



This runner is the perfect thing for an elegant Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas or even New Year's Eve silver and gold tablescape! First plain black fabric is painted with bold brush strokes, and then embroidered on the Janome Memory Craft 15000, featuring Lonni Rossi's design motifs. You can quilt it if you use the batting, or omit the batting and quilting, and just add a backing.

SEASON OF PERPETUAL DECORATION HOLIDAY TABLE RUNNER

Hand-Painted, Embroidered and Quilted

Skill Level: Beginner-Intermediate

Finished Size: 21" x 82"

Supplies you will need:

- 2 1/2 yards of black or charcoal cotton, linen or silk- (we used cotton Chambray) cut in half so each piece measures 23.5" x 86" – use the other half as the backing fabric for the runner, or use another fabric of your choice (we used Andover's Metallic Chambray # A-MC-SABLE)
- Matching black or charcoal thread
- Light grey, copper and/or variegated machine embroidery threads
- Gold or silver metallic thread for machine quilting stitches
- Very thin quilt batting or a piece of flannel also cut to 23.5" x 86"
- Pebeo Setacolor Metallic Gold, Copper and White Pearl Textile Paint (available from Dharma Trading Co.)
- 2" wide paint brush with fairly hard bristles

The painting part couldn't be easier. Start with black or dark charcoal grey cotton, linen or silk. You'll need two pieces, one to paint and one for backing, roughly 7 feet long (86") by 24 inches wide. Pin or tape one of these pieces to a flat surface. With a rather hard bristled brush that is about 2" wide, starting at the selvedge sides...do quick vertical brush strokes toward the middle of the fabric.

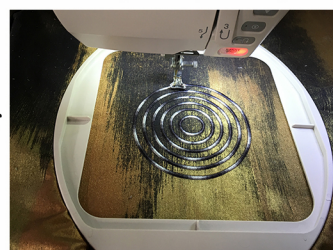
Only go into the middle about half way and change it up as you move along. You are doing what we call in the biz...dry brush.

This means you don't want the paint or the brush to be too wet... so that the brush strokes will show up as part of the design.

The paint I use is a water-based, non-toxic textile paint that is stabilized after it has dried by ironing with a hot iron. The metallic paints come up much shinier than you expect once they are ironed.



Once this paint has dried, unpin it, turn it over and iron with a hot iron to stabilize the paint. Next on the agenda of adding "surface design" to the fabric, I added randomly placed embroidery motifs in different sizes and variations of one motif (concentric circles) in silver, grey or variegated threads on top of the gold and copper paints.



The **LONNI ROSSI** Season of Perpetual Decoration



Having finished surface designing your fabric, you can now sew the runner together. If you are making a simple runner that has no batting inside and is not quilted, place the front and back fabric pieces face to face and just stitch all four sides with a 1/2" seam allowance, leaving a 10" wide opening so you can turn it right side out. Before turning, trim the corners diagonally so they will point nicely when turned. Turn it inside out and point the corners. Press flat and hand sew the opening closed. At this point you are finished!

However, if you would like to make more of a "skinny quilt" out of the runner, you will need to add thin quilt batting, or heavy flannel inside the runner.

Lay the 24" x 86" piece of batting or flannel on your table. Make sure it is flat and smooth (iron if needed). Lay the painted/embroidered piece of fabric (the front) face UP on top. Pin-baste the two pieces together to stabilize them before beginning to quilt. I used three different threads for the quilting: Metallic copper, a variegated metallic that has gold, silver and black in it, and a variegated rayon thread with brown, copper and ochre variations. Most of the quilting is a simple "channel" design, 5/8" apart. I free-motion quilted inside and around the embroidered motifs. Quilt all the way out to the edges before trimming. Trim the piece to 22" x 83.

Lay the piece face UP on your table, and layer the backing fabric on top. Pin together. Stitch all four sides, leaving a 10" opening on one long side to turn it. Clip the four corners on the diagonal. Turn it inside out and point the corners. Press flat and hand sew the opening closed.



You can change the look of this tablescape just by taking away the orange pumpkins and fall leaves, and adding some pine branches and silver candlesticks to make it look more "Christmas-y."

Embroidered motifs are from Lonni Rossi's "Geishas & Ginkgos" collection of Asian crests for Janome/Artistic. Available for download on iTunes!