

Show#2006-2 Quilted Sewing Machine Mat with Organizer Pockets

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Let's stay in touch! I'd love to help you make the most of **your** sewing machine!

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Create a custom sewing machine mat complete with creative quilting and pockets to keep your tools handy while sewing. This handy item will look great in your sewing room and help you keep organized. I used special features in the Brother Luminaire to decorate the pockets, but you could easily simplify the project and opt for plain pockets or decorate pockets in whatever way you choose. The quilting on this mat is really easy to do, making this project perfect for beginners and advanced sewing enthusiasts too! For a little extra boost with organization, I like to wear my Let's Go Sew apron when I'm sewing. This apron was previously featured in Designs in Machine Embroidery magazine. It's a unique pattern produced by my friend Molly Madison of Molly Made designs. To find out more about the Artisan Apron Pattern and more of Molly's patterns for organizing in the sewing room, visit the [Molly Made Etsy site](#). Now, it's time to make a machine mat. **Are you ready? Let's go sew!**

Special supplies featured in this show:

- [Brother](#) XP2 Luminaire Sewing & Embroidery machine, or XP1 Luminaire with Luminaire XP1 Upgrade Kit Premium Pack II ([SAVRXPUGK2](#)).
- Brother Dual Feed MuVit Foot, included with select Brother machine models, along with [SA206](#) Dual Feed Quilting Guide Set. As an alternative you can use a standard walking foot with a quilt guide.
- Brother SAQTXP1 Wide Extension Table for support during sewing and quilting.

Basic Steps for making machine mat with embroidered pockets:

Cut pieces for layered mat, including one solid piece for the top side, one for the back side, contrast strips for binding edges, a contrast piece for large main pocket, plus additional solid pieces for patch pockets, and matching lining for patch pockets. If you choose to embroider pockets, make sure you cut each pocket piece to fit your chosen hoop size, embroider, and then trim to 4 ½-inches square for making patch pockets.

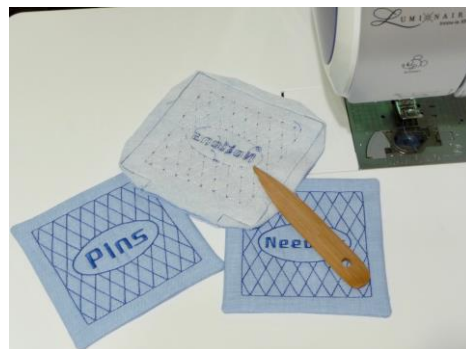
Featured mat fits a standard sized machine. See my sample measurements for fabric pieces in the details below:

- For top side: Cut one piece measuring 22" wide X 18" long. Cut a piece of fusible craft fleece measuring 21" wide X 17" long, center it on wrong side of top piece and fuse in place.
- For bottom side: Cut one piece measuring 22" wide X 18" long.
- For main front pocket: Cut one piece measuring 22" wide X 10" long. Fuse medium-weight interfacing to wrong side of entire pocket piece.
- For binding: Cut two strips measuring 2½" wide X 19" long for binding short side edges and two strips measuring 2½" wide X 22" long for binding top and bottom edges.
- For small embroidered pockets: Cut three oversized pieces to fit hoop and fuse craft fleece to each piece. Cut three pieces measuring 4 ½-inches square to use for lining embroidered pockets.

Tip: You can make this mat to fit any machine, adding to the width for more room on the sides. To fully customize the size of this mat for other size machines, I recommend putting a large piece of paper on the surface where your machine sits. Attach extension table if you use one regularly. Next, place your machine on top, determine how much excess you want around the mat, draw lines, and use paper as your pattern. Be sure to leave enough margin at the sides and back, and fold paper at the edge of the table to decide on pocket depth. A depth of 5-inches is a good standard to follow for the finished pocket depth, so pocket doesn't interfere with sitting at the machine.

Prepare to create the mat:

Create embroidered patch pockets as desired. For my pockets I used frame shapes built-in to the Luminaire to create an oval outline, added diamond shaped decorative fill stitches to fit an 4-inch hoop using the edit mode of the machine, and then added built-in lettering to fit my oval. When finished embroidering, trim each finished piece to equal 4 ½-inches square. Sew lining to pockets leaving a small opening, turn right side out and press.



Fold main pocket piece in half and press. Place patch pockets on main pocket and sew in place. See example of layout below.



Mark off crisscross lines through the center of top piece and quilt, using quilt guide to equally space additional lines of stitching until the piece is entirely quilted.

You could opt to layer top with bottom piece and quilt through all layers, however, this is not necessary when using fusible batting.



Layer mat as follows: Place bottom piece wrong side up and layer with top quilted piece right side up.



Position large pocket along lower edge, making sure all raw edges are even. Sew evenly spaced pocket lines on the large pocket. **Tip:** If you have certain tools you want to insert, such as small rulers or marking pens, measure off the space and sew pockets to fit.

Bind edges as follows:

- Beginning with one long edge, pin binding to mat with right sides together. Sew a ½" seam. Open out binding and press. Next, press under ½" on remaining long raw edge. Turn and press so binding wraps to wrong side. Note that binding is slightly wider on the bottom side than it is on the top. Working from the top side, topstitch close to the edge of the binding, catching the fold on the bottom as you go. Repeat for opposite long edge.



- Follow the same basic steps as described above to bind each short edge, folding under ½" to finish each end and enclose remaining raw edges.

You are finished!

For project updates and future tutorials, be sure to visit www.letsgo sew.com.



Additional Resources:

- I invite you to visit me at my Sewing and Embroidery website www.letsgo sew.com. You'll find online lessons, videos, free downloads, plus lots of sewing and embroidery information and inspiration!
- Sign-up for letsgo sew.com news [HERE](#).
- Find me on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).
- Be sure to visit the [Stitching Sewcial](#), the Brother blog, to read my posts on a wide variety of sewing and embroidery topics.

Happy Sewing!

Joanne