

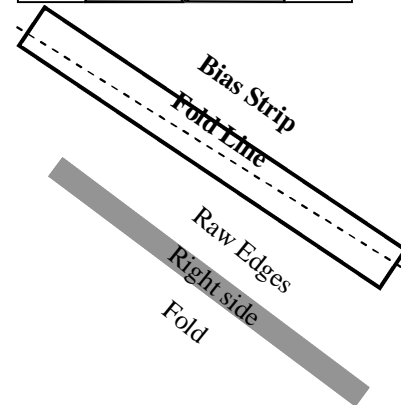
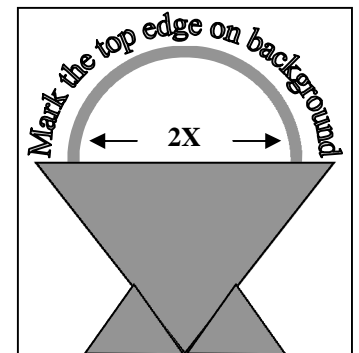
Bias Basket Handle Applique

I just love the look of a well rounded, hand-appliquéd basket handle. And I have a method where only one side is hand appliquéd!

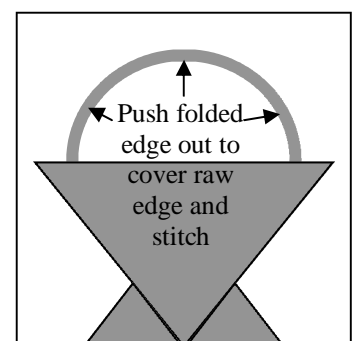
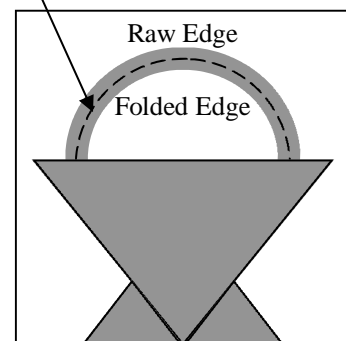
Here it is:

1. Mark out the top edge of your handle using either the pattern given or a plate, bowl, glass or some other household object that will give you a good looking handle on your basket. For marking use a water or air-erasable marker (Do NOT iron these marks!) or a mechanical pencil (Erase afterward). You only need to mark the top edge of the handle.
2. Cut a piece of bias (that's 45 degrees to the selvedge edge of your fabric) that is about 1 1/4" by the needed length. A quick way to figure your handle length (for a half circle handle) is to double the span of the handle where it meets the basket... Gives you a generous length.
3. Fold the bias in half wrong sides together and gentle press without stretching... You know... lift that iron to move and DO NOT slide it!
4. Pin the handle in place, so the raw edges of the bias strip just cover over the mark indicating the outer edge of the handle.
5. Stitch by machine (Or by hand!) with 1/4" seam, along the middle of the strip, securing what will be the bottom edge of the handle. Trim seam allowance to about 1/8"
6. Fold the bias strip at stitching and pin the top of the handle down over the raw edges. Now appliqué the folded edge down with matching thread. No needle turn! Just tack that folded edge in place! Simple and Beautiful!

Note that basket is shown for effect. You will probably be stitching handle down before the basket is added!



Stitch Here



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