

## 101-2

Tricia Waddell, the Editor in Chief of *Stitch* magazine, shows fabric manipulation techniques for a simple mosaic scarf.



### Mosaic Scarf

This simple but artistic scarf is great way to have fun with fabric and thread.

#### Fabric

— 1/8 yd (11.5 cm) each of 2 complementary colors of 44" (112 cm) wide silk dupioni

#### Other Supplies

- Sulky Solvy lightweight, translucent water soluble stabilizer (7 7/8" [20 cm] wide, 9 yd [8.2 m] roll)
- Metallic thread in contrasting or matching color
- Sewing thread in contrasting or matching color
- Rotary cutter and self-healing cutting mat
- Quilt ruler

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## Finished size

8" (20.5 cm) wide × 56" (142 cm) long

## Note

All seam allowances are 1/2" (1.3 cm) unless otherwise noted.

## Instructions

### Cut Out and Mark Fabric

1. Cut a handful of 1" (2.5 cm) squares out of one color of silk dupioni. Cut handfuls of 1" × 2" (2.5 × 5 cm) rectangles, 1" × 3" (2.5 × 7.5 cm) rectangles, and 1" × 4" (2.5 × 10 cm) rectangles out of the second color of silk dupioni.

2. Cut a length of stabilizer to the desired length of your finished scarf (the sample shown is 8" [20.5 cm] wide × 56" [142 cm] long). Begin pinning squares and rectangles to the length of stabilizer as desired, randomly mixing colors and sizes. Make sure all the fabric pieces are close together (no more than about 1/8" [3 mm] apart). To create the angled edge of the scarf, pin the fabric pieces at the same (not opposite) angle on each end so that the scarf will have a triangular shape when the two ends hang together around your neck. Once you have all the fabric pieces pinned to the Solvy, you are ready to sew.

### Sew Fabric to Stabilizer

3. This scarf uses two different threads simultaneously. Thread the metallic sewing thread through the sewing machine needle. Use the regular sewing thread in the bobbin. This will give you a different textured effect on each side of the scarf.

4. Think of the scarf as a giant grid of 1" (2.5cm) squares. Machine stitch along the entire length of the center of each line of mosaic fabric pieces, removing pins as you go, to secure the fabric to the stabilizer. Don't worry about making your stitch lines perfectly straight—the irregularities are what make this scarf interesting! Backstitch at the beginning and end of each stitch line. If you want fringe, leave long thread tails at the beginning and end of each stitch line.

5. Machine stitch along the width of each line of mosaic fabric pieces at 1" (2.5 cm) intervals in the center of the mosaic pieces. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each stitch line.

6. Replace the overlock thread in the machine with the machine embroidery thread. Now you have the same thread in the needle as you have in the bobbin. Stitch along the length of each line of mosaic fabric pieces a bit to the left of your original line of stitching. This will help secure the fabric squares together even more. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each stitch line. If you want fringe, leave long thread tails at either end as you did in Step 4.

### Wash Out Stabilizer

7. Following the manufacturer's instructions, gently submerge the scarf in water for 30 seconds to 2 minutes. The stabilizer will melt away. Drain your sink and repeat submerging the scarf in clean water. This will ensure that all of the stabilizer washes out of the fabric, otherwise your scarf will be stiff. Squeeze the water out of the scarf and hang on a drying rack to dry overnight. Untangle any fringe.

### Finishing

8. Now, don't be afraid when you return to your scarf in the morning and it's crinkled and frayed! All it needs is a little steam ironing. Set your iron on the lowest setting for silk fabric and steam iron each mosaic fabric piece flat. Dupioni silk naturally frays at the edges, so let it do what it wants to do. This will show the contrasting fabric threads. Pull any loose threads along the edges of the fabric mosaic pieces throughout the scarf.

9. Cut any fringe to desired length.

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