

# Quick-Stitch Spool Pads, Sets 1 and 2

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These decorative spool pads turn function into decoration and make a great stocking stuffer for a sewing friend. Sew them on felt with coordinating or contrasting thread. Each Spool Pad measures approximately 1.3" when stitched.



Sets 1 and 2 are stitched with a single color of thread and both follow the same directions; instructions for the remaining sets are offered in a separate document.

It takes only 5 minutes to stitch all four spool pads from either set in a single hooping; to stitch them individually takes less than 2 minutes apiece. The instructions are given for sewing all four together, but the same procedure can be used to stitch the pads individually.

You will need

- Two 4x4" pieces of felt in the color of your choice (to stitch all four together) OR
- Two 2x2" pieces of felt in the color of your choice (to stitch one spool pad)
- Light weight tear-away stabilizer or Glad Press & Seal

# Quick-Stitch Spool Pads Instructions

## Sets 1 and 2

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1. Hoop a single layer of Glad Press N Seal in the 4x4" hoop with the sticky side up (toward the hoop). Make sure it's snug. You can substitute regular cling wrap if you wish; use spray adhesive to hold the felt in position.

**Note:** The plastic wrap works well for this project, but not all machines will tolerate it (mine does, but my sister's doesn't). If you find it won't work with your machine, choose a lightweight washaway stabilizer, fine tulle, or organza instead.



You can of course use any stabilizer that works for you – a tear-away works well for this project. I chose the plastic wrap mainly because I like the pliability it gives to the finished project.

The instructions show a stitch-out of Set #1, but Set #2 sews out in exactly the same way. The remaining sets require slightly different instructions, available in a separate document.

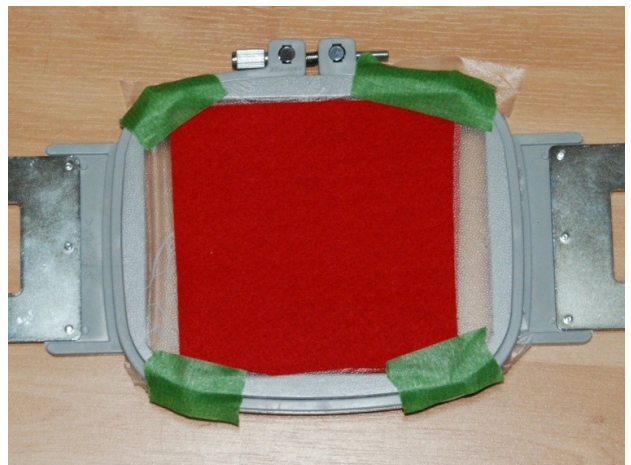
2. Place a 4x4" piece of felt against the sticky Press N Seal in the center of the hoop, pressing to hold it in place. I am using red felt and gold thread for all four of the spool pads. If you are using cling wrap instead of Press N Seal, you will need to lightly spray the felt with temporary adhesive before pressing it into position.



3. Turn the hoop face down. You will be able to see the felt piece through the Press N Seal or stabilizer.



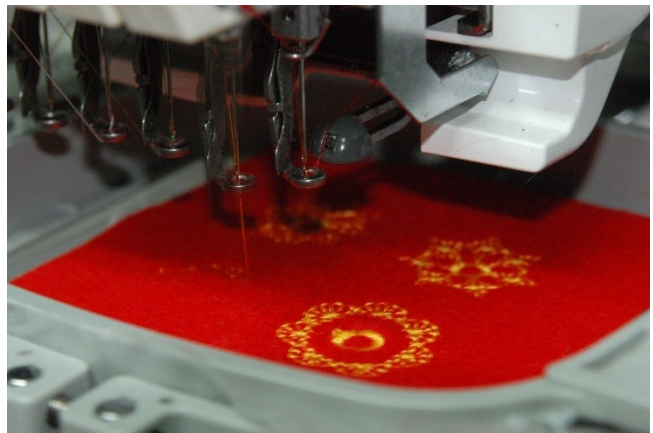
4. Lay a second 4x4" piece of felt on the back of the hoop so that it completely covers the front felt piece. Use masking tape on the corners to hold the felt in position on the back of the hoop. (If you prefer, you can hold it in position with a light spray of temporary adhesive.)



4. Change the bobbin thread to match the color you will be using on the front of the spool pad. I am using yellow-gold for contrast with the red felt.



5. Once the bobbin has been changed, carefully place the hoop in the machine and stitch each color.



If you are stitching the pads in different colors, or if the design you are using involves multiple colors, be sure to change the bobbin thread for each color change. I am stitching all of the pads with the same color, so I do not have to change the bobbin during the stitch-out.

6. When the pads have finished stitching, remove the hoop from the machine and unhoop the design.



7. Tear away the Press N Seal or cling wrap from around the stitched designs – most of it will remove easily.



8. With sharp scissors, trim around the edges of each design, leaving a narrow border of felt around the decorative edge of each pad. You may find it easier to cut one layer at a time, trimming the front first and then the back.



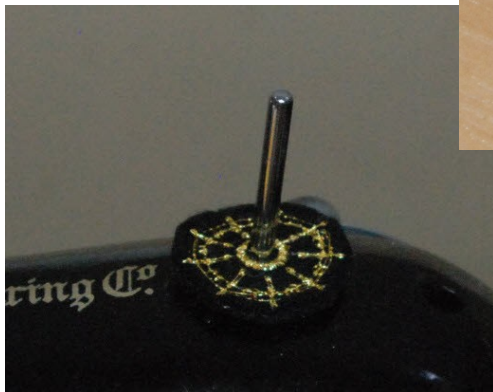
9. With a small hole punch (about 1/8" – I am using the smaller punch on my Crop-A-Dile), carefully punch a hole in the middle of the center eyelet on each spool pad. Take care not to cut the satin stitching around the eyelet.



10. The finished spool pads slip onto the spool pin on any sewing machine and look really cute when in place. They are a great way to use up odd scraps of felt, can be made in any colors, and make terrific stocking stuffers or greeting card tuck-ins for for a sewing or quilting friend.



11. I stitched Set #2 using gold metallic thread on black felt – they look very pretty on my vintage black Singer 99.



On reflection, I'm not sure I'd use metallic thread for these again; I like the look, but its rough surface texture may catch on the spool.