

Holiday Projects Can Be 'Sew' Much Fun

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff
READING (Berks Co.) — Need inexpensive gifts for the holidays? Sewing expert Julie Wegelin has plenty to share. At a holiday workshop in Berks County, Julie showed an array of gifts to make from fabric remnants.

Some of her ideas are included below. If you would like more no-fit gifts to sew, order a copy of Julie Wegelin's book "No Fit Gifts on a Shoestring" with more than 40 ideas for quick inexpensive gifts for all occasions.

Each gift idea includes detailed material and tool lists, instructions with illustrations, and full size patterns.

Julie operates the Sewing Cellar, conducts sewing classes, has a television sewing program, designs patterns for wearable art clothing using novel fabric techniques and patchwork, and handcrafts collectable Wooden Nickel Teddy Bears. For more information, write to The Sewing Cellar, 945 N. Fourth St., Reading, PA 19601. Web site is www.sewingcellar.com.

Call (610) 376-3490 to order the book or send \$12.50 plus \$2 for shipping to Julie Wegelin's Sewing Cellar, 945 North Fourth St., Reading, PA 19601.

Here are some of her ideas.

bing ends together to make a ring. Fold with wrong sides together. Sew raw edge of ring to neck opening. For border, stitch strips of fabric to bottom edge.

Chill-Chasing Robe

One size fits all.

Materials:

- 2 yards polar fleece
- 2 cones thread
- 2 cones wooly nylon
- 12 jumbo snaps

Serge all four edges of fleece. Along short ends fold 1 1/2 -inch towards the outside and topstitch along serging with regular machine stitch.

To form sleeve, install half of the snap 2 1/2 -inches from upper fabric edge and the other half 28-inch from upper edge.

For lower front closure—install 5 snaps (below the second half of the first snap). Install first snap 1-inch below sleeve snaps. Install second snap 2-inches from bottom edge. Install third snap half way between first two. Fourth and fifth snaps should be centered between end snaps and middle snap.

Neck edge and upper closure, fold 1 1/2 -inches along upper edge towards right side, sew close to serging. Install the remaining three snaps, seven inches apart, measuring from the sleeve edge.

Table Napkins

1/2 yard fabric = 2 napkins

- 2 cones regular thread
 - 1 cone either wooly nylon for a more tailored look or Designer 6 rayon thread for a skinny edge.
- Cut fabric into 18-inch square. It is a little tricky serging rolled

corners. To make the job easier, round off the corners of the napkins (use a quarter as a template). Set the serger for a rolled edge. Serge around the napkin. Use a double eye needle to hide the chain tail.

Press and fold.

If you do not have a serger, fringe the edges of the napkins by unraveling the edges of the fabric for about 1/2 -inch on each side.

Any Size Gift Bags

- Scraps of fabric
- Cord or ribbon to tie
- 4 cones thread
- 1 cone decorative thread
- Rotary equipment

Determine the size of bag by measuring the size of the item the bag will be used for.

Measure the height and the width.

To make a bag 8-inch around 10-inches high, cut a rectangle 8x10-inches.

Tie: Cut a piece of ribbon 18-inches long or longer if desired.

Fold fabric in half with right sides together. Fold ribbon in half. Insert ribbon into side seam 3-inches from top of bag.

Sew down side and across bottom of bag.

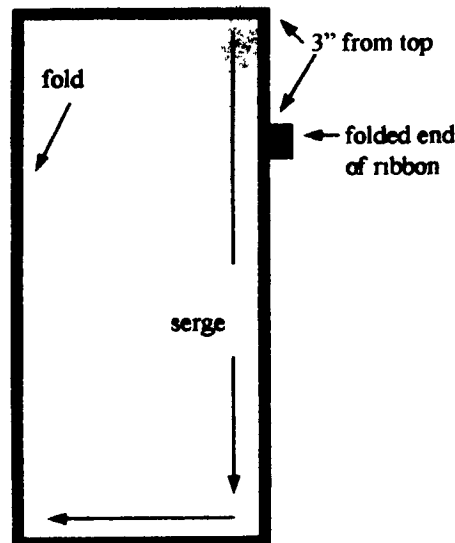
Serge a rolled edge along the top of the bag.

Neck Warmer

- 14x24-inch scrap Polar fleece
 - 1 cone thread
 - 2 cones wooly nylon
 - 2-inches velcro
- Fold fabric in half, cut according to diagram.

Round lower corners. Serge all edges with a balanced 3-thread stitch. Use wooly nylon in loppers.

Fold under 1-inch of upper tab. Sew half of Velcro to each tab using regular machine.



Christmas At Landis Valley

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Christmas at Landis Valley Museum will beheld 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 18. Admission is free.

Everyone is invited to join in caroling around the traditional giant bonfire, led by the moravian Trombone Choir. Cider and cookies will follow.

Three buildings are open to tour. Also, the museum's

Weatherlane Shop will be opened during the event.


Donations of canned or packaged food for the Lancaster Food Bank will be appreciated.

Landis Valley Museum is located 2.5 miles north of Lancaster on Route 272/Oregon Pike, a marked exit from Route 222 and Route 30. For more information call (717) 569-0401 ext. 200.



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