

Colorful Bed Linens



Note: A 4-thread balanced stitch is used for the construction of the following projects. Stitch length changes are made where indicated.

The following charts give the cut measurements needed for the body, header, and trim strip of various pillowcase and flat sheet sizes. Finished sizes of the completed sheets and pillowcases are also given. Measurement directions for fitted sheets are given on the following page.

Pillowcase

	Standard	Queen	King
Body	28½" x 41½"	32" x 41½"	35½" x 41½"
Header	8½" x 41½"	8½" x 41½"	8½" x 41½"
Bias Trim	1½" x 41½"	1½" x 41½"	1½" x 41½"
Finished Size	32" x 20¼"	35½" x 20¼"	39" x 20¼"

Flat Top Sheet

	Crib	Twin	Full
Body	44" x 60"	72" x 92½"	81" x 92½"
Header	44" x 6½"	72" x 8½"	81" x 8½"
Bias Trim	44" x 1½"	72" x 1½"	81" x 1½"
Finished Size	44" x 62½"	72" x 96"	81" x 96"

	Queen	King
Body	90" x 97½"	108 x 97½"
Header	90" x 10½"	108 x 10½"
Bias Trim	90" x 1½"	108 x 1½"
Finished Size	90" x 102"	108 x 102"

Discover the economy of making your own bed linens. Less expensive—and fast, too! Use the serger to stitch fitted sheets, flat sheets, and pillowcases. The elasticator foot attaches elastic and finishes fabric edges in one operation!

Supplies

- 100% cotton sheeting in solids or prints -these will survive repeated launderings and feel wonderful next to the skin. Quilter's Double Cloth comes in 90" and 108" widths which work well for twin, full, queen, and king-sized linens (see chart to determine the amounts needed). For a silky, satin feel, use tricots for either the pillowcases or the sheets. Avoid using tricot for both as the fabrics tend to slip against each other and the pillow will not stay in place. Most tricots are available in 108" widths. Flannel could be used for crib sheets (it is not wide enough for larger beds).
- Bias strip of contrasting fabric to cover cording (see chart for size)
- 4 cones of matching serger thread
- Rotary cutter, ruler, mat
- 1 package (2-5 yards) of 3/8" -1/2" wide cotton or nylon braid elastic
- Elasticator Foot
- Multi-purpose or Piping Foot (optional)

Note: The trim for the pillowcases and the top flat sheet is a bias strip folded and inserted into the seam joining the body and the header. If a more pronounced trim is desired, use the strip to cover cotton cording and insert it into the seam using a foot designed to serge piping.

- Cotton cording for piping (optional)

Machines

- BERNINA®/BERNETTE® serger
- Most other sergers with accessory feet

Fitted Bed Sheet

To determine the amount of fabric needed, use the following measurement formula:

Fabric Length

$$(\text{Mattress length}) + (2 \times \text{Mattress depth}) + 6''$$

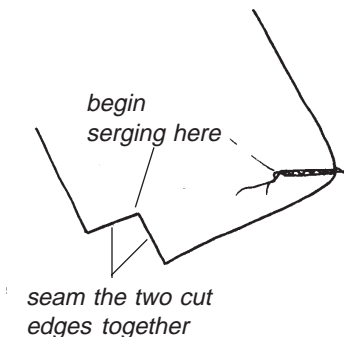
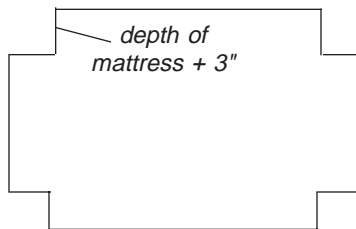
Fabric Width

$$(\text{Mattress width}) + (2 \times \text{Mattress depth}) + 6''$$

Cut a rectangle of fabric using the measurements derived from the above formula.

From each corner, cut a square equal to the depth of the mattress plus 3".

Set the serger for a 4-thread balanced stitch with a stitch length of 2½mm.



With right sides together, seam three of the corners, starting at the inside and serging to the edge.

Starting and ending at the open corner, serge elastic around the entire edge of the sheet. Use an elasticator foot and a stitch length of 4mm.

Reset the stitch length to 2½mm and serge the fourth corner together. Start serging at the outside edge and stitch to the inside. To keep the edges from slipping at the beginning, put the needles in the down position and slide the layers up to the needle to begin serging. After serging, secure thread tails.

Flat Top Sheet

Cut a body, header, and bias strip according to the chart on previous page. Fold the header strip in half across the width with wrong sides together; press. Repeat with bias strip.

With the bias strip sandwiched between the header and the body of the sheet, seam the header to the sheet using a stitch length of 2½mm.

Serge the edges to finish, starting at the top edge of the header and ending at the opposite edge. Edges can then be turned under and stitched using a sewing machine if a finished hem is desired.

Fitted Top Sheet

Cut a body, header, and bias strip for a flat top sheet according to the chart on previous page. Fold the header strip in half across the width with wrong sides together; press. Repeat with bias strip.

With the bias strip sandwiched between the header and the body of the sheet, seam the header to the sheet using a stitch length of 2½mm.

From each bottom corner, cut a square equal to the depth of the mattress plus 3". Using a 4-thread stitch, serge each corner together.

Beginning 18" up from one corner (12" for a crib sheet), serge elastic down the side, across the bottom, and 18" up the other side. Use the elasticator foot and a stitch length of 4mm.

Pillowcases

Cut the body, header, and bias strip according to the chart on the previous page.

With right sides together, serge the header into a circle. Fold the header across the width with the wrong sides together. Press.

With right sides together, serge the bias strip into a circle. Fold bias strip in half and press.

Fold the body of the pillowcase in half lengthwise, right sides together. Serge down the open side and across the bottom.

With the bias strip sandwiched between the header and the body of the pillowcase, right sides together, seam the header to the pillowcase using a stitch length of 2½mm.