Embroidered Table Runner & Placemats

Remember all those chores you had to do when you were a kid? Since I was the oldest, one of mine was being in charge of setting and clearing the table every night for dinner. My Mom taught me well, since she belonged to the "live life to the fullest" society, and insisted on making every day a special occasion. Her artistic flair came out often, especially when setting a dinner table. Flowers, candles and a table cover were most always required. Keeping that in mind, here is an easy-to-make embroidered table runner and placemats to celebrate all the Moms in your life.



Four colors of European Linen and Lonni Rossi's "Geishas and Ginkgos" embroidery motifs make this rustic, but elegant Asian-inspired tablescape set. The project was done on the Horizon Memory Craft 15000



Fabric Requirements / TABLE RUNNER

Finished Size: 17 1/2" high x 69" long



Tips: Medium Weight 100% Cotton "European" Linen is a lovely fabric to work with and is perfect for constructing home decor items as well as clothing projects. I recommend pre-washing the linen in hot water, and drying on "hot" in the dryer before using in your tablerunner/placemat project. This will insure there will be no shrinkage or "wobbling" since this is a woven fabric, and it tends to stretch out if you don't stabilize it or pre-wash. European Linen is available online at www.fabric.com and www.fabrics-store.com and is very reasonably priced. Since it is an interior design and decorating textile, it is 56" selvedge to selvedge... so you will only need:

1 yard - Natural/Oatmeal Solid (You need more so it will fit in the embroidery hoop)

1/2 yard - **Dark Tan Print** (for front...this is one of my own original hand-silkscreened fabrics)

1/2 yard - Ginger Solid 1/2 yard - Stone Grey Solid

1 yard - Contrasting Print for Backing fabric

Quilt Batting – 19" x 72"
 (or Heavy Flannel for a better drape)
 You will need a piece of either one that is 19" x 72"

DIRECTIONS

General Directions.

Always do the embroidery first of course.

I used Silk Embroidery thread in a Ginger color that matches the linen. In the close-up at right, you'll notice the metallic copper thread used to accent the seams with a nice satin stitch.

Follow the diagram below for cutting measurements. Use 1/2" seam allowances when stitching pieces together.



Grey Linen	Ochre	Ochre Linen 10"wide x 4" deep			Ochre Linen 11"wide x 4" deep	Light Tan To embroider	Ochre Linen	Ochre Linen	Ochre	Grey Linen
Cut 2 pieces 7 1/2" wide x 18 1/2" deep	Cut2pieces 5" wide x 181/2" deep		D Linen pixes	E	Cut 2 pieces from Dark Print fabric 11" wide x 121/2" deep Ochre Linen Cut 4 pieces	in hoop, cut fabric to 18" x 24" Trim final piece to 7 3/4" wide x 18 1/2" deep (with three centered motifs)	Ochre Linen	Ochre Linen		

Cut two of each:

A = Light Tan / Cut 2" wide x 18 1/2" deep

B = Dark Print / Cut 2 1/4" wide 12 1/2" deep

C = Light Tan / Cut 5 1/4" wide x 12 1/2" deep

D = Dark Print / Cut 4 1/2" wide x 12 1/2" deep

E = Light Tan / Cut 1 3/4" wide x 18 1/2" deep



Fabric Requirements / To make FOUR PLACEMATS

Finished Size of each Placemat: 13" high x 19 3/4" wide

Remember:

Since it is an interior design and decorating textile, it is 56" selvedge to selvedge...so you will only need:

 1 yard - Natural/Oatmeal Solid (You need more of this one so it will fit in the embroidery hoop; this fabric also used for the backs)

1/2 yard - Ginger Solid

1/2 yard - Dark Tan Print (for front...this is one of my own original hand-silkscreened fabrics)

Quilt Batting — or use Heavy Flannel for a better drape —
 You will need 4 pieces of either one that measure 14" deep x 20 3/4" wide.

Dark Print
Cut 4 pieces at
12 1/4" wide x 14" deep
Stitch pieces together using 1/2' seam allowance
Stitch pieces together using 1/2' seam allowance

X
14" deep

Light Tan Solid
Cut Size for Embroidery:
12" wide x 18" deep
Trim Size for Sewing:
7 1/2" wide x 14" deep



Notice the top-stitching on either side of the seams to finish off the project.

DIRECTIONS

General Directions.

Do the embroidery first. For the placemats, I changed up the silk embroidery thread color so it was almost tone-on-tone, light grey with a greenish tint to almost match the Light Tan Linen. In the close-up, you'll notice the top-stitching accents on the edges of all seams, and around the perimeter of the placemat. Follow the diagram above for cutting measurements and placement. Use 1/2" seam allowances when stitching pieces together.

- 1. Cut out the three pieces and stitch together as indicated in the diagram above, using 1/2" seam allowance. Press seams open and flat.
- 2. Cut out batting or flannel to 20 3/4" x 14" —Cut out a piece of Light Tan Linen to same size, 20 3/4" x 14".
- 3. Lay batting or flannel on your worktable. Layer top sewn piece of placemat right side up, on top of the batting. Lay the backing piece of Linen on top of the pile. Pin with silk pins all around. Sew all around the perimeter, leaving a section of about 8" open on one side, so you can "turn" the placemat right sides out. Press the edges flat. Top-stitch around the perimeter and on left and right of the seams.