

JACK-O-LANTERN PILLOW | SEWING



Technique:	Sewing, Serging
Designed By:	Linda Turner Griepentrog
Skill Level:	Intermediate
Crafting Time:	An evening
Finished size:	18" (45.72cm) square

Featuring SureLock serging thread and Dual Duty XP®

Round and round we go to add some Halloween flair to your home décor. This ruffled pumpkin pillow is serger stitched for a quick finish to the fabric spirals.

Supplies

- Coats Dual Duty XP® All-purpose thread, Orange color 7640
- Coats® Surelock serging thread, Black color 568
- 1 yard (.91m) orange print fabric
- 5/8 yard (57.15cm) black poplin fabric
- 1 rectangle black felt, 9" x 12" (22.86cm x 30.48cm)
- 1 square pillow form, 18" (45.72cm)
- Paper-back fusible web

Cutting

WOF=width-of-fabric

From the orange print fabric, cut:

11 strips, 3" x WOF (7.62cm x WOF)

From the black poplin fabric, cut:

2 squares, 18½" (46.99cm)

Making the Ruffles

1. Using a diagonal seam, join the short ends of the ruffle strips together. Trim the seam allowances to ¼" (.64cm) and press to one side.
2. Serge-finish both long ruffle edges using black thread.
3. If your serger has differential feed, consult the owner's manual for settings on how to create gathers. Run the ruffle through the serger gathering as you go. If you prefer to gather conventionally, sew a line of gathering stitches just inside the serging along one ruffle edge for the entire length.
4. On one black square right side, fold twice to find the center and pin mark. Draw a 13" (30.02cm) diameter circle centered on the square. Then draw three concentric circles inside the larger circle, each 2" (5.08cm) apart. These will be used to help guide the ruffles to create a symmetrical design.
5. Pull up the gathering threads if using conventional methods, and place the gathered edge of the ruffle length along the outer drawn circle. Stitch in place close to the edge. As you come back near the starting point, gradually transition the ruffle down to the next circle marking. Continue in this same manner, adjusting gathers evenly as you stitch and watching for the drawn lines to help maintain symmetry.

6. Continuing coiling and stitching the ruffle in place until you get near the center.

Note: You may have extra ruffle length to trim, depending on how dense the gathers are. As you near the center wraps, trim any excess length and turn under the ruffle end to finish.

Assembling the Pillow

7. Pin the ruffles away from the square edge to avoid catching them in the outer seam. Place the ruffled pillow front right sides together with the remaining black square, matching cut edges and double checking that ruffles are away from the seamline.
8. Sew the black squares together along three sides and about 2" in on each corner of the fourth side.
9. Turn the pillow right side out through the opening, unpin the ruffles and carefully poke out the corners. Press the pillow edges.
10. Trace the three triangles and mouth shape onto the paper backing of the fusible web and fuse the wrong side of the black felt. Cut out on the drawn lines.
11. Peel off the paper backing and position the face features on the ruffled pumpkin as desired. Using the tip of the iron, fuse the felt shapes in place, trying not to flatten the ruffles too much in the process.
12. Insert the pillow form and hand stitch the opening closed, turning the seam allowances to the inside.

TIP: You can make this pillow without the Jack-o-lantern face and it becomes a year-round accent piece with a large ruffled blossom.

