## Fabric Wreaths

Easily add decorator touches to your home with wreaths you make yourself. Start with a metal wreath form, and add fabric in your favorite colors. Make them to match the colors in your home, or create special decor to celebrate the holidays and seasons year-round. With two simple construction options, you can choose the look you like best.

## Tie One On Fabric Wreath

You know you hate to throw good fabric away, no matter what size it is. Put your scrap fabrics to good use by making a fabric wreath to decorate your home. This easy project really packs a color punch when you use fabrics in your favorite shades, or collect them to match the room where it will hang. Change it up by using holiday or seasonal fabrics. Or, make it from a fabric strip pack or matching fat quarters for a more coordinated look. It's a great project to work on while watching television.

## Supplies Needed:

## For a 14 " wreath:

- $14^{\prime \prime}$ metal wreath form
- $11 / 2 \mathrm{yd}$. cotton fabric

Note: use $11 / 2$ continuous yards of fabric for a wreath constructed from the same fabric. You can also use 6 fat quarters, 12 fat eighths, OR 30-40, $21 / 22^{\prime \prime}$ crosswise strips cut in half lengthwise for a scrappy look.

## For an 18 " wreath:

- $18^{\prime \prime}$ metal wreath form
- $2^{11 / 2}$ yd. cotton fabric

Note: use 2 continuous yards of fabric for a wreath constructed from the same fabric. You can also use 8 fat quarters, 16 fat eighths, OR 40, $21 / 22^{\prime \prime}$ crosswise strips cut in half lengthwise for a scrappy look.


For a 24 " wreath:

- $24^{\prime \prime}$ metal wreath form
- 3 yd. cotton fabric

Note: use 3 continuous yards of fabric for a wreath constructed from the same fabric. You can also use 12 fat quarters, 24 fat eighths, OR $60,21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ crosswise strips cut in half lengthwise for a scrappy look.

Note: This is a great project for clearing out your scrap baskets. Simply cut fabric scraps into 1 " $x$ 6"pieces for a fabric wreath full of color.

## Helpful Notions:

- Rotary cutter, mat, and ruler


## InSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cut fabric yardage, fat quarters, or fat eighths into 1 " crosswise strips, then subcut every 6 ". If using $2^{1} / 2^{\prime \prime}$ fabric strips, cut in half lengthwise (giving you two $1^{11 / 4}$ " wide pieces from each strip), then subcut every $6^{\prime \prime}$. Trim scrap fabrics into $1^{\prime \prime}$ x $6^{\prime \prime}$ pieces.


Cut $2122^{\prime \prime}$ fabric strips in half lengthwise

2. Slide one fabric strip under one of the wire rings on the wreath form, then bring it back to the top. Tie each strip once, then slide to the nearest crossbar on the wreath form. Add another fabric strip, tying once then sliding it next to the previous tied strip.

3. Continue tying fabric strips, alternating between the four wires on the wreath form, until each section is completely filled with tied fabric strips.
4. Work in one section of the wreath form at a time, then move on to the next until the entire wreath form is filled with tied fabric strips.


## Looped Fabric Wreath

If your idea of making a wreath brings to mind thoughts of a messy supply-laden table, glue guns, and hours of time-consuming effort, relax! Making fabric wreaths is almost effortless. Simply insert fabric strips through a metal frame and fluff the fabric to create this attractive accent.

## Supplies Needed:

## For a 14 " wreath:

- 14" metal wreath form
- $1^{11 / 2}$ yd. $42^{\prime \prime}$ wide fabric


## For an $18^{\prime \prime}$ wreath:

- 18 " metal wreath form
- $21 / 2 \mathrm{yd}$. $42^{\prime \prime}$ wide fabric


## For a 24 " wreath:

- 24 " metal wreath form
- $3 \mathrm{yd} .42^{\prime \prime}$ wide fabric


## For all sizes:

- $1 / 2 \mathrm{yd}$. 42 " wide nondirectional fabric for bow

OR $7 / 8 \mathrm{yd}$. 42 " wide directional or stripe fabric for bow

- Matching all-purpose thread


## Helpful notions:

- Rotary cutter, mat, and ruler
- Hand sewing needle
- Fasturn ${ }^{*}$, or Point Former \& Tube Turner
- Optional: Decorative Edge Rotary Blade (wave, pinking, or scallop)


## Instructions:

1. Press fabric to remove wrinkles.
2. Cut fabric.

- Cut two 9" crosswise strips (bow components). Subcut as follows:
- One 9" x 22" strip (bow base)
- One 9" x 18" strip (top bow section)
- One 9" x 28" (tie)
- One 7" x 9" (bow center)
- From remaining fabric, cut $4^{\prime \prime}$ crosswise strips (wreath strips).


3. Prepare 4 " wreath strips.

- Join short ends of strips, right sides together.
- Finish outer edges of strips in one of these ways:
- Serge edges with a rolled hem to add texture.
- Serge over fishing line with a
 rolled hem for added dimension.
- Clean finish edges by zigzagging or serging.

4. Add fabric strips to the wreath form.

- Insert a short end of the 4 " strip into the wreath form.
- Wrap $1 / 2$ " of the fabric strip around the outer ring of the wreath form by one of the crossbars. Hand stitch to secure the fabric to the form to prevent the fabric from sliding or pulling out from the wreath form.

- Working from the back of the wire wreath form, make a loop with the fabric and insert it in the outer channel of the wreath form. Pull the loop to the front, forming a $21 / 2 "-3$ " loop. Each time you insert a loop, be sure to fluff and fan out the loop to give the wreath fullness.
- Continue to work from the back of the wreath form. Form a second loop; insert it in the center channel of the wire form and pull it to the front, forming a slightly larger loop than the first.
- Repeat, continuing to work from the back of the wreath form. Form a third loop and insert it in the inner channel of the wire form. Pull it to the front, forming a slightly smaller loop than the second.
- Advance the fabric strip across the back of the wire form to the beginning channel. Form a loop with the fabric and insert it into the channel, stacking the loop on top of the first loop.

- Continue working loops into channels, hiding the short seams as you form the loops. Continue filling in the channels until you have completely filled the wreath form. (Add approximately 15 loops per wreath section.) Vary the sizes of the loops so the wreath has a natural feel. Tuck in any loose ends. Secure the end of the fabric strip by hand stitching. Optional: Secure inner loops by hand stitching if needed.


5. Prepare the bow.

- Zigzag or serge the short ends of the $9^{\prime \prime} \times 22^{\prime \prime}$ bow base, $9^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{x}$ $18 "$ top bow section, and 7 " x 9 " bow center.
- Meet unfinished edges of each strip, right sides together. Stitch, preparing three tubes.

- Turn tubes right side out using a Fasturn ${ }^{\oplus}$ or Point Former \& Tube Turner. Press.
- Meet short ends of bow base and top bow section to identify the center of each. Mark with pins.
- Fold the short ends of each of the two sections to meet the pin marks. Zigzag short ends in place.

- Stitch a $1 / 2$ " tuck at the center of each bow section.

- Meet cut edges of bow center; stitch. Press, centering the seam.

- Fold 9" $\times 28$ " tie section in half meeting 28 " edges, right sides together. Meet short ends of the tie to the folded edge of the strip, forming $45^{\circ}$ angles. Trim excess.

- Stitch cut edges of tie section, leaving a 6" opening in the center.

- Turn tie right side out, pulling each tie end through the opening.
- Press the tie and stitch a $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ tuck at the center of the tie.

6. Assemble the bow.

- Place the tie on a flat surface; center the bow base over it. Stack and center the top bow section on top.

- Slide and center the bow center over the stacked bow components.

- Hand tack the completed bow to the wreath.

7. Optional: Embellish the wreath to make it unique by adding one or more of these creative options:

- Buttons
- Crystals
- Yo-yos
- Fringed flowers


## Note: Here are some additional options:

- Finish outer edges of strips by turning under edges and adding topstitching or decorative stitches for added detail.
- For an easy embellished edge finish, use a decorative edge rotary blade to cut the 4 " strips.
- Use tulle to make the wreath. Use three-yard cuts of three coordinating tulle colorations. Cut wreath strips, then stack strips of the three colorations. Assemble the wreath, inserting the stacked strips as if they were a single fabric.

