SERGER SEAM TECHNIQUES

Directions: Follow the directions below and make the serger seam samples. You will need several 4-inch by 4-inch pieces of fabric to complete the assignment. Attach your samples to these pages upon completion.

1. STRAIGHT SEAM
   A. Place two (2) pieces of fabric right sides together.
   B. Serge along one edge of the fabric.

2. PLAIN SEAM WITH OVERLOCK FINISH
   A. On a conventional sewing machine, stitch a 5/8-inch seam.
   B. Then serge the edge on each side of the seam. Be careful NOT to cut the fabric while serging the seam edges.
   C. Press seam open.

3. INWARD CURVE
   A. Cut a 2-inch inward curve in the corner of one piece of fabric.
   B. Sew around the curve, sewing slowly and applying tension with your fingers. Remember: the blade will precede the serging stitch.

4. OUTWARD CURVE
   A. Cut two (2) corners into an outward curve.
   B. Sew around the curve, sewing slowly and applying tension with fingers.
5. **OUTSIDE CORNERS**
   A. Stitch along one side of the fabric and off the edge.
   B. Then stitch the next side, crossing (and securing) the line of stitching.
   C. Continue in the same manner on the remaining sides.
   D. To secure the stitching, trim the chains close to the fabric and place a drop of liquid seam sealant (such as Fray Check) on the wrong side of each corner.

6. **INSIDE CORNERS**
   A. Cut a 2-inch corner out of one piece of fabric and clip the corner.
   B. Begin stitching along one 2-inch edge toward the corner.
   C. Stop at the corner when the blade reaches the other side of the corner.
   D. Lift presser foot, and with needle down, swing the fabric around so the other 2-inch edge is straight in front of the needle.
   E. Continue serging to the edge of the fabric.

7. **SECURE SEAMS**
   A. Serge around all four sides of a piece of fabric.
   B. Secure each of the seams using the following four methods: (Do one each.)
      a. Use liquid seam sealant (such as Fray Check).
      b. Bring the chain back and restitch at the beginning and the end of the seam.
      c. Bury the chain (pull the chain back through the serged seam using a large needle).
      d. Pull thread ends (tug on ends of threads until the threads knot).

8. **CONTINUOUS STITCHING**
   A. Fold three (3) pieces of fabric in half and press.
   B. Serge from one piece of fabric to another without cutting threads or raising the presser foot but leaving some stitched chain between each piece.
   C. Do NOT cut apart for this sample. This is an excellent "speed sewing" technique, sewing as many pieces as possible continuously without stopping to clip threads.

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