

Stitch Homespun Tablecloths, Napkins



Homespun fabric comes in many different colors and patterns. Barbara Mills shows how fabric edges can be fringed on tablecloths and napkins.

LOU ANN GOOD Lancaster Farming Staff

READING (Berks Co.) — Homespun fabric is the perfect solution to attractive and long-lasting tablecloth and napkins. Homespun fabric also blends in well with farm kitchens and country decor.

Homespun is an easy-to-care-for, 100 percent cotton fabric that is color fast, machine washable, and reversible for double wear, and never needs ironing. It is a thick, soft fabric.

One drawback: Homespun is not pre-shrunk and will shrink considerably if dried in a dryer. However, the laundering process enhances the appeal of the fabric.

When you launder homespun, wash in cold water (gentle cycle) using a mild detergent. Detergents must be totally dissolved and diluted in washing machine filled with cold water before adding fabric.

Line dry by placing over wash line and stretch back into shape. When dry, place cloth in a cold dryer to fluff.

Homespun is available in large fabric stores or direct from the mills at Homespun Weavers, 55 S. Seventh St., Emmaus, PA 18049.

At the Berks County Extension holiday program held last week in Reading, Barbara Mills showed the audience how to prepare the cloth and fringe the cloth.

Instructions to fringe tablecloths and napkins follow.

At right, Pauline Charles, Annville, shows what can be done with "Daddy's ties." Formed in a crazy quilt design and framed, "Daddy's Ties" is sure to become a family heirloom. In the background are quilts Pauline made, one featuring a variation of the log cabin design and the other of a barge-lo pattern. This was part of a display by the Lebanon Quilters Guild. For more information on joining the Guild to learn more about traditional, contemporary, and innovative quilt-making techniques, call Pauline at (717) 867-2660.

Sewing Fringe Onto A Round Or Oval Cloth

- Place the backside of the fringe to the backside of the cloth.
- Match up the raw edge of the cloth with the top of the fringe.
- Sew a first row of stitching approximately 1/2-inch from the top of the fringe, all the way around the cloth.
- Turn the cloth right side up; laying back the top of the fringe.
- Sew along the top edge of the fringe, enclosing the raw edge to form your hem.
- Overlap the ends of the fringe and stitch them together.
- Trim any cloth threads that peak out from underneath the fringe.

Finishing Instruction For Square And Rectangular Cloths

To fringe 52-inch and 62-wide cloths homespun fabric comes with a woven-on side fringe, held in place by a 10-thread false selvage.

- Snip one or two of the outermost threads of the false selvage, and the sel-

vage will easily pull away.

- Measure 1-1/2-inches in from the cut edge, and sew a stay stitch across the cloth.

• Remove the threads up to the stitching. Your fringed homespun tablecloth is now complete.

Fringe a 72-Inch Rectangular Cloth

The 72-inch width, homespun fabric comes woven solid to the selvage.

- Sew a stay stitch 1-1/2-inch from all four edges.

• Remove the threads up to the stitching. Your fringed homespun tablecloth is now complete.

Make Placements And Napkins

• Cut homespun to desired size. Placemats are typically 14-inches by 18-inches; napkins, usually 18-inches by 18-inches.

- Sew a stay stitch 1/2-inch from the edge of the cloth.

• Remove the threads up to the stitching.

Round And Oval Cloths

To cut a round cloth:

- Start with a square piece of fabric; fold in half and then in half again into a square one-quarter its original size.

- Measure and cut a piece of string the length of one side of this square.

- Attach the string to the end of a soft pencil or piece of chalk.

- Hold the opposite end of the string securely at the folded center of the cloth, and draw an arc between the two other straight folded edges.

- Cut along the arc you've drawn, through the four thicknesses of cloth, and you will have cut a perfect circle.

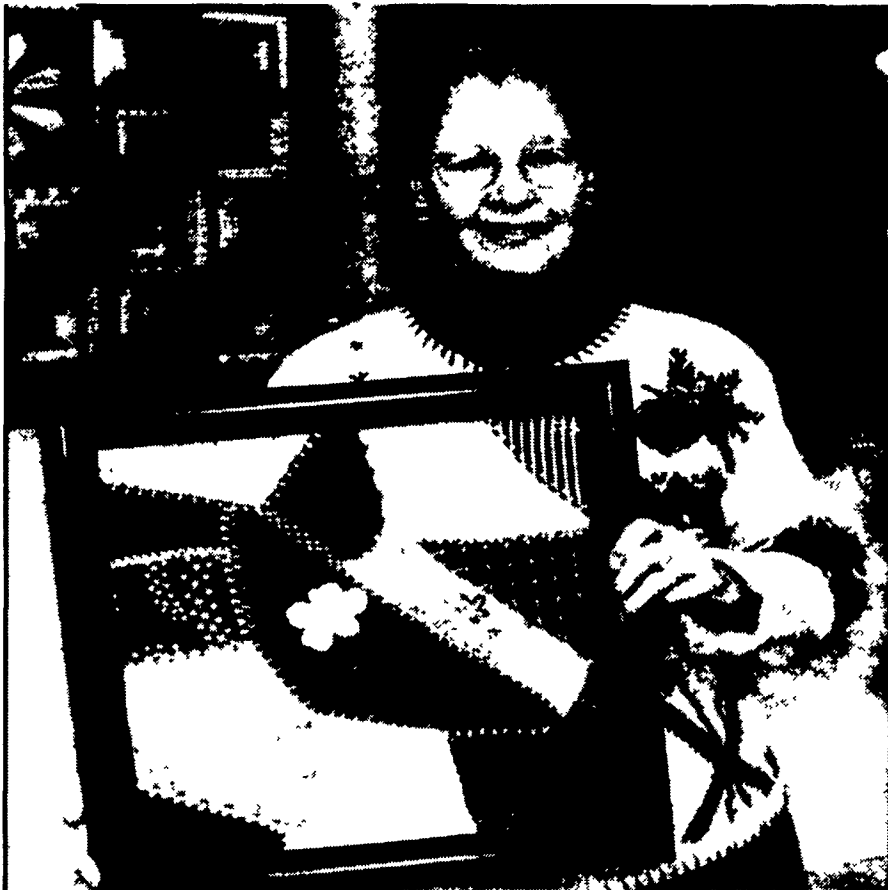
Self-Fringing A Round Or Oval Cloth

- Using the cut edge as a guide, sew a stay stitch all the way around the cloth, 1-1/2-inches from the edge.

- Begin fringing by removing threads at top, bottom and both sides to the depth of the stay stitching. This sets the depth of the fringe. All remaining threads are on the bias, and will become part of the fringe. None should be removed.

- Using a pointed instrument such as a nut pick (we don't recommend using a scissors), carefully unweave the fabric to the depth of the stay stitching on the remaining four corners until the fringe is complete.

- Bias released threads will be longer than the side fringed threads. So, trim the uneven threads using side threads as your guide for length.



SEE YOUR NEAREST



NEW HOLLAND

DEALER FOR DEPENDABLE EQUIPMENT & SERVICE

PENNSYLVANIA

Abbottstown, PA
Messick Equipment
RD 1, Box 255A
717-259-6617

Honey Grove, PA
Norman D. Clark & Son, Inc.
Honey Grove, PA
717-734-3682
Loysville, PA
717-789-3117

Annaville, PA
BHM Farm Equipment, Inc.
RD 1, Rte. 934
717-867-2211

New Holland, PA
A.B.C. Groff, Inc.
110 South Railroad
717-354-4191

Carlisle, PA
R&W Equipment Co.
35 East Willow Street
717-243-2686

Pitman, PA
Schreffler Equipment
Pitman, PA
570-648-1120

Elizabethtown, PA
Messick Equipment
Rt. 283 - Rheem's Exit
717-367-1319

Tamaqua, PA
Charles S. Snyder, Inc.
R.D. 3
570-386-5945

Greencastle, PA
Meyers Implements, Inc.
400 North Antim Way
717-597-2176

West Grove, PA
S.G. Lewis & Son, Inc.
352 N. Jennifersville Rd.
610-869-2214
1-800-869-9029

Halifax, PA
Sweigard Bros.
R.D. 3, Box 13
717-896-3414

MARYLAND

Frederick, MD
Ceresville Ford New Holland, Inc.
Rt. 26 East
301-662-4197
Outside MD, 800-331-9122

Hagerstown, MD
Antietam Ford Tractor, Inc.
2027 Leitersburg Pike
800-553-6731
301-791-1200

Rising Sun, MD
Ag Industrial Equipment
Route 1, 50 N. Greenmont Rd.
1-800-442-5043

NEW JERSEY

Washington, NJ
Smith Tractor & Equip., Inc.
15 Hillcrest Ave.
908-689-7900

Bridgeton, NJ
Leslie G. Fogg, Inc.
Canton & Stow Creek Landing Rd.
609-451-2727
609-935-5145

Woodstown, NJ
Owen Supply Co.
Broad Street & East Avenue
609-769-0308



NEW HOLLAND Credit Company