

Suzanne's REVERSIBLE TABLE TOPPER

Supplies: $\frac{1}{2}$ yd dark/print fabric
 $\frac{1}{2}$ yd light/plain fabric
1 yd fabric for reverse side
Ruler with 60° line
Rotary Cutter

Set 1

Cut two 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " strips x width of fabric of dark/print fabric

Cut one 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " strip x width of fabric of light/plain fabric

Set 2

Cut one 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " strip (width of fabric) dark/print fabric

Cut two 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " strip (width of fabric) light/plain fabric

Using 1/4" seams, sew each set so set 1 is dark strip/light strip/dark strip and set 2 is light strip/dark strip/light strip.

Each set should be about 12" x width of fabric after sewing the strips together.

Using your rotary ruler, line up the 60° line with the bottom edge of the fabric strips and cut. Reverse the ruler and line up with the bottom again and cut. You should have a "pie slice" unit made up of three strips. Cut three of these units per strip set.

You should have 6 "pie slice" units made up of the two sets.

IF YOU WISH TO EMBROIDER ON SOME OF THE STRIPS, NOW IS THE TIME TO DO IT-while everything is flat and manageable sized units.

Alternating set 1 units and set 2 units, use 1/4" seam allowance and sew three of the "pie slice" units together to make a new unit. You now have half of the topper. Refer to the photo in "Suzanne's" album to see how the units look alternated.

Sew the remaining three "pie slice" units together, alternating them again. Now you have the second half of the topper. Sew these halves together to make the complete table topper top.

FINISHING

The easy way to finish this is to lay out the pieced top over thin batting and using the pieced top as your pattern, cut the batting. Next lay the pieced top and the reverse side fabric right sides together and again using the pieced top as your pattern cut the reverse fabric. Now lay the reverse fabric, right side up on your table, lay the batting over that and with right side down, lay the pieced top over the batting. Sew around the entire topper using a 1/4" seam and leaving enough unsewn so that you can turn it right side out.

Trim at the "points" and turn right side out. Turn in the fabric where it is unsewn. You may hand sew this OR I prefer to top stitch close to the edge of the topper then about 1/4" in from that stitching. This makes a nice finish and the open part is sewn shut at the same time saving a step.

Place pins here and there to hold the three layers together. You may now stitch in the ditch in the seam lines from the middle to the outside of each unit. Then you may again stitch in the ditch in the seam lines between each color change (in kind of a circle) around the topper.

OPTIONAL FINISH

If you like the look of binding on the edges for a little more interest, buy a coordinating color binding (or make your own binding as I do).

Even up the outside edges and using the pieced top as a pattern, cut the reverse fabric and the batting about 1" larger all the way around for easier binding application. Instead of sewing the topper with right sides together, lay the reverse fabric right side down on the table, place the batting, then the pieced top right side up. Pin each section toward the middle so the pins are out of the way of sewing.

You may now "stitch in the ditch" to quilt the three layers together. Going up and down and then around at the seam lines. Apply the binding to the pieced side of the topper. Trim away the extra 1" from the reverse fabric and binding. The "corners" are not sharp and the binding should wrap around them with no problem. Finish the binding by stitching in the ditch from the top side or hand stitch from the back.

If you wish to add a small circle to the center, trace around a container size you like as a pattern. I use the same item to trace a circle from Wonder Under. I sew the two together with the fabric right side down. Cut a slit in the Wonder Under and turn right side out. Place the sewn circle Wonder Under side down on the center of the topper. Press with a hot iron so the circle is "glued" down. Sew around the circle by hand or machine.