

Click the icons above to visit Gail's social media channels where new material and resources are added weekly! Make sure to subscribe to Gail's YouTube channel for FREE Serger Tip Clips and other videos!

Finished Dimensions: 14" x 18" (approximately)

Please read through all instructions before beginning. Test machine settings and thread(s) for each decorative stitch.

Each block cutting dimension is larger than its finished size. Flatlock, reverse flatlock and pintuck stitching all "eat up" fabric length and/or width. After stitching is complete, you'll trim each block to the designated dimensions. The larger dimension allows you to center your stitching.



Link to We All Sew Blog: <https://weallsew.com/fabulous-flatlock-and-pintuck-placemat/>

Link to YouTube Sew Along: <https://youtu.be/wu123jPVFsE>

The placemat shown has six different fabrics (including the backing). You may use more or fewer for your placemat, so fabric yardage may vary accordingly. Directional prints may also require more fabric.

Four different color ribbons are woven through the reverse flatlock stitching. You can vary the number of colors or choose not to weave ribbons.

Supplies:

Fabric (6 quilting weight cottons): (A, B, C, D) = 3/8 yd. each; (E, F) = 1/2 yd. each
 Low loft batting (fusible or non-fusible)
 Flatlock/reverse flatlock: 30 wt. or 12 wt. decorative threads; 3 or 4 different colors
 Pintucks: machine embroidery thread is a good choice
 3 cones serger thread (coordinating color)
 Ribbon: 4 or 5 colors: 1/4"-wide 1 -2 yds. each (optional)
 4-thread overlocker/serger
 Sewing machine (for binding)

Notions:

Marking tools: chalk, water/air/heat erasable marker,
 Topstitch needle: size 80/12 or 90/14
 Universal needle: size 80/12 or 90/14
 Bodkin, double eye needle or upholstery needle for weaving ribbons (optional)
 Temporary basting spray if using non-fusible batting

Cutting Instruction:

1A: 9-inch x 9-inch square 2A: 5-inch x 9-inch

1B & 2B: 6-inch x 7-inch

1C & 2C: 4 1/4-inch squares

1D: 5-inch x 9-inch

2D: 12-inch x 6 1/2-inch

1E: 14-inch x 7 1/2-inch

E: Binding: 2 1/2-inch x 72-inch

F: 15-inch x 19-inch (Backing)

Low loft batting: 15-inch x 19-inch

Construction:

Tips: For efficiency and to minimize changing needle positions, threads and machine settings, stitch fabric blocks that showcase the same stitch techniques. For example, 1A and 2A each have pintucks.

1A and 2A: Rolled hem pintucks

Machine set-up

R overlock needle: tension: 4 (normal) coordinating color serger cone thread

UL: tension 4 (normal) machine embroidery thread

LL: tension 6.0 (check owner's manual) coordinating color serger cone thread

Stitch length: 1.0

Differential feed: 1.3*

Tip: A rolled hem thread chain sometimes "pigtails" or curls. To prevent stitching the thread chain into your pintuck, hold the chain in back of the presser foot until you've stitched approximately 1" on the fabric.

*The differential feed setting is slightly higher because stitching on a diagonal grainline can cause setretching.

On the right side of the fabric, draw diagonal lines as shown. (Photo) Finger press a crease along each line. Begin stitching in the same direction for each pintuck. Using a press cloth, press both right and wrong sides. Pintucks should be pressed in the same direction with the upper looper thread showing. The fabric edges will be irregular.

1A: Trim to 6 3/4-inch (length) x 6 1/4-inch (width)

2A: Trim to 7 1/4-inch (length) x 2 3/4-inch (width)

1D and 2D: 3-thread wide flatlock (loops)

Machine set-up

L overlock needle: tension: 1.0 serger cone thread

UL: tension 4 (normal) 12 weight decorative thread or your choice of decorative thread

LL: tension 8.5 (check owner's manual) coordinating color serger cone thread

Stitch length: 1.5

Differential feed: 1.0

From the center, draw 5 lines across the wrong side of fabric 1 ½" apart, as shown. Wrong sides together, fold the fabric along the first line. Position under the presser foot to allow the knife to trim off a scant 1/8". Stitch. Begin each line of stitching from the same edge. Open the fabric and pull the stitching flat. Repeat steps for each stitching line. Press.

1D: Trim to 7 ½-inch (length) x 3-inch (width)

2D: Trim to 8 ¼ inch (length) x 6 ¾-inch (width)

1B and 2B: 2-thread wide reverse flatlock (ladders)

Machine set-up

L overlock Topstitch needle: tension: 1.0 (2) 12 wt. or 30 wt. decorative thread

UL: engage the upper looper converter

LL: tension 9.0 (check owner's manual) coordinating color serger cone thread

Stitch length: 1.0

Differential feed: 1.0

Draw 3 lines 1" apart from each other as shown. Right sides together, fold the fabric along the first line. Position under the presser foot to allow the knife to trim off a scant 1/8". Stitch. Begin each line of stitching from the same edge. Open the fabric and pull the stitching flat. Repeat steps for each stitching line. Press.

Weave ribbon through the ladders. Changing the weaving pattern through the center line of stitching adds interest and surface texture. As shown in the photo, ribbons were woven over 4 and under 3 ladders on the top and bottom rows. The center row was woven over 2 and under 2 ladders. Leave at least a 1" tail of ribbon on each end. They will be trimmed off by the knife when the blocks are joined.

1B and 2B: Trim to 6 ½-inch length x 4 ½-inch width

1E: 3-thread wide reverse flatlock (ladders)

Machine set-up

L overlock Topstitch needle: tension: 1.0 (2) 12 wt. or 30 wt. decorative thread

UL: tension 3 (normal) machine embroidery thread coordinating color serger cone thread

LL: tension 9.0 (check owner's manual) coordinating color serger cone thread

Stitch length: 2.5

Differential feed: 1.0

Draw 5 lines 1 1/2" apart from each other as shown. Right sides together, fold the fabric along the first line. Position under the presser foot to allow the knife to trim off a scant 1/8". Stitch.

Begin each line of stitching from the same edge. Open the fabric and pull the stitching flat.

Repeat steps for each line. Press. Trim block to 9 1/4" x 6 3/4"

Weave ribbon through the ladders. Changing the weaving pattern through every other line of stitching adds interest and surface texture. As shown in the photo, ribbons were woven over 2 and under 3 ladders on the right, left and center rows. The other rows were woven over 3 and under 2 ladders. Leave at least a 1" tail of ribbon on each end. They will be trimmed off by the knife when the blocks are joined.

Trim to 10-inch x 6 3/4-inch

1C and 2C: no decorative stitching

Construct the placemat

All blocks are stitched right sides together for reverse flatlocking.

Position blocks under the presser foot to allow the knife to trim off a scant 1/8".

Machine set-up for joining all blocks: 2-thread reverse flatlock

L overlock Topstitch needle: tension: 1.0 (2) 12 wt. or 30 wt. decorative thread

UL: engage upper looper converter

LL: tension 9.0 (check owner's manual) coordinating color serger cone thread

Stitch length: 2.0

Differential feed: 1.0

Follow the photos on the WeAllSew blog/ sew along video on YouTube for joining the blocks.

Optional ribbon weaving

Leave at least a 1" tail of ribbon on each end. They will be trimmed off by the knife when the blocks are joined. You will trim the tails on the outside edges as you square up the constructed placemat to the finished dimensions.

1A and 2D

Rights sides together, position under the presser foot to allow the knife to trim off a scant 1/8". Stitch short sides together as shown. Open the fabric and pull the stitching flat. Press. Weave ribbon through the ladders (optional).

Repeat steps to join the short edges of 1D and 2A.

Join one short edge of 1B to 1C. Repeat for 2C to 2B.

Stitch one long edge of (1B/1C) to the top of the center block (1E). Stitch one long edge of (2B/2C) to the bottom edge of the center block (1E). Open the fabric and pull the stitching flat. Press.

Weave ribbon through the ladders (optional).

Stitch (1A/2D) to the left edge of center panel blocks. Stitch (1D/2A) to right edge. Open the fabric and pull the stitching flat. Press.

The placemat should measure approximately 14" x 18". Square up and trim if necessary. (If you trimmed off more than a scant 1/8" when stitching the blocks together, your dimensions may be slightly shorter.) No problem...a placemat doesn't have to fit our body!

Sandwich low loft batting between the placemat top and backing.

