

Custom Award Show Ribbons

For a standard size award ribbon you will need:

Outer rosette - (1) 9" square of fabric

Outer rosette back facing - (1) 4½" square, use the same or closely resembling fabric as the outer rosette

Inner rosette - (1) 7" square of coordinating fabric

Center button - (1) scrap of coordinating fabric at least 1½" square

Manila folder or card stock - 1½" square to stiffen center button

Streamer - fabric rectangle 28" x 5" (when using full length pattern), or fabric rectangle 15" x 10" if using the pattern divided into two portions

Streamer pattern

Matching threads

Commercial satin embossed **show ribbon** (flat, not peaked)

*Fabrics with stripes or geometrics develop an interesting design when folded into a rosette.

*Assembly takes about 3 hours. I don't know specifically since I usually have worked on several ribbons in various stages at the same time. Efficiency develops with experience and familiarity with the procedure.

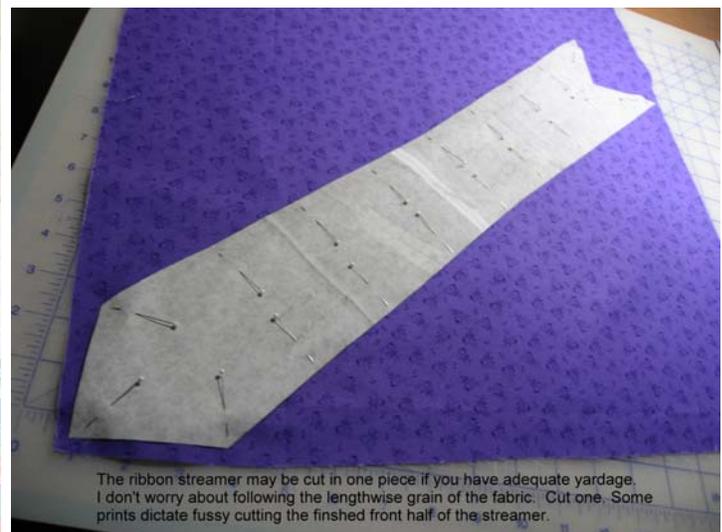
Getting ready

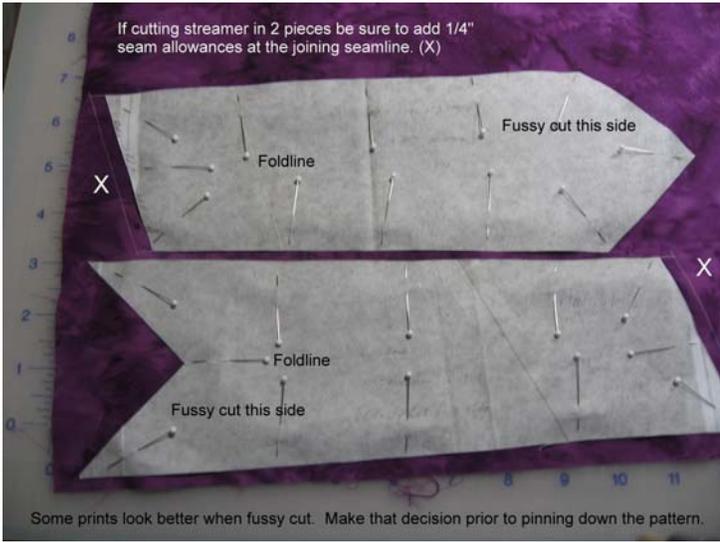


Cut rosette squares

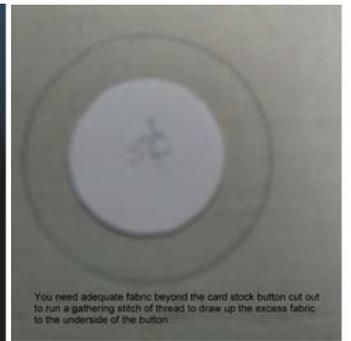


Cut streamer





Cut center button

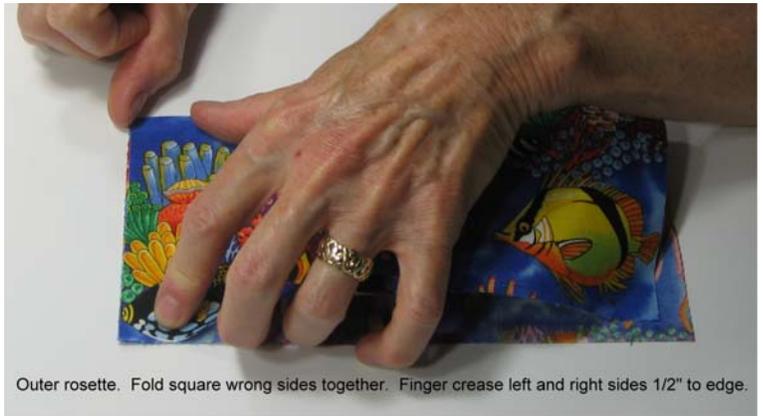


All the fabric is cut



Now, start on the rosettes

Soon I'll be using Fray Check or a similar product. Since this requires some drying time I prepare the rosette squares first then do some hand and machine work while the squares dry enough to handle.



Outer rosette. Fold square wrong sides together. Finger crease left and right sides 1/2" to edge.



Finger crease about 1" on the fold at the center.

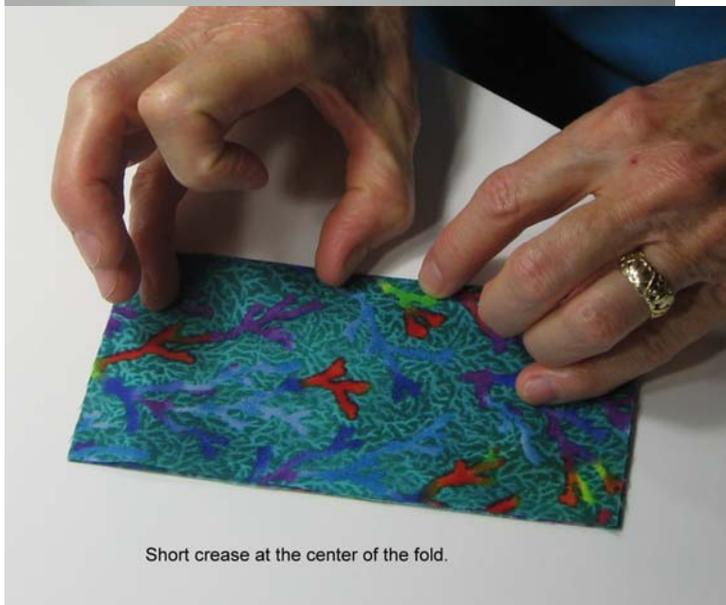
Refold the square to bring the other opposite edges together. Repeat this creasing procedure at the outer edges and center.



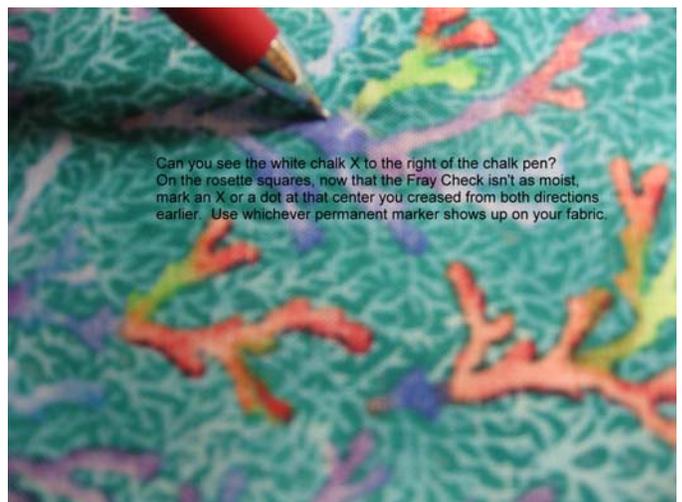
Repeat the finger creasing on the inner rosette square.

*** Before using the Fray Check**

On the wrong side of the rosette squares, with a marking pencil or chalk, mark an X to indicate the center of the square. An X should be evident from your finger creasing the fabric in both directions.



Short crease at the center of the fold.



Can you see the white chalk X to the right of the chalk pen? On the rosette squares, now that the Fray Check isn't as moist, mark an X or a dot at that center you created from both directions earlier. Use whichever permanent marker shows up on your fabric.



Each of the 4 creases at the center edges of the square will become a raw edge pointed tip of the Origami folded petal of the inner and outer rosettes. To help prevent threads from unsightly raveling I Fray Check a THIN bead of liquid about 1" long on the edge, at the crease. Try to be neat as this edge is visible in the finished ribbon.

Then I drape each square over a drinking glass and allow them time to dry as they are too wet to work with right away. The edge will remain a bit tacky for awhile.

While the Fray Check dries I'll begin machine sewing the streamers.



Fray Checked center creases dry, propped up on drinking glasses.

Center button



Sew a running stitch, by hand, within the seam allowance of the center button fabric. This thread will not show, doesn't need to match.



Draw your thread tightly to gather the excess fabric around the manila circle. Take 3 stitches, one on top of the other, to create a "knot". Cut off the extra thread. Set button aside.

Start streamer



Finished button.



Seam streamer with 1/4" seam if layout required the pattern piece being split into two portions.