



Technique:	Sewing
Designed By:	Linda Turner Griepentrog
Skill Level:	Beginner
Crafting Time:	Weekend
Finished size:	36" (91.44cm) x 59½" (151.13cm)

Featuring Coats Dual Duty XP®

Keep the kids entertained with this fun theater that hangs from tension rods in a doorway or hallway. Tie back the curtains and use for live theater with kid actors, or with hand-puppets strutting their stuff. When the show's over, close the curtains and roll it up for storage.

Supplies

- Coats Dual Duty XP® all purpose thread
- 1 yd (.91m) lower fabric
- 1 yd (.91m) upper fabric
- ¾ yd (68.58cm) curtain fabric (cut crosswise)
- 2 yds (1.83m) ribbon, ⅝" (1.59cm) wide
- 1⅞ yds (1.03m) ball fringe
- (2) tension rods, adjustable from 28" - 48" (71.12cm - 121.92cm)
- Paper-back fusible web
- Seam sealant

Cutting

From the lower fabric, cut:

(1) rectangle, 40" x 34" (101.60cm x 86.36cm)

From the upper fabric, cut:

(2) rectangles, 16" x 18" (40.64cm x 45.72cm), for sides
(1) rectangle, 18" x 40" (45.72cm x 101.60cm), for top

From the curtain fabric, cut:

(2) rectangles, 24" x ½ of fabric width (60.96cm x ½ WOF)

From the ribbon, cut:

(2) pieces, 36" (.91m) each

Seam allowance are ¼" (.64cm) except where noted.

Preparing the Sides

1. Fold the side pieces in half, matching the short edges. Sew the edges together, turn the tubes right side out and press the seam open. With the seam along one edge, press both edges.

Preparing the Top

1. Press under a double 1" (2.54cm) hem on each short edge of the top rectangle. Stitch in place.
2. On the top long edge, press under a single 2" (5.08cm) hem. Zigzag over the raw edges to make a rod casing.

Preparing the Bottom

1. Press under a double 1" (2.54cm) hem on each short edge of the bottom rectangle. Stitch in place.
2. Press under a 2" (5.08cm) hem along the lower long edge and zigzag the edges in place.

Assembling the Theater

1. Aligning one folded edge of the side pieces with the hemmed edge of the top portion, sew a ¾" (1.91cm) seam and press it upward. Repeat for the second side portion. Continue pressing a ¾" (1.91cm) across the window opening.
2. Cut a ¾" (1.91cm) strip of fusible web and insert it under the above-window seam allowance. Fuse, following the manufacturer's instructions.
3. Zigzag across the hem/seam allowances edges.
4. Aligning one folded edge of the side pieces with the hemmed edge of the bottom portion, sew a ¼" (.64cm) seam. Repeat for the second side portion.
5. With the previously stitched seam at the bottom, press a 1½" (3.81cm) casing across the lower window edges and extending to the finished side edges. Zigzag along the raw edge. Press the casing upward and edgestitch it to the side panels to make a rod casing.

Assembling the Curtains

1. Using the selvage edge as the top of the curtain, narrowly double hem the sides and lower edge of each panel.
2. Abut the two hemmed panel edges and stitch across the top to hold them together.
3. Sew a gathering thread across the upper panel edges.
4. Matching the curtain center to the upper window center, lap the window ½" (1.27cm) over the upper curtain edge. Pull up the gathers to fit into the window, allowing the sides to extend ½" (1.27cm) beyond the window edge overlap.
5. Topstitch the curtains in place across the upper window edge.
6. Tucking under each end, sew the ball fringe above the window seam across the entire theater width.

Finishing the Theater

1. Apply seam sealant to each end of both ribbon ties and allow to dry.
2. Fold the ribbon in half and lap the fold under the window edge, 5" (12.70cm) from the lower window edge. Topstitch in place. Repeat for the second ribbon tie.
3. Adjust the length of the tension rods to fit your opening, then insert one rod in the top casing and the second rod in the lower window casing or the bottom hem. Position the theater as desired, raising or lowering it to fit the height of the children using it. Note that if the theater window is too tall for the child, insert the tension rod into the hemline casing and mount so that the lower theater portion forms a fold-under at the lower edge to shorten it.