

reversible sewing machine cover



shiny happy world

Make a reversible cover for your most prized possession - your sewing machine.

Materials you'll need:

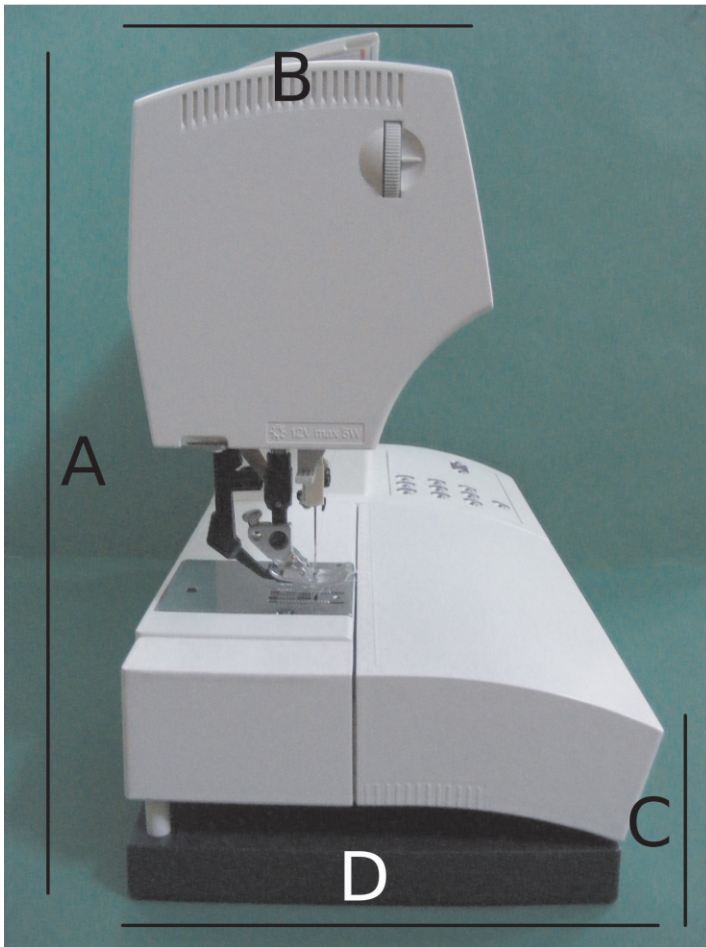
- depends on your design, but roughly 1/2 yard fabric for front and back, and 1/4 yard fabric for the sides
- sewing machine, thread, basic sewing tools

Skills you'll need (links take you to video tutorials):

- [cutting straight lines](#)
- [sewing straight lines](#)

Time it will take:

- about an hour (depending on whether or not you do any piecing)



Step 1

Measure your machine.

A _____ total height

B _____ depth of the top

C _____ height of the front

D _____ depth of the bottom

E _____ total width (Not labeled - but be sure to include the wheel that controls the presser foot)

Step 2

Calculate the size of your pattern pieces.

Front and Back Pieces = $E + 1 \text{ inch (seam allowance and ease)} \times A + 1 \text{ inch (seam allowance and ease)}$

Top Piece = $E + 1 \text{ inch} \times B + 1 \text{ inch}$

Sides = $A + 1 \text{ inch} \times D + 1 \text{ inch (you'll cut the angle out of the front later)}$

Now you have some decisions to make. . .

You can cut your fabric to the dimensions in step 2 and skip ahead to step 8.

You can get fancy with any of these pieces. I'm going to go on and give you instructions for piecing the front panel, but you can really do anything you like. Piece it. Applique on it. Embroider it. Bedazzle it. Just make sure that when you're done, the finished dimensions of your creation are what you calculated in step 2.

Whatever you choose, you'll need a front, a back, a top and two sides **for each version of your cover**. Remember - this is a reversible cover so you're really making two. Make them coordinate or make them wildly different. It's totally up to you.

If you want to piece your cover like my elephants and frogs, move on to step 3. If you're using solid fabric or doing your own thing, skip ahead to step 8.

Step 3

I'm going to have to give you some general directions here, because the measurements of individual pieces will vary from machine to machine.

If you look at the finished pattern cover you'll see a froggy rectangle surrounded by a thin frame of green scribbles, surrounded by elephants. Cut your inner rectangle (the froggy piece) 10 inches wide and 4 inches tall.

Cut 2 strips of frame fabric 10 inches long and 1 1/2 inches wide.

Cut 2 more strips of frame fabric 6 inches long and 1 1/2 inches wide.

Don't cut the final (elephant) pieces yet.



Step 4

Sew the long framing strips to the top and bottom of the center rectangle. Use 1/4 inch seam allowance.

Press your seam allowance toward the darker color.



Step 5

Sew the short framing strips to the sides.

If your seam allowances in step 4 were exactly 1/4 inch, the strips should fit perfectly. If not, trim off the extra bits to even things up.

Press seam allowances to the darker color.

Step 6

Now you're going to need to do a little math to make this fit your machine. Add strips to the top and bottom of your inner rectangle to make it equal the total height of your machine + 1 inch for seam allowance and ease.

Notice that I didn't add the same amount to the top and the bottom. I wanted the inset panel to sit a little lower than the center of the front.



Step 7

Now add strips to the sides to make the total width equal to the width of your machine + 1 inch for seam allowance and ease.

Again - I didn't add the same width to each side. I wanted the inner panel to sit toward the lower right corner. Play with this and have fun.

You might want to add extra-wide strips in steps 6 and 7 and then cut it down to size, playing with the placement of the panel.

Step 8

One more piece to prep and then you're ready to put it all together.

Put the side pieces face to face. From the top left corner measure over the depth of the top of your machine (B) + 1 inch.

From the lower right corner, measure up the height of the front of your machine (C) + 1 inch.

Connect those two points and cut the resulting triangle out of the top right corner of your side pieces.



Step 9

Using 1/4 inch seam allowance, sew the front and back pieces to the top piece. If your fabric only works in one direction (like these elephants) make sure you're sewing the top of the panel to the top piece, so that the elephants are right side up on the finished cover.

Press seam allowances toward the darker color.



Step 10

Lay the side panel face down on the back panel, so that the long edge of the side panel is lined up with the short edge of the back panel.





Step 11

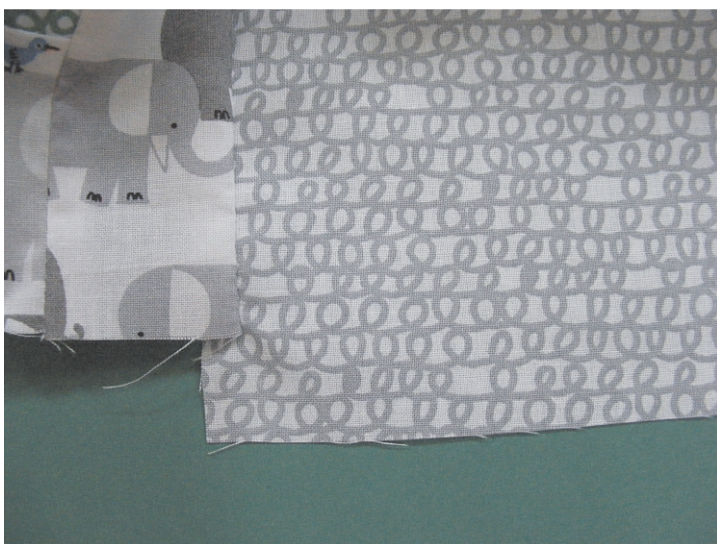
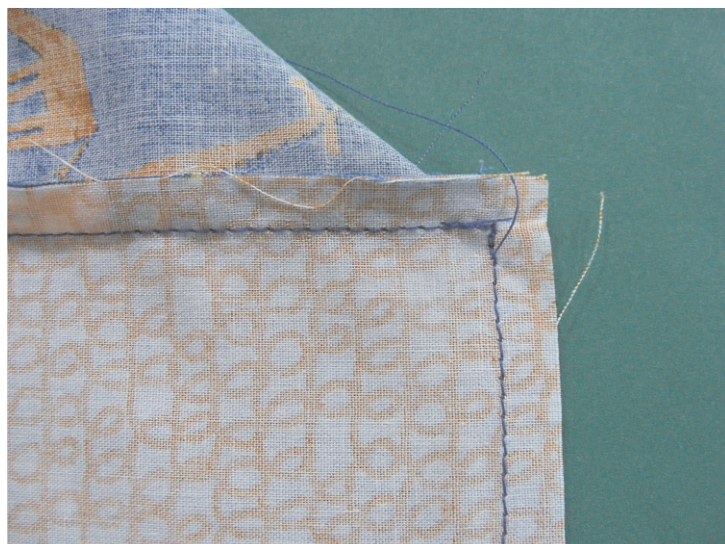
Using 1/4 inch seam allowance, sew the side panel to the back panel. Stop sewing 1/4 inch from the end of the side panel (this will be at the seam between the back and top panels). Backstitch and remove from the machine.

(I changed fabrics here because the colors worked better for showing the stitching line.)

Step 12

Flip your fabrics around so that the short edge of the side panels is lined up with the short (raw) edge of the top panel.

Start sewing where the previous stitching left off. Stop sewing 1/4 inch from the edge, just as you did in step 11. Basically, you're avoiding stitching in the seam allowances. This will let you get nice crisp points when you turn the whole thing right side out.



Step 13

Repeat steps 11 and 12 at the corners as you stitch across the top, along the angled front piece, and down the short bit at the bottom.

Your side panel will end up a little longer than your front panel (the amount of extra fabric depends on the angle that you cut into the side panel in step 8). Just use a pair of scissors to trim off the excess on the side panel and even things up.

Step 14

Repeat steps 10 - 13 for the other side panel.

Boom! You're done with the outside of your cover.

Now repeat steps 9 - 14 to make another cover.

Everything should be finished on both covers except the bottom edge.

Step 15

Turn the inside cover right side out. Turn the outside cover inside out. Put the inside cover inside the outside cover so that their right sides are facing each other. Make sure the front panels are facing each other.

Line up the raw edges of the two covers, matching the seams all the way around. Pin.

Using 1/4 inch seam allowance, sew the two covers together at the bottom edge, almost all the way around. Leave about 4 inches open so you can turn everything right side out.

Step 16

Turn the whole thing right side out and flip things around so that the inner cover is the liner of the outer cover. Work at the bottom seam allowance and press it nice and flat.

Either hand sew the opening closed or topstitch all the way around the bottom edge to close it and stabilize the edge.

Step 17

Put it on your machine. Admire it. Reverse the cover and admire it some more. You're awesome!

