

Basic Serger Techniques

BEGINNING A SEAM - TIE-ON

1. Start the fabric under the tip of the toe of the foot.
2. Continue serging until the starting edge of the fabric reaches the end of the stitch finger.
3. Pull gently on the “serger tail” to smooth it out.
4. Raise the foot and pull the “serger tail” snugly under the foot and in front of the cutter.
5. Lower foot and continue serging, cutting off the excess “serger tail” while catching the cut end of the “serger tail” in the seam.



ENDING A SEAM – TIE-OFF

1. Continue serging to the end of the fabric and take one stitch off the edge.
2. Raise the foot.
3. Gently pull the fabric to the back of the serger to release the stitches from the stitch finger.
4. Flip the fabric over and slide the fabric under the foot/needle. Tug on threads above tensions to pull up slack. You may wish to lower the knife to avoid cutting threads.
5. Line up fabric so the needles will touch down near the fabric edge, lower the foot and take several stitches on top of the previous seam to secure threads.
6. Lift foot and turn fabric so it is at a 90-degree angle.
7. Serge off the fabric and clip the serger tail.



INSIDE CURVES

1. Starch and press the fabric to be serged.
2. Increase the blade cutting width.
3. Straighten the fabric about 1/2 inch in front of the foot, serge.
4. Continue straightening and serging.
5. Serge slowly checking the placement of the fabric edge as you serge.

OUTSIDE CURVES

1. Straighten the fabric about 1/2 inch in front of the foot, serge.
2. Continue straightening and serging.
3. Serge slowly checking the placement of the fabric edge as you serge.

OUTSIDE CORNERS

1. Starting in the middle of a long straight edge, serge along that side to the corner of the fabric. Take one stitch off the edge of the fabric.
2. Raise the foot.
3. Gently pull the fabric to the back of the serger, sliding the thread off the stitch fingers. (first photo below)
4. Turn the fabric to the second edge.
5. Reposition the fabric so that the needle falls at the corner of the stitched fabric. (second photo)
6. Pull on the threads above the tensions to take up the slack. (third one)
7. Lower the foot and continue to serge to the next corner.
8. Repeat for the remaining corners.
9. When you get back to the beginning, overlap the stitches by about an inch, turn fabric 90 degrees and serge off.
10. Secure the thread tail at the end.

