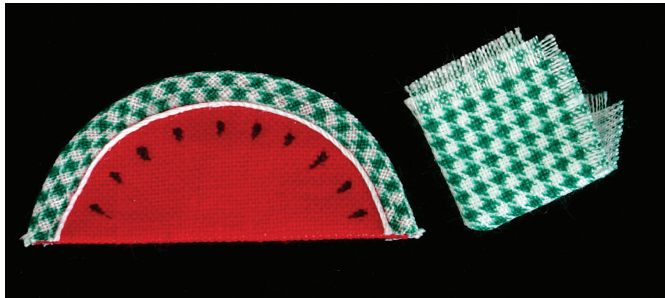


Watermelon Place Mat and Napkins

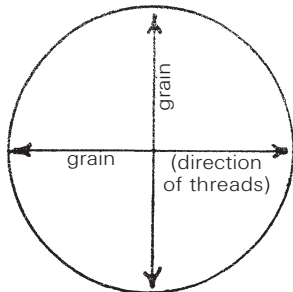
By Nancy J. Rhode

It's never too soon to be thinking about summertime picnics. This watermelon place mat and its complementary napkin will add whimsy and a dash of color to your table.



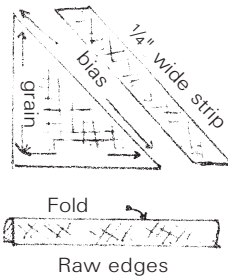
1. Cut a circle template with 1½" diameter from index card. Trace four circles onto red fabric and cut out.

2. Locate center line of circle along grain of fabric and fold circle in half. Press.



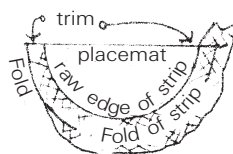
3. Spread glue along inside edge of half circle and glue edges together.

4. Cut green check fabric into ¼"-wide bias strips. (The bias is the diagonal of a square of fabric; it is stretchy and will curve smoothly.)



5. Fold one strip in half lengthwise. Press. Spread glue evenly along one side of strip on wrong side for about three inches.

6. Lay glued half of strip along curved edge of mat, with raw edge of strip toward inside of curve. Stretch strip, having fold of strip fit along curved edge of place mat.



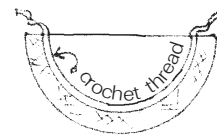
What You'll Need:

- Cotton fabrics: red, green check
- White cotton crochet thread
- Glue
- Scissors
- Iron
- Black paint and small brush or fine point permanent marker
- Index card
- Pencil

7. Turn mat over and spread glue along remaining wrong side of strip. Press with fingers to adhere strip smoothly.

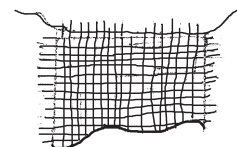
8. Trim extra fabric even with straight edge of place mat.

9. Glue a length of crochet thread along inner curve of bias strip. Trim even with edge of mat.



10. With black marker, make marks for seeds. Press.

11. For napkins, cut four one-inch squares of green fabric. Pull out threads on each side to create fringe. Fold and press. ■



Nancy creates and sells miniatures in Niceville, Florida, 850-678-9772.