

Decorated Tea Towel

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It only takes a few steps to take something plain and turn it into pizzazz! Follow these easy directions that will show you the basics of embellishing your boring white tea towels and turning them into a focal point.

Skill: Beginner

Time: 20 - 60 minutes

Janome Supplies Required:

- Portable Sewing machine
- Power cord
- Foot Control

Fabric/Notions Required:

- Flour sack tea towel*
- Assorted ribbons in different widths
- 1/4 yd. fabric
- Fabric Glue Stick
- Fabric marker
- Thread colors to match ribbons/fabric

*The flour sack towels that we used in this project is 33" X 38" in classic white, and can be found at most of your major chain craft/fabric shop. You can use any size that you want.

Let's Get Started:

1. Start by pressing out any wrinkles in your tea towel.
2. Determine where you want your first strip of fabric/ribbon is going to be located and use a fabric marker to draw a line across the width of the towel.
2. Decide on how high you want to go with your stripes and draw another line across the towel.
3. If you are using fabric strips, cut your strips to your desired height and length plus a couple of inches wider than your towel. We used two different fabric prints. The width of the strips in the example are 3", 5", and 6".
4. Place the ribbons and fabric strips across the towel. Stand back and look at the towel to see if you like where you have placed them. Place a pin on each end to hold in place.



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5. Once you are happy with it, than take the glue stick and put a little glue on the back of the ribbon/fabric strips and press it onto the towel. This will keep the ribbon from shifting while you sew.
6. Once you have them all in place wait a little while to let the glue dry before you start sewing.
7. On the ribbons, use a matching thread, with a medium stitch length (C). Sew close to the edge of the ribbon length. Fold the ribbon ends over the edge of the towel and make sure they get stitched down when you are stitching the rest of the ribbon. Since the ribbon edges are finished, you can use a straight stitch. Or, you can use any stitch you like.
8. On the fabric strips use a narrow zig-zag stitch (H) on each of the raw edges. Since the fabric edge is unfinished, using the zig- zag stitch will help keep the fraying down to a minimum when you wash the towel.
9. The glue under the fabric/ribbon may be a little stiff when it is dried, but when you wash it the glue will come out and the towel will be soft again.

