

Pam will demonstrate how to turn 8 strips of fabric into a cute fabric basket, using only the straight and zigzag stitches on your sewing machine.

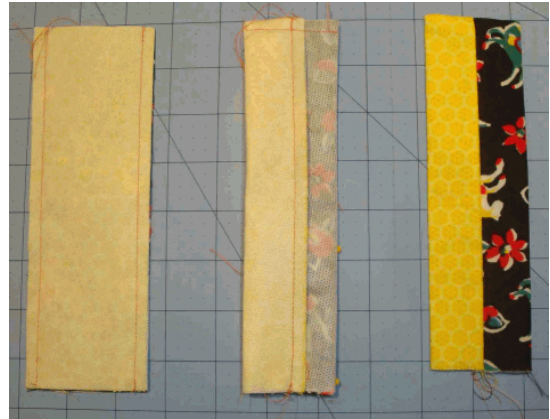
This project requires 2 fabrics, and either fusible interfacing or flannel (to provide body.)

Step 1, Cutting: If you are using fusible interfacing, fuse it to the wrong sides of your two fabrics before cutting. From each of the fabrics, cut 4 strips @ 2-1/2" x 7-1/2". If you are using flannel, cut 8 strips of flannel the same size as your fabric.

Step 2, Sandwiching: Layer two different fabric strips right sides together. If you have not fused interfacing, lay a strip of flannel on the wrong side of each fabric (so you have a "sandwich" of 4 layers: flannel, fabric 1, fabric 2, flannel.) Repeat with all of the fabrics so you end up with 4 "sandwiches."

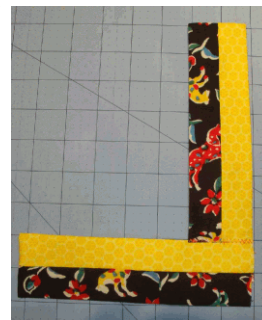
Step 3, Sewing: use matching thread

- A. Sew both long edges with regular seam allowance.
- B. Line up the seams in the middle, press to nest, and sew across one end (make sure you orient all 4 strips the same when you do this)
- C. Turn right sides out.



Step 4, Assembly:

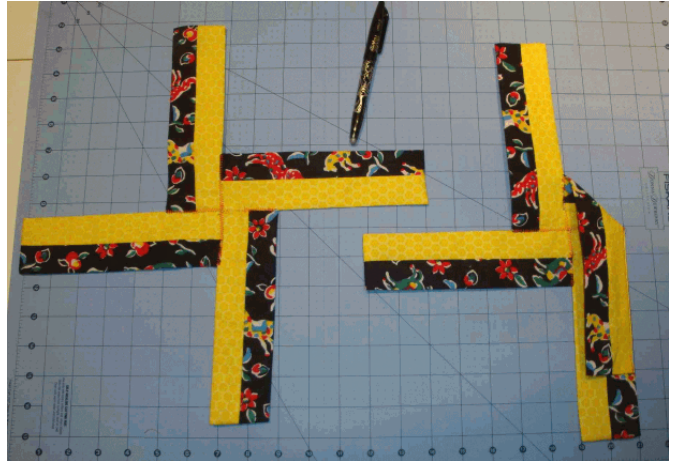
- A. Place one strip horizontally in front of you with the light fabric at the top and the raw edges to the right. Place a second strip vertically so that its raw edges just overlap the first strip, with the light fabric to the right. Attach the two by zigzag stitch at the overlap. Repeat with the remaining two strips.



- B. Place the two sets together as in the photo, overlapping raw edges and sew with zigzag stitch.



- C. Position your “spider” to match the photo. Take the arm to which the pen is pointing and fold it down over the lower arm. Sew with zigzag stitch along the right edge.
- D. Repeat with the remaining 3 arms.



- E. You will now have a basket that looks like this:



- F. Fold down the upper portion



Notes:

If you make your strips wider, the circumference of the basket will increase. If you make your strips longer, the height of the basket will increase.

If your basket gets too large, you will need to use a fairly stiff interfacing to give it enough body to hold it's shape.

You may make this scrappy, instead of 2 fabrics.

You may embellish to your heart's delight.