



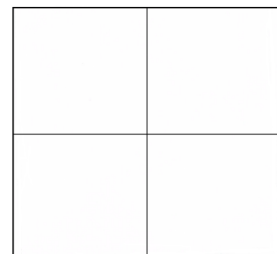
## Making Napkins The Elfriede Way!

*"I enjoy making napkins as gifts, and for myself. My favorite way to entertain is al fresco, in the summer, with my resident hummingbirds buzzing about. We have each guest serve themselves from a buffet line, so each gets to select their own napkin from a large stack. My goal is to have as diverse a group of guests as I have of napkins! Something to add pleasure to the meal for each person.*

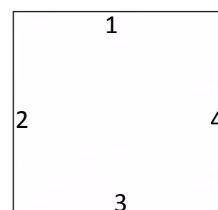
*I favor large, useful napkins made of cloth. Because I make so many of them, I have devised the quickest and easiest method, which I share with you here."*



1. To make 4 napkins, purchase 1 1/4 yards of a good cotton fabric, which has been cut straight on the grain, or torn on grain. Cut or tear this into four pieces, as shown in the diagram. Alternately, buy a nice little pile of fat quarters, which are already cut to the size that I like for napkins. Cut or tear off the selvedge edges, too, as the selvedge is woven more tightly than the rest of the fabric and has a tendency to pucker the edge of the napkin.

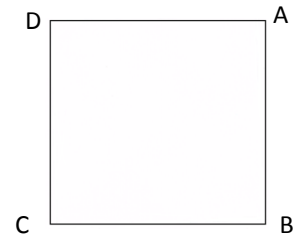


2. Turn each edge under 1/4 to 3/8 inch, in the order shown in the diagram. Press. Then, proceed around the edges again, in the same order, folding a second time. By going around the napkin twice, in this order, your edges will sit nicely, so that you won't have to sew over any awkward transitions.



3. Sew around the napkin, starting with corner A and going around, clockwise, around to corner D. When you reach each corner, sew diagonally as shown in the diagram, then proceed again along the folded edge. Note that you can sew the entire diagram in one continuous stitching line.

The sewing diagram shows the detail of how to sew down the first side, turning twice to sew across the second side. Carry on in this manner until the entire napkin is sewn.



**Sewing Diagram:**

