

Jelly Roll Oval Basket

Create a textured basket that mimics rope pottery. Begin with 2½" wide strips of fabric and cotton batting; add thread and stitch. The finished basket is perfect for containing crafts, fruit, or gifts. We're certain you'll want to make more than one!

Approximate Finished Size: 8" D x 14" W x 4" H

Supplies Needed:

- One precut fabric strip pack
- Or,
- Ten 2½" wide crosswise strips from a variety of cotton fabrics
- One roll 2½" Cotton Batting On-a-Roll
- Coordinating all-purpose thread
- Optional: Decorative button or pin
- Optional: Decorative threads or yarn

Helpful Notions:

- Wonder Clips
- Denim or Jeans Needles, size 100/16
- Walking Foot
- Thermal Thimbles
- Optional: Spray Starch or starch alternative, such as Best Press™ Starch Alternative
- Optional: Rotary cutter, ruler, and mat
- Optional: Jumbo Wonder Clips

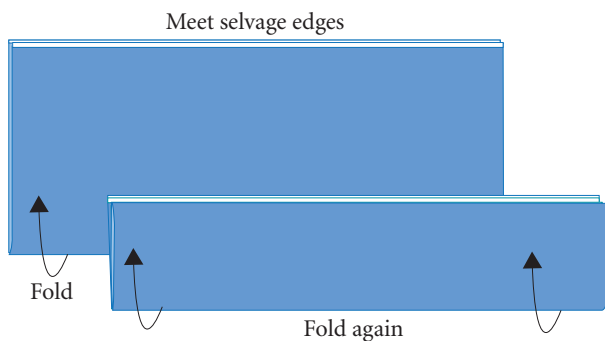
Instructions:

Read all instructions before beginning project.

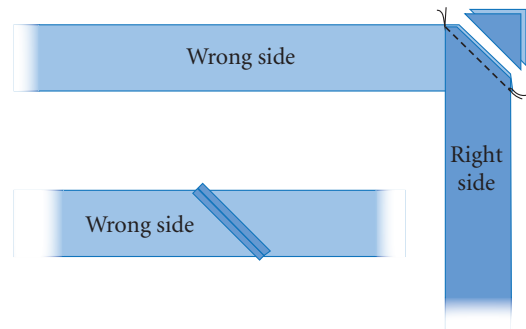
1. Prepare fabric strips:

- **Option 1:**
 - Select 10 precut fabric strips. Cut one of the strips in half, for two 2½" x 21" pieces. Set one half aside to use in another project.
 - Press fabric strips flat. Optional: Use spray starch to help relax stubborn or difficult folds.
- **Option 2:**
 - Press fabrics flat. Optional: Use spray starch to help relax stubborn or difficult wrinkles and folds.

Note: Strips should be cut crosswise. Fold fabric in half meeting selvage edges; then fold again, meeting fold to selvage.

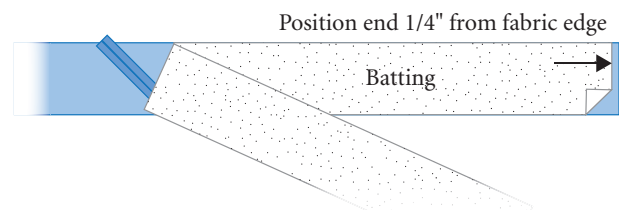


- Cut a total of ten 2½" wide strips from a variety of cotton fabrics. Cut one of the strips in half, for two 2½" x 21" pieces. Set one half aside to use in another project.
- Join short ends of strips, right sides together, using diagonal seams to reduce bulk. Use a 2.0—2.5 stitch length.
- Trim seams to ¼"; press open.

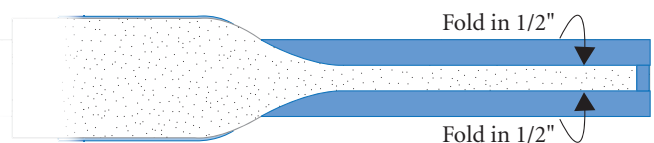


2. Create fabric "rope":

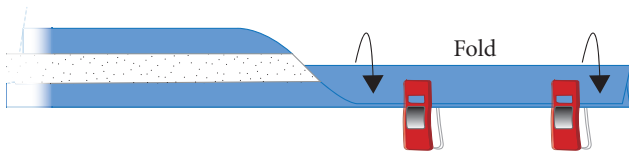
- Place the half-strip end of long pieced fabric strip, wrong side up, on a pressing surface.
- Position batting end ¼" from fabric end and long edges aligned.



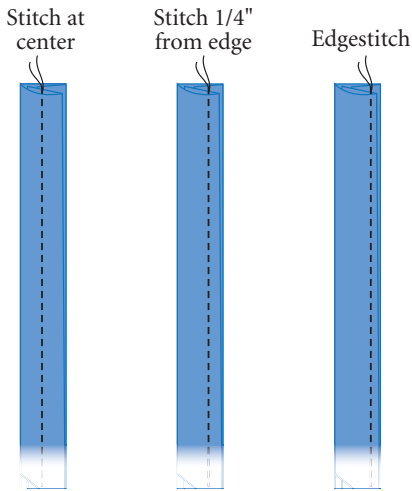
- Fold in approximately ½" of batting/fabric layers along both long edges and press. Use thermal thimbles to protect your fingers as you press a section at a time.



- Fold the pressed layers together, meeting the long folded edges. Clip together with Wonder Clips.



- Set up sewing machine:
 - Replace presser foot with Walking Foot.
 - Insert a new Denim or Jeans needle.
 - Wind at least two bobbins with selected thread.
 - Select a straight stitch with a 3.0 or 3.5 length.
- Or,
 - Select a zigzag stitch with a 0.5—1.0 width and 3.0—3.5 length.
- Stitch folded layers into fabric “rope”:
 - Stitch at the approximate center of the folded layers.
 - Optional: Stitch approximately 1/4" away from the double folds or, edgestitch next to the double folds. Both of these options will give a slightly different look to the finished basket, making each project unique.

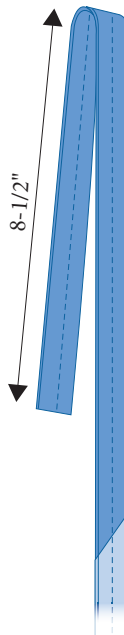


- Remove clips as you sew.
- Cut any thread tails close to fabric.
- Cut batting approximately 1/4"—1/2" shorter than fabric strip before you stitch to the end of rope.

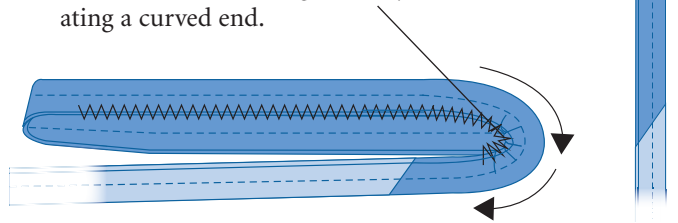
3. Stitch oval basket:

- Set zigzag stitch to a 3.0—4.0 length and 5.0—6.5 width.
- At the half-strip end, hold the rope with double fold on the left-hand side.
- Fold under 8 1/2" end to the left of the fabric rope in your hand. Optional: Jumbo Wonder Clip fold to hold rope end aligned with working rope. The double fold will nest slightly with the single fold next to it.

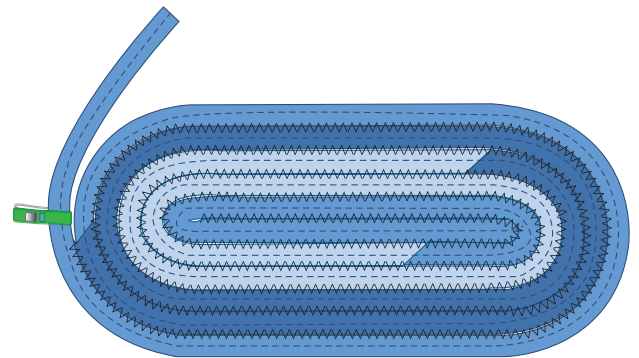
Note: The 8 1/2" length will be the “center or starting rib” of the base. The remaining length is the “working rope”.



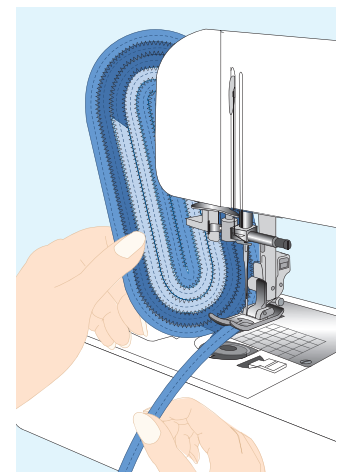
- Zigzag stitch into part of the overlap at the end fold. Keeping single and double fold aligned, zigzag to within 1" of the center rib of the basket base. Center the stitching over the aligned edges.
- Ease working “rope” around the end of the center rib. The inner double fold edge should have small ripples or gathers, while the outer single fold should lay smooth and flat on the sewing machine bed.
- Tuck the rib end into the rippled double fold. Zigzag a few stitches, then pivot to keep edges centered under walking foot as you stitch, creating a curved end.



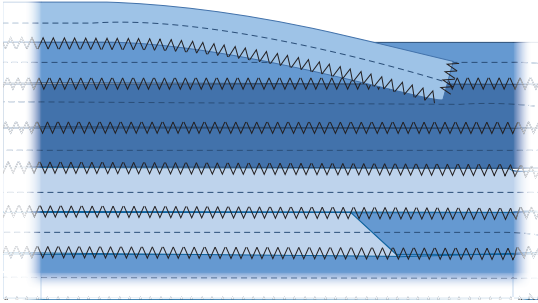
- Zigzag along the straight edge of the rib and working rope. This will be the only section where two double fold edges are stitched together.
- Ease/gather the working rope around the second curved end, then keep edges even and aligned for straight edges.
- If thread changes are needed, simply zigzag back and forward for a few stitches.
- Begin forming basket walls or sides after 5 rows are stitched on both sides of center rib:
 - Optional: Place a Wonder Clip at the point where you wish to begin the wall.



- At both curved ends gently pull the working rope while stitching to prevent the basket base from growing. Tilting the base will help.



- Stitch straight sides by keeping rope even with the adjacent rope edge.
- Continue to pull or stretch the working rope when you are stitching around the curved ends. The amount you pull determines how flared or straight the basket walls will be. You are the creator!
- Stitch until about 2"–3" of working rope remain.
- Bring rope tail gradually into basket interior, stitching it in place. Zigzag over cut end to secure.



- Optional: Flip basket (it's completely reversible!) so stitched end is on the outside. Embellish with a button and decorative threads or yarns.

