

Christmas Crackers

Reusable crackers for the Christmas table. Personalise each one for your guests!



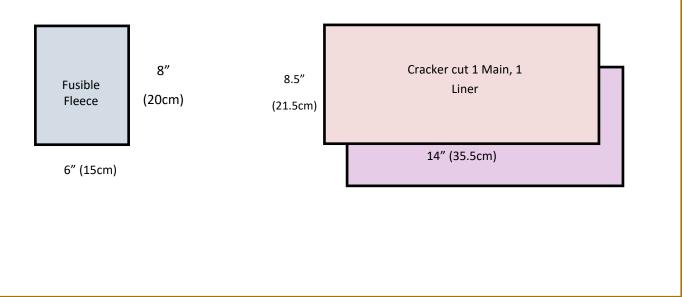
Christmas Crackers REQUIRED: Materials:

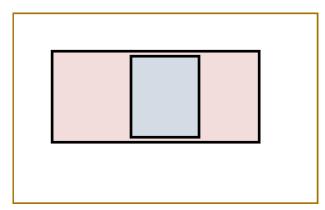
- Assorted Christmas fabrics
- Lining Fabric. I used a polycotton tartan
- Cardboard tubing. I used the centre of a roll of fabric. Postal tubes work equally well. Toilet roll centres I found too fragile. Mine was 2.5"(6mm diameter)
- Fusible Fleece
- Decorative thread
- Narrow Ribbons
- Lace

Equipment:

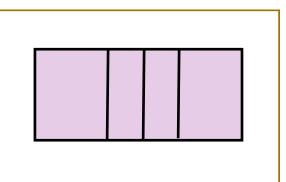
- Combi machine (Gloria, or Ovation), or separate Cover Stitch and Overlocker. Throat Space required.
- Gathering Foot

CUTTING DIAGRAM: (check the circumference of your tube. Mine was 7.5" (19.5 cms). Therefore, I added 1" (2.5 cms) ease. I cut the tubes to 6" (15cm) length





Lay the fusible fleece in the centre of the main fabric. There is a slight gap top and bottom. Place the Lining on top, pin and fuse with a hot iron.



On the lining, Mark the centre line, and a line 2" (5 cm) either side for the decorative stitching.







Set your machine for a Triple Cover Stitch, with a decorative thread in the Looper.I used Woolly Lock Lame in Red. With the lining on top, stitch down your three straight lines. I had Stitch length 1.5



Using the overlock stitch as a guide, turn the seam down and press a crisp edge.





Set up for a 4 thread overlock, using the Gathering Foot. Stitch length 4 and Differential Feed 2. Place the lace under the foot, right side up, and the fabrics through the foot, right side down. Gather the lace onto the fabrics.



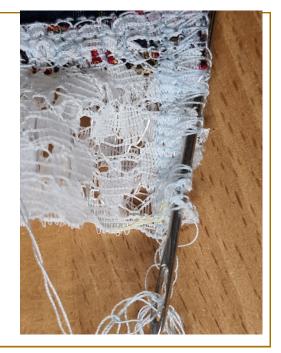
Set your machine for a Triple Cover Stitch. With a decorative thread in the looper, stitch the seam down to create a decorative edge.

Cut 2 strips of ribbon 16" (40 cm) long. Mark the middle.

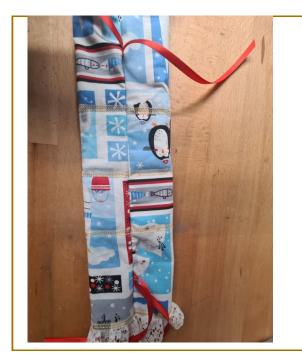


With right sides together, fold the cracker in half. Insert the centre fold of the ribbon into the seam at the mark. Using a 4 thread overlock,stitch the seam.





With a large eyed darning needle, thread the chain of the overlock back through the stitches to tidy .



Turn the cracker right side out and press the seam.



Slide the cardboard tube into the cracker. Centre it, and tie the ribbons





If you think that some of your guests will miss the crack in their crackers? Include a party popper with the gift!





The first and still the best

