

Get comfortable using your serger in this hands-on, 3-hour class. Learn to thread your serger and change stitching settings. Designed to acquaint you with basic serging techniques, this project features four-thread overlock (seaming, patchwork), 3-thread overlock (seaming, gathering), and a three-thread rolled edge (ruffle). At the end of class you'll have a little zippered pouch for storing your serger accessories—extra feet, seam ripper, etc.



Approximate size: 5½" x 7" x ½"

**Supplies**

- 2-3 coordinating fat quarters or eighths, cut into:
  - Five 3½" x 9" strips, assorted prints
  - One 9" x 9" square
  - One 2" x 18" strip
- Low-loft batting
  - One 3½" x 9" strip
  - One 9" x 9" square
- Four spools of serger thread
  - Blue
  - Red
  - Yellow
  - Green
- One 12" to 18" zipper

**Preparation**

Set up serger for a **four-thread overlock** following the instructions in the owner's manual. *Note: For additional information on setting tensions see:*

[www.berninausa.com](http://www.berninausa.com) > *Learn It!* > *Serger Classes* > *Stop Tension Headaches!*

Test stitch formation by serging together two strips of muslin or other test fabric.

### Patchwork Panel

Place two print strips right sides together. Seam one long edge.

Repeat, adding a third rectangle to form a patchwork block.

Make a “quilt sandwich” with the patchwork square at the front, batting square in the middle, and the 9” x 9” square of fabric on the back. Serge around all four sides, using the knife blade as a guide and barely trimming the edges of the block.

Set the patchwork block aside.



### Ruffle—Rolled Edge

Remove right/yellow needle and thread spool. Set serger for a **three-thread rolled edge** following the instructions in the owner’s manual.

Test stitch formation using a single layer of test fabric, trimming approximately 1/8” of fabric from the edge.

Roll hem one long edge of the 2” x 18” strip.

### Ruffle—Gathered Edge

Set serger for a **narrow three-thread overlock** following the instructions in the owner’s manual. Test on a double layer of fabric.

To create a gathered edge make the following adjustments:

- Set differential feed = 2
- Set stitch length = 4
- Increase needle tension = 8

Test gathering on a single layer of fabric.

Gather the remaining long edge of the 2” x 18” strip.

Return settings to normal overlock settings. Use a **narrow three-thread overlock** to “baste” the ruffle into position at the upper edge of the patchwork block



### Serger “Quilting”

Reinsert the right/yellow needle and rethread with yellow thread.

Set serger for a **four-thread overlock**. Test on two layers of fabric.

Place one of the remaining fabric strips face down over the ruffle. Place the 3 1/2” x 9” strip of batting on top (against the wrong side of the print strip). Place the remaining fabric strip right sides together with the 9” backing square. You now have a “serger quilt sandwich.”



# Serger Quilted Caddy

Serge through all layers, trimming about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge. Serge slowly—this is a lot of layers for the machine to move through. The four-thread overlock is wider than the narrow three-thread overlock, so all of the previous basting and gathering stitches will be hidden inside this seam.



## Zipper

Open the zipper and place one tape right sides together with one short end of the rectangle, with about 2" of zipper extending past the edge.

Place the zipper tape and fabric edge under the presser foot, with the zipper coils at the left, positioned so the needles will stitch into the edge of the zipper foot. (Exact location depends on serger foot.)



Serge zipper tape to bag.

Stitch second side of zipper to bag. *Note: You'll be working from the closed end of the zipper this time.*



Turn tube right side out.

## Side Seams

Turn tube wrong side out. Fold along the middle of the rectangle between the ruffle and zipper.

Make sure that seam allowances are folded away from the zipper, then slowly serge the closed zipper side of the bag, stitching slowly as the blades cut through the coils.



Repeat for the remaining side, arranging the zipper so the teeth will meet at the ends when the zipper is closed.

Turn bag right side out through zipper opening.



For additional serger techniques see BERNINA's *Serger Technique Reference Book* and *Feet-ures Volumes 2 & 3*.