

## Creating a Xmas Banner

### *Part Three ----- Sewing the flags*

This section will deal with how to finish the edges of the flags, prior to creating the banner. Below are 4 different methods you can use.



With all methods the shorter edge of the triangle is left unfinished, as this will be encased in the binding.

#### Raw Edge or Pinking

This is by far the easiest way to finish the edge of the fabric. You cut the fabric neatly, and then either leave the edge raw or trim with a pair of pinking shears (special scissors that leave a zig zag edge). If you are only planning to use your banner for the season, if you don't mind the "shabby chic" aspect of slightly fraying edges, or if you are using felt (which doesn't fray) or paper then this method is the best for you.

#### Roll Edge Hem

This is a function available on the overlocker. Basically the machine turns over a tiny edge of the fabric, stitching a loop of threads encasing the edge. This is a very quick way of edging the fabric, but only an option if you have the machine (with that function). There are special feet for regular machines that can perform this function, but as I don't have one, I can't demonstrate it.

## Pressed Hem

This method can suit when your banner will be hung against a wall. The patterned right side faces outward, while the plain wrong side is on the back.

Turn up the bottom point, and then turn in a very narrow hem on the long edges of the triangle, pressing firmly with an iron. (you could just stitch the hem down at this point, although there would be a little bit of frayed edges. They would be at the back though, so not noticeable)

Turn the edges again, creating a point at the end, and having the raw edges along the long sides completely encased. **Press very well.**



Pin the edges in place, and then stitch using a straight stitch on your machine, or hem if handsewing.

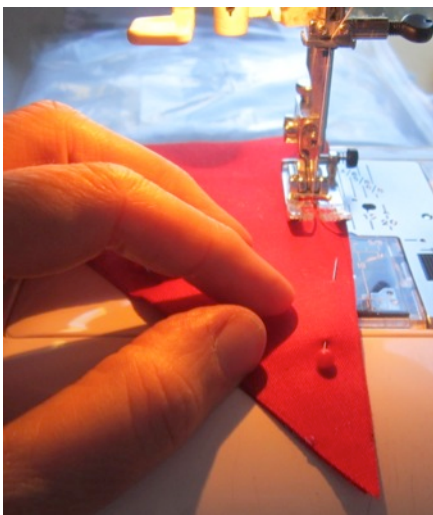


## Stitch and turn

This method is great when you are creating a banner that will hang across the room. The patterned right side, will show on both sides of the flag, and the seams are encased inside the flag.



Place two of your flags right sides together, and then pin along the long edges of the triangle.



Using the sewing machine, stitch a straight stitch approx. 10mm from the edge.

At the bottom point, trim off straight across. This will assist when you turn the flag out the right way.



Turn the flag through the shorter side of the triangle, finishing with the right side showing on both sides. Use a chopstick or pencil end to gently push out the bottom point.



**Press** the finished flag well, ensuring seams are straight and the point is flat.

**Congrats!!** You have completed the next step ..... now, make a heap more.