

## Show#2010-1 Cropped Pants with Embroidered Embellishment

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Light-weight line designs like those commonly used on quilts make a great hem treatment to dress up cropped pants. For this project, I created embroidered hem sections using Brother Luminaire My Design Center options.

It's easy to alter a pant pattern for added embroidery at the hemline. Decide on your hem length and create a band at the bottom by cutting the pattern and adding seam allowance. Trim band with soft fabric and make a blouse to match for a boutique quality outfit that's truly one of a kind! This trim technique works great to tie together a color scheme for a special outfit. No option for embroidery? Consider making the entire band from contrast fabric or decorate band with decorative stitches on the sewing machine. **Are you ready? Let's go sew!**

## Special supplies featured in this show:

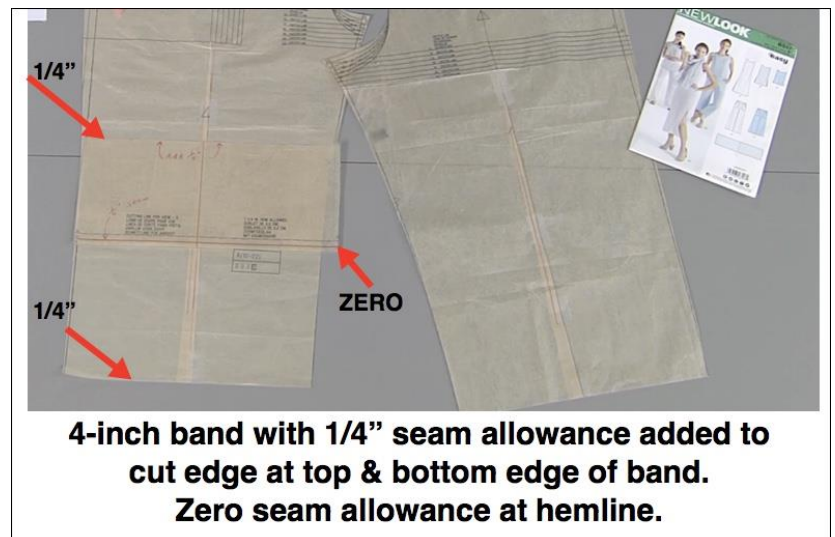
- [Brother](#) XP1 or XP2 Luminaire Sewing & Embroidery machine
- Brother SAQTXP1 Wide Extension Table for support during sewing and quilting.
- Brother water-soluble stabilizer [SA5906](#) adhesive backed, or [SA540](#), water-soluble non-adhesive stabilizer.
- Featured pattern is Simplicity New Look 6517, Pants view E and Top view C. **Note:** Be sure to select a pant pattern with straight legs or modify the pattern to create a straight area at the lower edge.
- Featured pant fabric is a linen look poly/rayon blend. Blouse and trim fabric are rayon batik. Check your local fabric shop for this fabric. If unavailable locally, [Sew Batik™](#) carries a wide selection of rayon batik. You'll need to purchase additional yardage for creating pant bands and bias trim from blouse fabric. Amount will vary depending on your size and selected pattern. I usually approximate by adding ½ yard to the pattern requirements, using any extra fabric for testing designs. The only way to determine a more accurate amount is to create pattern pieces for all extra pieces and make a trial layout to determine yardage.

**Note:** In addition to cutting a 4-inch band for the hem, I made several pattern modifications, eliminating the patch pockets, narrowing the pant legs by 2-inches, shortening length to fit my personal taste, and eliminating the slits on the sides of the top. **Tip:** It's wise to make a test garment when trying a new pattern to make sure you're satisfied with the fit. This is especially important when putting additional work into embellishing the garment pieces. To test, purchase similar inexpensive fabric and sew your trial garments without embellishment. Then, perfect the fit and transfer your modifications to pattern pieces before beginning on your final outfit. The time you spend doing this will be well worth the final results. I am a big fan of picking a basic pattern style, fine tuning the fit, and then using the pattern again and again, adding variations to make each garment look unique.



## Basic Steps for Creating Featured Outfit:

Make a blouse using contrast fabric, reserving extra fabric for trimming pants. Cut pants pattern to make hem bands adding seam allowance at each cut edge. You will want to eliminate all hem allowance at the bottom to prepare edge for bias binding. I cut my pattern to create a 4-inch decorative hem band with seam allowance added at each edge.



Using hem band patterns as a guide, cut oversized sections of pant fabric to fit hoop. Stabilize sections, layering them with water-soluble stabilizer for easy removal after embroidering.

Construct pants up to the point of finishing the hems. Create hem band design in My Design Center as follows:

Select a square with no outline from the shapes menu. Re-size shape to fit your band, adding a little extra to length and width. Choose your fill pattern and color. I selected fill pattern 035. Touch the "bucket" fill icon and then touch the area inside the shape to fill the area. Touch Next and choose the single stitch option for a lighter weight fill pattern. Touch Set, OK to convert to stitches, and proceed to embroidery.

**Note:** Design size may change slightly once stitches are generated. If necessary, you can modify the size to more closely fit your band when you reach the edit mode of the machine. Having your design area slightly oversized ensures that your band is entirely filled with stitches. Save the design if you can't do all stitching at once.

Stitch two sets of embroidered pieces for each leg band. Wash out stabilizer, press bands, and use patterns to cut pieces to size. See example of one finished band below:



Finish pant hems as follows: Sew side seams of bands. Use a ¼-inch seam allowance to sew bands to pant legs, placing wrong sides together and pressing seams open. Note: If you used a larger seam allowance you'll need to trim to equal ¼-inch. Partial leg shown in example below:

**Note:** With this method seams are completely finished on inside of pant leg, and raw edges are covered with trim on the outside.



For each leg cut 1 ½-inch wide bias strips of blouse fabric to fit circumference of band, adding 1-inch for finishing ends. Turn under long raw edges to create a finished 5/8-inch wide strip for covering raw edges of seam. Pin and then sew folded strip over raw edges of seam, turning under raw edges at each end and sewing close to each folded edge.

Cut two more bias strips using circumference measurement plus 1-inch, to use for finishing hem edge with bias binding. Use ½-inch seam allowance to sew short ends together. Next, place binding along hem with right sides together and use ¼-inch seam allowance to sew circle of bias binding to each hem edge. Flip trim to inside of pant, turn under raw edge, and topstitch to finish.



Enjoy your beautiful new outfit!

For project updates and future tutorials, be sure to visit [www.letsgosew.com](http://www.letsgosew.com).



#### Additional Resources:

- I invite you to visit me at my Sewing and Embroidery website [www.letsgosew.com](http://www.letsgosew.com). You'll find online lessons, videos, free downloads, plus lots of sewing and embroidery information and inspiration!
- Sign-up for letsgosew.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