

# Autumn runner

Cherry Menlove shows you how to make a beautiful table runner

This pretty table runner in autumnal fabrics is a great way to update your dining table this season. The runner can be used directly on the tabletop or layered over another full size tablecloth. I've used three different patterns of fabric that suit my table and the room it's in and you can do the same.

## You will need:

3 different types of fabric for the squares (plus extra of just one of the types of fabric, to use for the runner back)

Ruler

Scissors

Measuring tape

Pencil

Pins

Thread to match your fabric

Sewing machine



cherry menlove



1. Start by measuring out the squares on the fabric you have chosen. Each square should measure 13cm x 13cm (or 5inch x 5inch). Try and cut the fabric so you have the same amount of squares in all three of the fabrics.
2. Before doing any sewing, it's advisable to lay all the squares out on the table in the order you want to sew them (image 1).
3. Pin the squares in three separate rows, length ways (image 2), avoiding any of the squares matching the one next to it.
4. When you are happy with the way the squares have been pinned, start sewing the squares together to create three strips. When you have created all three strips it is then time to pin them together, length ways, which will then create the runner. Sew the three strips/panels together (image 3).
5. Iron the runner at this stage as this will help to flatten the seams down neatly. Next, it is time to cut out the backing for the runner. The backing will be one piece of fabric; mine measured just over 2.5metres in length and just over 40cm in width, leaving a 2cm hem around the entire edge. Pin the front patchwork piece of the runner to the backing fabric of the runner (around the outside edge), inside out, so that both of the fabrics are facing each other (image 4). **TIP:** Ensure the fabrics are totally flat when pinning them together to avoid any fabric bumps when they have been sewn up.
6. When sewing the two pieces (front and back) together, just sew the two sides (longer length sides) and one of the ends up, approximately 0.5cm from the edge, removing the pins as you go and leaving the other end open. **NOTE:** When sewing the two pieces (front and back) together, leave

- approx 2cm for a fold at the open end of the runner for the outer seam to be stitched. Cut off any loose fabric at the two bottom corners of the runner if necessary (for neatness) and then turn the runner back, right side out. Iron flat the 2cm flaps you have left unstitched at the open end as well as ironing the runner flat in its entirety (image 5).
7. To close the open end of the runner as well as finish the runner off, machine a hem all the way around the runner's edge, (approx 0.5cm in). Not only will this seam close the open end of the runner it will make washing the runner easier, as the two fabrics will be secured and not able to move (image 6).

## Making notes

### Tips

This runner was made for a table that measured 183cm in length, allowing for some overhang at each end, if your table is either longer or shorter, you will need to adjust the number of patchwork squares you use (in the length only).

To make this runner for my dining table I used 57 squares of patchwork, 3 squares wide by 19 squares long.

### Resources

[www.eternalmaker.com](http://www.eternalmaker.com) and [www.hobbycraft.co.uk](http://www.hobbycraft.co.uk)

Follow Cherry's diary on page 96 or visit

[www.cherrymenlove.com](http://www.cherrymenlove.com)