

Silk Blouse: Tips & Hints



The PFAFF® *admire*™ air 7000 coverlock machine offers a wide range of stitches - 26 in all - with multiple sewing applications. Among these stitches is the rolled hem. Though it is most commonly used for fine edge finishing on projects such as scarves and lightweight fabrics, the rolled hem offers decorative possibilities, as well. This silk blouse, an original design, features rows of serger pintucks sewn easily by creating multiple rows of three-thread narrow overlock stitching. The opposite sleeve features rolled hemming along the outer edge, which allows the fabric to drape beautifully. Seam finishes are sewn with the narrow three-thread overlock stitch, making this blouse as professional looking on the inside as it is on the outside!

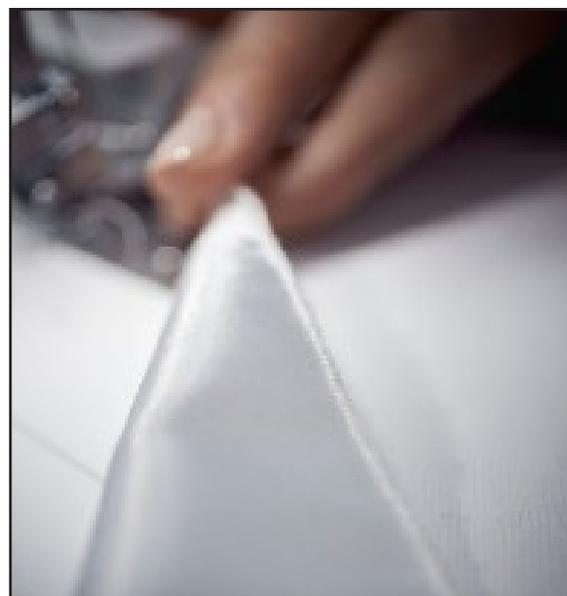


Serger Pintucks

When planning any project with pintucks, the most important thing to remember is that all pintuck rows need to be sewn first - before cutting out the pattern pieces. Each row that is sewn causes the fabric to “tuck” slightly. To ensure that the finished garment will fit properly, sew all the pintucks first and then cut out the pattern pieces for construction.

Set the machine for a three-thread overlock narrow, which is Stitch #7 from the stitch menu in the PFAFF® *admire*™ air 7000 coverlock. Thread the machine with rayon thread, which blends beautifully with the silk fabric.

To create the pintucks, start by pressing a fold in the fabric where you want the first tuck. Determine the amount of spacing you want between the tucks, then press the remaining folds for stitching. Stitch the first tuck, trimming only a scant amount of fabric as you go. Continue for the desired number of pintucks. Press all tucks in one direction. Position the pattern piece over the tucked fabric and pin in place for cutting out and proceed with the garment construction.



Rolled Hems

The rolled hem provides a fine, elegant hem edge on luxury fabrics such as silk. Select the 3-thread rolled hem stitch, which is Stitch #14 in the stitch menu of the PFAFF® *admire*™ air 7000 coverlock.

The machine selects all the settings for you, but if you desire any custom adjustments for a hem edge that will work well with the soft drape of the silk fabric, it may be helpful to increase the stitch length.

Always experiment on a scrap of the fabric first, to determine the stitch settings that work best for the particular fabric you are sewing, considering also the look you want. Make any adjustments necessary. For best results, trim a scant amount of fabric for a consistent hem.

If desired, save your new stitch settings in your machine's stitch memory, for later use on projects with similar fabrics! When you are ready to use the stitch again, simply select Load Stitch to recall your saved settings and resume sewing.

