

Perfect Holiday Dress Details

Neckline

Add interest around a neckline by programming a sequence of two different radiant stitches and hide the connecting stitches in the neckline seam for an unexpected twist. Radiant stitches can be found on the *creative icon*™ and *performance icon*™.



Programming the stitches:

1. Press *Start Sewing*.
2. Press *Sequence Creator*.
3. Press *Load Stitch*.
4. Select stitch 8.6.3 and then select stitch 8.6.4.
5. Press *OK*.

Stitching on the bodice:

1. Mark on the bodice where the neckline stitching will be with a fabric marking tool.
2. Place *INSPIRA*™ *Tear-a-Way*™ stabilizer behind the fabric and stitch the new sequence along this line.
3. With the right side of the bodice front and bodice lining facing each other, sew the neckline seam to the left of the connecting line of the radiant stitch to cover it.

Embroidered Belt

Show off perfect embroidered elegance with a tone-on-tone embroidered belt. The embroidered belt is the perfect addition to any dress that cinches in at the waist. This design is pre-loaded onto the *creative icon*™.



Setting up the design:

1. Press *Start Embroidering*.
2. Press *Load Design*.
3. Select the design shown above from the *Signature* category.
4. To figure out the spacing in between designs (in mm) please take the following steps:

- A. Decide how many diamonds you want on your belt and multiply this number by 41.3.
 - B. Decide how long you want the belt to be in mm.
 - C. Subtract the number found in step A from the number in step B. This is the total amount of blank space on your belt.
 - D. Add 1 to the number from step A.
 - E. Divide the number from step C by the number from step D. This is how much space in mm should be between each design.
5. Touch and hold this design, press *Duplicate Multiple*, and enter the number from step A.
 6. Space these designs out equally using the number found in step E as your guide.
Tip: Use the background grid in Embroidery Edit for more accurate spacing.

Stitching the design:

1. Mark a line down the length of the belt fabric to know where you want the design centers to run.
2. Hoop your fabric in the *creative*™ Grand Endless hoop.
3. Use Precise Positioning to match the first and last diamond center point to the marked line.
4. After each hooping, measure the spacing for the next design from the point on the last diamond on the centerline, and mark.
5. Use the mark from step 4 as the starting point for the first diamond of the next hooping in Precise Positioning.

Ruffled Skirt

Create a fun, flouncy skirt for your next high fashion design and let the serger do the work to create the lovely decorative finish on the hemline.

Creating the Skirt:

1. Divide the length of the waist measurement by 4.
2. Create a small half circle curve with that length.
3. Determine the desired length of the skirt.
4. Create half circle sections radiating from the small curve using this length. Do this 4 times.
5. Sew the 4 sections together. You will be left with, in essence, 2 full circle skirts on one body, which is what creates the flounce.
6. Two skirts were created and layered over of each other for a more extreme effect.
7. Cut the stabilizer the same as the skirt pieces.



Note: Finding a very good stiff-but-flexible stabilizer is crucial for the success of something this three dimensional.

8. Sandwich the stabilizer between the fabric and the lining and baste together.
9. Serge the lower edge for a decorative finish.

Serging the Hem:

1. Set the serger for a wide 3 thread overedge stitch, blade engaged, and stitch length to about 1.25.
2. Use wooly nylon or some other spongy thread in both the top and bottom loopers and use regular serger thread (matching color) in the needle.
3. Let the blade cut off just a bit of the hem as it goes through the machine so that the edge will remain very smooth and straight.
4. Before stitching the serger edge, make sure the layers of fabric, stabilizer, and lining were all basted together at 1/4" from the edge.
5. Let the serger feed the hem through without pulling the fabric so that the decorative edge stitch will have even and full coverage.