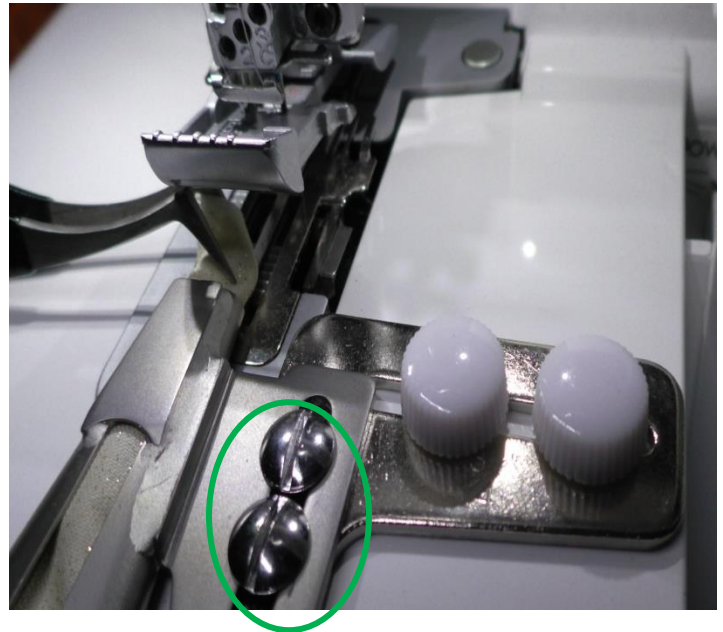
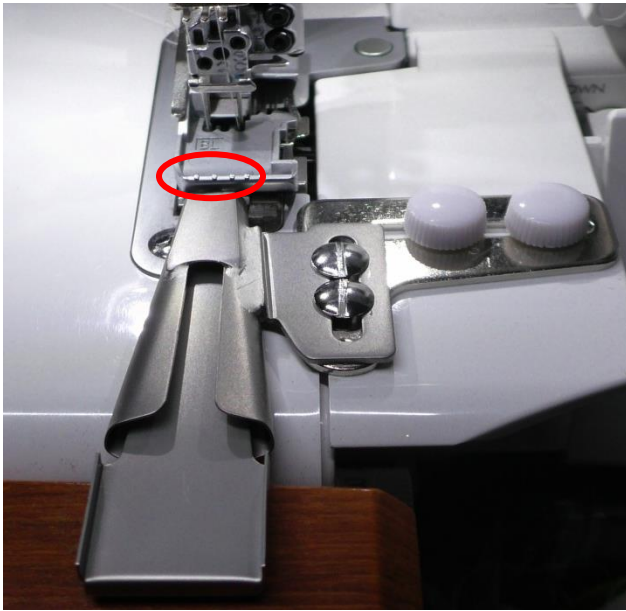

Supplies

- Belt Loop Binder $\frac{3}{4}$ " (BLE8-S12)
- Belt Loop Binder 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (BLE8-S11)
- Serger Threads
- Fusible Thread
- Fabric Strips (straight grain or bias)
- Rotary Cutter, Ruler and Mat
- Wonder Clips
- Straight Pins – Lots of Sturdy Straight Pins
- Painters Tape
- Pin-able Surface such as ironing pad or foam core board slightly larger than size of weaving
- Cardboard Tube such as paper towel or stabilizer tube or create your own with lightweight cardboard and tape
- Bamboo Skewer or Stiletto
- Rubber Bands
- Small amount of white glue or glue stick



Inspiration Piece

Create Weaving Strips Using the Belt Loop Attachment



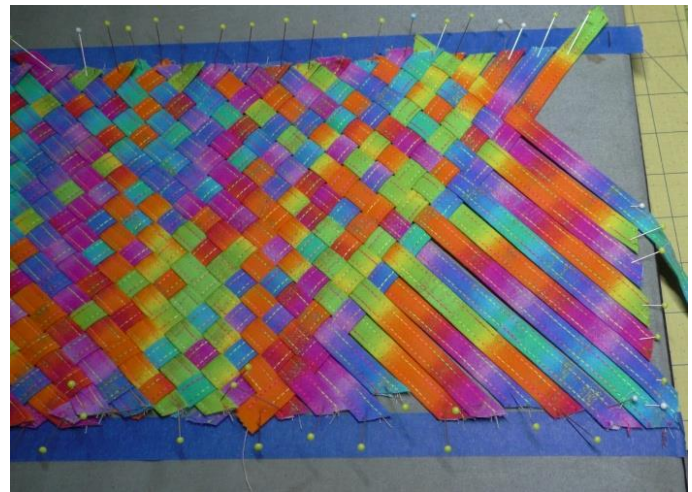
Thread the serger for a wide cover stitch. Serger thread or decorative thread works well in the needles. Use matching or decorative thread in the cover stitch looper if the backside of the weaving will be seen. To make the completed weaving stable or fusible, use fusible thread in the looper. Secure the Belt Loop attachment to the cover stitch table using the two white screws that came with the serger. Adjust the funnel end of the attachment closest to the foot centered on the three raised marks on the toe of the foot (red circle). The end of the attachment should be just in front of the foot and can be adjusted forward or backward using the two screws just to the right of the funnel (green circle). Feed the strip into the funnel using a bamboo skewer. Grab the end of the strip under the foot using tweezers and pull it under the needles. If it looks twisted, gently adjust it, but generally the fabric will straighten out after a few inches of stitching.

Cut strips of fabric to size for the belt loop attachment. The fabric should fit in or just over the size of the slot on the front of the attachment. Cut a test sample to check size. Straight of grain strips work well for simple weaving projects without curves. When using a belt loop to create a curve, cut the strip on the bias. The amount of strips needed depends on the size of the project and the weave. A 7" x 16" diagonal weave used about one half yard of fabric cut into fifteen 7/8" strips. A rough calculation can be made by determining the amount of strips used for the width and height and multiplying by the distance. The strips can be

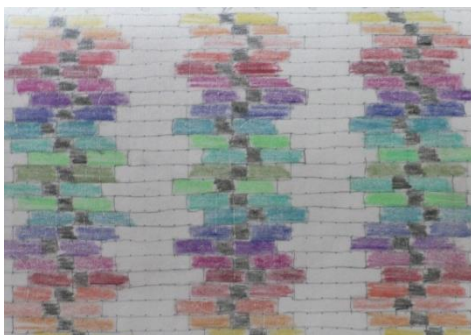
stitched individually or joined to make one continuous strips as they are sewn. While serging, overlap the strips end to end about 1/2". The end of the new strip should overlap the end of the working strip. The ends can also be secured with a small dab of glue. The raw edge of the overlap can be easily hidden under another strip while weaving. When weaving in the round, the finished length is approximately 70 percent of the length of the working strips. For example, if the strips start at 10" the finished tube will be about 7". After weaving, a quick press will fuse the weaving strips to each other or fused to a backing.

Prepare a Weaving Board

Mark off on a pin able surface an area the size of the finished project plus a little extra for trimming. In the photo right, the area was marked off with painters tape on a padded pressing pad. A foam core board works equally well , but be careful to not push the pins in too far. (Ouch!) Use the tape to mark any special weaving instructions. In the sample, the diagonal weave uses 45-degree angle strips for the bias and the angle was marked for placement of the first few strips.



Let's Start Flat Weaving!



For a flat piece, lay the first strips on the weaving board and pin both ends. Add a little extra length on each end. Determine the weaving pattern and have a reference nearby for complex designs. Lots of weaving patterns are available on the internet or doddle your own on graph paper. If the strips will be woven on an



angle, mark a reference angle for the first few strips. The pattern can be dense or an open pattern. An open patterns may need to be fused to a background or held together with some sewing to keep it's shape.

After weaving, secure the edges with painter's tape just inside the finished dimensions of the project. Remove the pins and gently transfer the weaving to the sewing machine. Sew just outside the tape with a straight stitch. Trim the edges.



Prepare a Weaving Tube

The handle was woven in the round over a cardboard tube. To determine the size of the tube, the circumference should be twice the desired width of the woven tube. Don't measure the diameter or you will have a much wider handle that you want. The tube should be long enough for working the braid, but it does not need to be as long as the finished length. Create a tube with lightweight cardboard and tape. Roll the cardboard around a dowel or broom handle and tape the edges. The tube does not need to be perfectly round but should at least be oval shaped. A solid dowel could be used. The weaving is pushed up as the top section is completed. The strips are secured to the top of tube with wonder clips and the non-working strips are held on the tube with a rubber band. The rubber band should be just slightly bigger than the circumference of the tub (it shouldn't be too tight). If the finished size is longer than the tube, use a second rubber band to hold the weaving in place at the top of the tube.

Let's Start Weaving in the Round!

For weaving in the round, start with a round base such as a cardboard tube. The strips will be interwoven in a spiral fashion like a barber pole. To start, clip the ends of the strips that will be wrapping to the right around the tube as shown in the photo below. These will be the stationary strips. Place a loose rubber band about 2-3" on the tube to keep the strips in place and identify them during the weaving process. Using the same clip, place the end of strips that will be spiraling to the left on top of the previous one. These are the working strips and are not placed under the rubber band.



Working in the round, insert a working strip under a stationary strip to the left as shown in the photo. Continue clockwise around the tube by inserting the next strip to the left under a stationary strip. Each working strip will be inserted under a strip to the left. The weaving pattern will become easy to see after the first two rounds. Periodically tighten the strips and move the rubber band around the stationary strips down the tube. When reaching the end of the tube, unclip the strips from the tube and re-clip to each other. Slide the woven strips up off the top of the tube. Use a second rubber band to secure the weaving to the tube. Remove the weaving from the tube when finished and even the tension on the strips by pulling the ends out and then in like an accordion. Adjust any loose strips by releasing a clip at the end and pulling the loose strip. Check for missed crosses in the weave and repair

them as necessary. To finish the ends, work the tube flat by clipping pairs of strips to a pair on the opposite side of the tube. At the sewing machine, sew across the top of the woven tube to secure the ends. Flatten the tube to be sure it is not twisted. Clip and sew the pairs of strips to each other. Trim the ends after stitching.