

## Requirements

- Sewing Machine
- 1 Square cardboard box (17 cm) in diameter
- 1 piece of Medium weight fabric for the box lid, (30 x 30 cm)
- 1 piece of Medium weight fabric for the box bottom, (20 x 20 cm)
- 1 piece of Medium weight fabric for the box sides, (68 x 17 cm)
- Tear-Away™ Stabilizer or spray starch
- Sewing thread
- 40 wt. Embroidery thread in different colours including metallic and variegated thread
- Fabric Glue
- Small piece of Batting for Lid
- (1 cm) seam allowance included in all measurements.

## Instructions

### Preparing your fabric

Decorative stitches are generally wider and use more thread than simple utility stitches, so they have a greater chance of making your fabric pucker.

You can try stabilizing your fabric with spray starch. Follow the directions on the can. Then sew a test row of your stitching.

If spray starch isn't strong enough, try a tear-away stabilizer. Since you'll probably be sewing along a relatively narrow area, to conserve, you can cut the stabilizer sheet into strips and pin it in place.

Again sew some test seams.



For expert help in getting the right stabilizer for your project, ask for a little advice at your sewing machine or fabric store.

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## Making Hat Boxes

by Dazelle Venter

Husqvarna Viking / Be Dazzled

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### Slow down a little

Your sewing needle is covering a lot of ground when you sew a decorative stitch. If you try to sew out an ornate stitch at top speed, the quality will suffer. So run your machine a little slower and be patient. You'll be much happier with the results.

### Guidelines

It's a good idea to use guidelines on your fabric. Decorative stitches don't sew straight - the needle often moves right, left and backwards as the machine creates each stitch, so it can be difficult to keep the stitches in a straight line. Following a guide line will help you to keep things straight. Using a clear ruler, decide exactly where you want your line of decorative stitching to appear and draw a line right on the fabric. Make sure you use a special fabric marking pen that easily erases or washes away.



### Feet

Your sewing machine may have come with a foot designed to do decorative stitching, such as a Satin Stitch foot. If you don't have one or aren't sure, ask your local sewing machine dealer about the decorative stitch foot that will work best with your machine. When sewing decorative stitches, don't watch the needle; watch the foot. The presser foot is your best guide for the placement of the stitch - the center of the foot will indicate where the center of each stitch will be sewn.



Sew stitches in a circle – I have marked out the size of the lid. Sew lines of decorative stitches in different thread colours, including metallic and variegated threads

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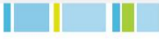


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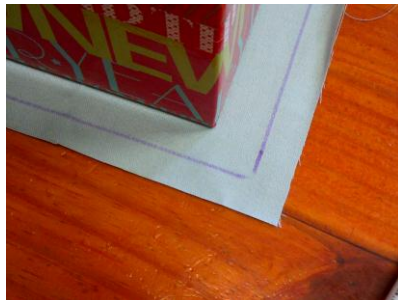
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Measure the size of the box and trim fabric! (Remember to add seam allowance)



Place the box on your fabric and trace all around for the Bottom off your box. Add 1cm for seam allowance all round. Sew the square to the one side (bottom) and Notch the corners.



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Place the box in side, fold the edges over and glue in place and then finish off with ribbon.



Place a small piece of batting on top of Box lid and glue it on, fold corners in and sew in place. Once sewn – fold over and glue in place



Finish with ribbon and add trimming on outside using glue. Make a hole in the center of the box for the tassel to go through. Your box is now complete.



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