

212-3

Tricia Waddell creates a reversible sewing machine cover that can be customized to your machine and style.





Reversible Sewing Machine Cover

Design a custom sewing machine cover with fabrics from your stash and freeform piecing.

Fabric

- Scraps of light- to medium-weight fabrics with some drape such as cotton and linen based on custom measurements from Step 1 for Top Panel and Lining
- Four 3 1/4" x 2 1/2" pieces of fabric for button tab closures (see Notes for alternative closure options)
- Low-loft batting based on custom measurements from Step 1

Supplies

- Coordinating thread
- Four 1/2" diameter buttons (see Notes)
- Point turner (optional)
- Walking foot for sewing machine (optional)
- Chalk or fabric marker

Notes

- All seam allowances are 1/4" unless otherwise noted.
- While the sample sewing machine cover uses button tabs for closures, there are other closure options that would work equally well. You could use fabric ties instead of button tabs, or use hook and loop tape or snaps in place of buttons on the button tabs.
- The sample cover uses lines of straight stitching to quilt the cover, but you could also use free-motion embroidery or hand embroidery for a different look.

Instructions

1. To customize the size of your cover to your sewing machine or serger, you need to measure it. With a tape measure, measure your machine from the bottom front, over the top, to the bottom back (if your machine has a top-mounted thread spindle be sure to account for the extra height of the spindle). Add 1/2" to this measurement for seam allowance to obtain the length measurement of your cover. Measure the width of your machine at the widest point and add 1/2" to this measurement. The finished size of the sample shown is 25" long x 15 1/2" wide (lying flat).
2. Using the custom length and width measurements of your machine as your guide, cut fabric strips for piecing the top of your machine cover. Add a 1/4" on all sides to each strip to account for seam allowances. Cut the batting and the lining fabric to your custom total measurements plus add 1/4" seam allowance on all sides.

3. To create the top panel, begin stitching the fabric strips together by placing two of them right sides together, matching up all edges; pin together along one long side. Stitch together along the pinned edge. Continue adding more stripes to the 2-strip unit just created in the same manner until all your strips attached to form a panel that equals your final measurements plus seam allowances around the perimeter. Press all seams open.
4. Layer the batting, the completed pieced top (right side down), and the lining (right side down) in that order. Pin the layers together around the perimeter.
5. Lay the pinned cover evenly across your sewing machine and mark where you want the button tabs or your desired closures to be on both ends of the cover. You should have four marked openings. The sample cover uses four 2" wide finished button tabs for closures, so four 2" openings were marked. Make sure these opening are marked equal measurements from the bottom of the cover so that the tabs match up when inserted.
6. Stitch the layers together, leaving a 4" gap for turning, and the four gaps for inserting your button tabs or desired closures.
7. Sew a 1/4" seam allowance around the perimeter of the cover attaching all layers and leaving the gaps open for turning and inserting the closures.
8. Clip the corners. Turn the cover right side out through the gap and push out the corner with a point turner.
9. Turn in the seam allowances at the gaps and finger press.
10. To make a button tab, use a round object like a drinking glass, to round off one short corner. Fold the tab fabric with wrong sides together and stitch along the long side, around the rounded corner, and down the second long side. Leave the straight short side open for turning. Turn the tab right side out and press. Repeat for the three remaining tabs.
11. Insert the unfinished edges of the four tabs 1/2" inside the openings and pin in place.
12. Topstitch around the perimeter of the cover 1/4" from the edge, closing the turning gap and securing the button tabs.
13. With the cover lying flat in front of you, top panel side up, use a chalk marker and a ruler to mark the quilting lines. Straight stitch along the quilting lines. If you do not want to quilt over certain strips, stitch in the ditch along the piecing seamlines to secure the layers together.
14. On the two front button tabs, mark the positioning of the buttonhole, being careful to not get too close to the edge of the tab. Stitch the buttonholes.
15. To make your cover reversible, sew a button on each tab back to back on each side of the remaining tabs.

Partners



<http://www.brothersews.com>



<http://www.quiltingdaily.com/blogs/stitch/home.aspx>