the wrong side of the Side A fabrics. It doesn't usually matter which of the fabrics go together, but you might choose to put darks together and lights together (remember Side A fabrics will not be seen on Side B and vice versa).
 - a. If using 2 fabrics per side, as in Runner 2, cut three 1 3/4" x WOF strips



3. To cut the strips above, use Accuquilt 1 3/4" Strip die or your rotary cutter, and save your scraps.
4. Set up serger for a narrow (right needle) balanced overlock stitch, using the 30wt decorative thread in the loopers. Thread the thread that is to show on Side A in the upper looper and the thread that is to show on side B in the lower looper. Thread the needle with standard thread.
 - a. Test stitch on scrap fabric, with Side A up, making sure the upper looper and lower looper threads knit together at the raw edge of the fabric, and that the needle thread is straight, and not pulling up at the top or bottom. Adjust stitch length as you please. Check to make sure the cutting width is correct for the fabric.
 - b. If you have five strips of all the same fabric, serge along the edges of two sides of 3 of the strips, and only one side of 2 of the strips, Side A up, trim off just a hair of the fabric.



- c. If you have three strips of two different fabrics, for each fabric, you will serge along the edges of two sides of 2 of the strips and one side of 1 strip.

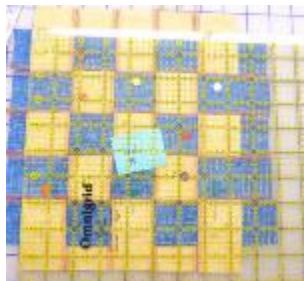


- d. Cut each strip into 4 even pieces. If you are working with two different fabrics for each side, you will have two extra short strips of each fabric, so if you happened to get a hiccup or two along the way, you can probably eliminate that part.



Weaving the Blocks:

1. You will need 5 vertical and 5 horizontal strips for each block. The strips that are serged on only one side go along the outer edges of the block, as they will become part of seam allowances. You will be making two blocks. When weaving, make sure you have the fabric going the same direction for both blocks—i.e. my yellow fabric is vertical and the blue is horizontal. Also, make sure to have the under/over the same on one block as the next—i.e. my yellow is on top of the blue in all corners.
 - a. It is helpful to place strips on a lined cutting mat to help keep things straight.
 - b. Push each strip up tight against the next strip. If you trimmed off just a hair on each edge of your fabric as you serged, the block will measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ ". It looks bigger now, because you have ends of strips hanging off. You will be measuring from the long unfinished edge of a strip on one side to the long unfinished edge of a strip on the other side.
 - c. Pin strips together with the flat pins to hold your blocks together and square them up. They should measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ ", but if they are slightly big, you can slightly trim the raw edges of your end strips to get them to size. By using flat pins, your ruler will sit flat on the fabric, making it much easier to cut straight. A square ruler is nice, but a longer rectangular rotary ruler will work, too.



- d. If you take time to go to your sewing machine to baste close to the edge around each woven square, it will make construction of your table runner much easier, as all those pins will get in the way from here on out.



Construction of the Runner:

1. Thread machine for 4 thread balanced overlock stitch.
2. Start with the center focus fabric for Side A and Side B, one woven block and an 8 ½" x 4 ½" piece of batting (if you are not using fusible fleece).
 - a. Lay Side B center inset right side up. Place woven block, B Side down on top of it so that 8 ½" raw edges are even.
 - b. Place Side A center inset right side down on Side A of woven block. If using batting, place it on top of the layers. All 8 ½" raw edges must be even. Carefully pin through all layers, placing pins to the left of the seam to prevent accidentally cutting through or sewing through pins. Stitch the 8 ½" seam through all layers, making sure the raw edges are rubbing against the blade—in other words, "cut off the eyelashes".



- c. Fold inset pieces and batting away from woven block and press seam toward inset pieces.
3. Take the second woven block, and match the direction of the woven strips to the first block. In the case above, the light green strips are vertical and the dark green horizontal.
 - a. Lay the block so that Side B is facing up. Lay the raw edge of the center Side B inset on the woven block, right sides together and 8 ½" raw edges even. Place just a couple pins to hold in place.



- b. Roll up the first woven block, so that Side A is up. In the left hand picture below, Side B of the inset is underneath the woven square, the raw edges are lined up on the right. Side A and the batting are pulled out to the left. Now take the raw edge of Side A and

the batting and pull them over the top of the “rolled up woven block” to the raw edge of the second woven block. Pin so that raw edges are even. Stitch seam. Check to make sure all layers have been caught in the seam. Pull the “rolled up woven block” out of the inside of the roll.



- c. The runner should now look like this.



- d. Layer the outside insets to the woven blocks as in steps 2.a and 2.b.
- i. Lay Side B center inset right side up. Place woven block, B Side down on top of it so that 8 ½” raw edges are even.
 - ii. Place Side A center inset right side down on Side A of woven block. If using batting, place it on top of the layers. All 8 ½” raw edges must be even. Carefully pin through all layers, placing pins to the left of the seam to prevent accidentally cutting through or sewing through pins. Stitch the 8 ½” seam through all layers, making sure the raw edges are rubbing against the blade—in other words, “cut off the eyelashes”.



- e. Press Side A and Side B insets away from woven blocks. It will now look like this.



4. Now it's time to add the borders.

- a. Lay all border strips, and 2 ¼" wide batting strips, if using batting, straight across the center of the length of the runner. Be sure the selvages are not on the runner, and keep a bulk of the extra strips to one side or the other, to save enough for the shorter borders. Cut borders even with edges of runner.



- b. Lay Side B lengthwise borders right sides together, raw edges even, with Side B runner. Lay Side A lengthwise borders right sides together and raw edges even, with Side A runner. The runner should be sandwiched between the borders. If you are not using fusible fleece, lay the batting on top of the wrong side of the A borders, raw edges even and pin all layers together and stitch.



- c. Fold all border pieces away from the runner and press seams toward borders.
- d. Lay the remaining border strips straight across the center width of the runner and cut to exact width of runner.



- a. Lay Side B crosswise borders right sides together, raw edges even, with Side B runner. Lay Side A crosswise borders right sides together and raw edges even, with Side A runner. The runner should be sandwiched between the borders. If you are not using fusible fleece, lay the batting on top of the wrong side of the A borders, raw edges even and pin all layers together and stitch.
- b. Fold all border pieces away from the runner and press seam allowances toward borders.



5. Set up your machine for a three thread wide balanced overlock stitch, with 30 decorative thread that will show on Side A in the upper looper, decorative thread that will show on Side B in the lower looper and standard thread in the needle. Test your stitch on border scrap fabric with the batting or fleece sandwiched in between. Adjust tensions as necessary to making sure the upper and lower looper threads are meeting at the raw edges and the needle thread is not pulling up or down. Check for proper cutting width and set stitch length as desired.
 - a. Serge around all four sides of the runner, carefully turning corners (you will have only one thread tail at the end to thread back into the runner), or just run each side on it's own, (and you will have four thread tails to thread back into the runner).

