

Sometimes we just want to add a little something special to a project, and this is when the couching/braiding foot comes into its own!

What's Special About It?

Several things:

a) The foot has a special little loop and a tapered opening that sit right in front of the needle. This allows you to feed cording, or yarn, or skinny ribbons under the foot. It also has the back opening to allow IDT engagement, which is very nice for keeping your embellishments from slipping and/or puckering during application; b) The underside of the foot has a wedge-shaped cutout, which both allows room for the cording/yarn/ribbon and permits easy maneuvering of same:





b)

What Can You Do with It?

Mainly, have fun! Here are just a few suggestions:





Embellishment: Use a simple zigzag stitch to tack down yarn or cording to gussy up a project. Because of the wedge-shaped underneath cutout, it's easy to sew curves, both gentle and tight. Your feed dogs and IDT are engaged for this, so you can drive wherever you want to go.



Faux Piping: Apply cording or yarn along the edge of binding or other seam lines to give the appearance of fine piping. Use textured yarn, as shown, for more interest.



Outline Appliqué: Add dimension and emphasis to appliqué pieces by adding a corded outline.



Quilting: Apply yarn or cording to a quilt top as part of the quilting process. Your topside quilting will have lots of oomph, more than is possible with just thread, while the back of your project will show fine zigzag stitching (or straight stitches, if you're very skilled). This is a great technique for arty wall hangings where you want to add texture and dimension.