



perfect *placemats*

Oval placemats are an ideal way for a beginner to make use of the neatening function of an overlocker.

Steps to sew

1. Use the oval template and cut four shapes in fabric, four in wadding and four in backing fabric.
2. Take one of the fabric shapes and place it face down on the work surface then place a piece of wadding on top and finally top with the backing fabric (right side up). Make sure the edges are all level then pin and tack/baste these together.
3. Thread up the overlocker for wide three thread stitching as follows:

settings	standard
needle	left
tension dials	balanced
threads	standard thread in the needle and lower looper with the decorative thread in the upper looper
4. With the right side of the placemat facing upwards stitch around the placemat skimming (cutting) a minimum of fabric away [0.5cm (1/4")]. Sew steadily all round the edge finishing by overlapping the first few stitches and cutting the chain away. Stitch off a chain and cut.
5. Place a small drop of 'Fray Check' on the chain at the edge of the fabric and allow it to dry. When set, cut away the excess chain.
6. Make the remaining mats to produce a set.

stitch length reduce the stitch length to produce close stitching (the exact setting will depend on the thread)
differential feed neutral

Materials

(For four mats)

- 0.5m (½ yard) fabric
- 0.5m (½ yard) thin wadding
- 0.5m (½ yard) backing fabric
- decorative thread
- two reels of standard thread to match the decorative thread
- Fray check
- Oval template

Tip:
 'Fray Check' is available from most haberdashery shops