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Sophisticated Serger Clutch



Create a matching clutch for a fancy evening with this serger clutch tutorial! You'll get to use the Baby Lock Serenity Serger (or any Baby Lock Serger with an Overlock Table) to use some creative stitches and attachments in this project. Include some beautiful 3-thread narrow stitching with glittery Glamour 12 thread to glitz up the front of the clutch. Use a shiny Decora 12 thread to add a satin-looking stitch with the 3-thread Overlock Wide. Add a trim with the Double Fold Bias Binder and use the same attachment to add a wristlet strap. You'll get to use or learn fun techniques throughout this entire project!

Skill Level: Intermediate

Created by: Stephanie Struckmann

Supplies:

- Baby Lock [Serenity Serger](#)
- Baby Lock [Sewing Machine](#)
- 3/4 yd. Organza Fabric (for overlay)
- (2) 4" x 10" pieces of Sparkly Fabric (underlays organza and lining)*





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- [Baby Lock 10MM Knit/Woven Double Fold Bias Binder](#) (or DFBB) Serger Attachment
- Extra fabric to match Sparkly Fabric* (preferably stretchy fabric, can be the same fabric) to use in the DFBB serger attachment
- ½" yd. Satin Fabric (lining and underlays organza for the Clutch Body)
- [1 yd. Baby Lock Ultra Soft Fusible Stabilizer](#)
- [3-4 all-purpose serger thread spools to match/coordinate](#)
- (2) Glamour 12 wt spools of thread (for the pintuck rows on the organza overlay for the Front Flap)
- (2) [Decora 12 wt spools of thread \(for some decorative stitching\)](#)
- (1) Set of Sew-on magnetic snaps
- (1) Fancy Button/Brooch for the front**
- (2) Small fancy buttons for the inside of the front flap**
- (1) ½" Swivel Hook + D-Ring
- See step 15 for ideas to cover the join on the wristlet strap.

*For the sample project, enough fabric was hemmed off of an actual prom dress to use for the Sparkly Fabric and the extra fabric to run through the 10MM Knit/Woven Double Fold Bias Binder (along the lower edge of the Front Flap). The fabric was stretchy enough to run through the bias binder and lay nicely on the Clutch Front Flap. If your Sparkly Fabric is not stretchy, consider buying extra yardage to cut bias from for the flap. You don't need much for the lower edge of the Front Flap, however you'll want extra strips for practice. The width cut of the strips for the DFBB is just a tiny bit less than 1.5" wide. The length of the strips should be 20"-30" long (the length of the lower edge of the Front Flap plus extra to start and finish through the DFBB). You'll also want a strip or two for the wristlet bracelet strap.





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**I found fancy buttons that had a shank for the Front Flap (inside and outside). I didn't want to stitch the buttons on with the shank because the buttons would not sit flat on the fabric. I used some wire cutters to clip off the shank and then, glued the gems in place. The buttons on the inside of the flap are used to cover the ends of the bias binding.





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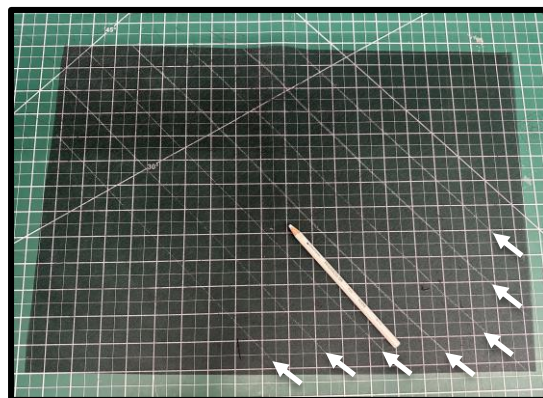
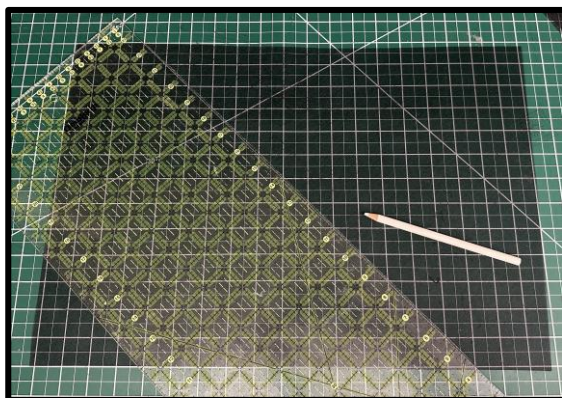


Cutting Instructions:

1. **Front Flap Organza Overlay:** Cut a piece of organza at 13" x 19". Consider cutting a smaller practice piece, as well.
2. Sparkly Fabric **Front Flap Underlay and Lining:** Cut (2) at 4" x 10".
3. **Front Flap Stabilizer:** Cut (2) at 4" x 10" and fuse to both pieces of sparkly fabric.
4. **Clutch Body:** Cut (1) piece of organza overlay at 11.5" wide by 13" long. Cut (2) pieces of Satin (one for the Underlay and one for the Lining) at 11.5" wide by 13" long.
5. **Clutch Body Stabilizer:** Cut (1) piece of stabilizer at 11.5" x 13" and fuse to the wrong side of one of the satin pieces (the lining has no stabilizer fused to it). This will be the satin underlay to the organza.

Serger Instructions:

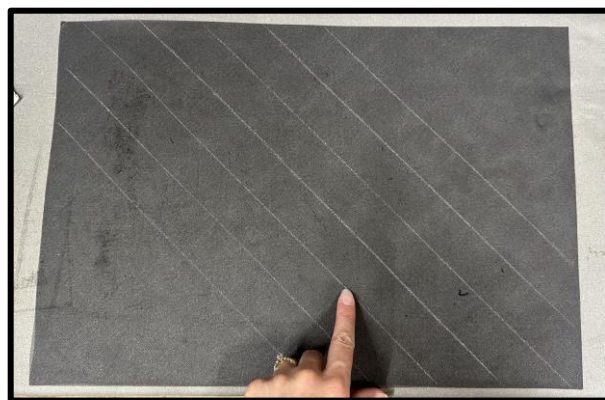
1. Take the Front Flap Organza Overlay and draw 45° angle lines 1.5" apart from each other. Draw 7 lines through the center area as shown. This piece will shrink up quite a bit with the serger stitching. Consider working with a practice piece before the actual project piece.



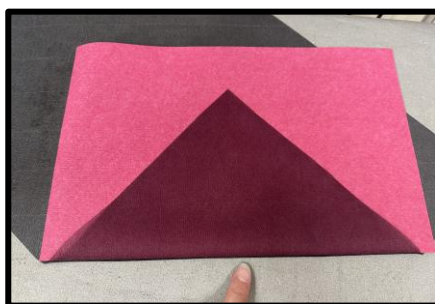


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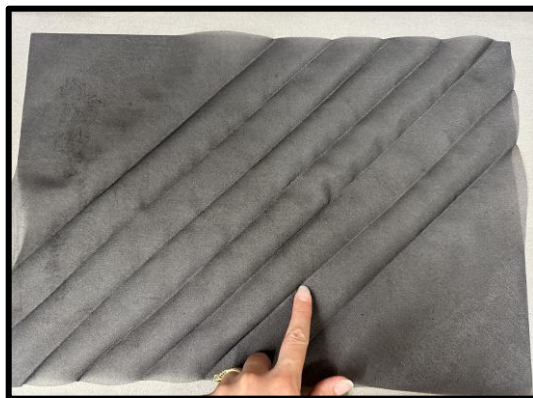
2. Using steam, press the fabric over along each line. Organza can be a little finicky to press. If you happen to have a stiffer fabric that can be pressed upon, this can help. Just line up the stiffer fabric with the drawn line and fold the fabric over the stiffer fabric and press (shown in pink below). A pressing block (used as you press) can also help hold the pressed line better. The process can be done without, but either or both tend to be helpful with organza.





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3. Set your serger up for a 3-thread Narrow Rolled Hem. Place standard serger thread in the O2 needle and Glamour 12 thread in the Upper and Lower Loopers. Stitch Selector should be on C, Stitch Width at M, Stitch Length at 1R (rolled). Blade locked. It is recommended to use the gray spongy disks under the Glamour and Decora Threads. You may also need to use thread nets if the thread is slipping off the spool too quickly.



4. Before stitching on the actual fabric, it is recommended to stitch on practice fabric to get the stitch the way you want it. Fold along each crease and stitch along the pressed line. After stitching one line, open it up to admire your work. Then, fold the next line and stitch along that crease. We are creating serged pintucks. Stitch all 7 pintucks.





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5. Press the pintucks in one direction. If you have one, the pressing block helps to keep them laying flat.
6. Lay the Overlay on top of the Sparkly Underlay. Using a sewing machine with same color thread (black thread hid very well for my black organza), stitch very closely to each pintuck through all layers. This helps to hold the overlay in place when serging edges. After each pintuck is stitched into place, stitch a $\frac{1}{4}$ " in around the entire rectangle to secure the sides.





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7. Trim the organza down to the same size as the underlay. Square up the piece, if needed.
8. Next, we'll finish the raw edges of the Front Flap. The top edge will get stitched into a seam, but the sides and bottom will get a pretty decorative serger edge. For the 2 short sides of the Front Flap, set the serger up for a 3-Thread Wide Overlock. Using a tiny stitch length will give this stitch a satin stitch appearance. Place standard serger thread to match in the needle and Decora 12 thread in the Upper and Lower Loopers (I used a black color for all 3 threads). Stitch Selector should be set to A. Set the Stitch Length to .75 or 1 (test stitch to see what you like) and the Stitch Width to the largest it will go (or to your preference). Unlock the Blade. Test sew before stitching the actual flap. When you like the settings, serge both the left and right sides. Make sure to keep the pintucks laying in the correct direction as you stitch. Leave serger thread tails at the beginning and end.



9. Next, we'll add the decorative edge to the lower edge of the flap with the Double Fold Bias Binder. The Baby Lock Serger in the images looks a little different, but the application will be the same on the Baby Lock Serenity. We're going to stick with the 3-thread Wide Overlock. I used the same threads as the previous step. However, the Stitch Length will change to 2.5-4 (test to see what you like). Play with the width as well. Place the Compact Overlock Table on the machine and attach the 10MM Double Fold Bias Binder to the





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machine and follow the attachment instructions. See tip below for cutting the strips.



Tip: To find the width at which I need to cut strips to insert into serger attachments, I typically measure where the fabric will be inserted within. This method has never failed me (especially if I can't easily place where I put the instructions)! As you can see in the image below, the measurement where the fabric is inserted for the 10MM Double Fold Bias Binder is just a hair smaller than 1.5". So, that's what I cut my strips at by the length that is required to cover the edge I'm covering plus 10" or more to have extra at the start and finish.



10. Follow the attachment instructions on how to use the DFBB. After you've tested the binder and feel comfortable adding the strip to the lower edge of the



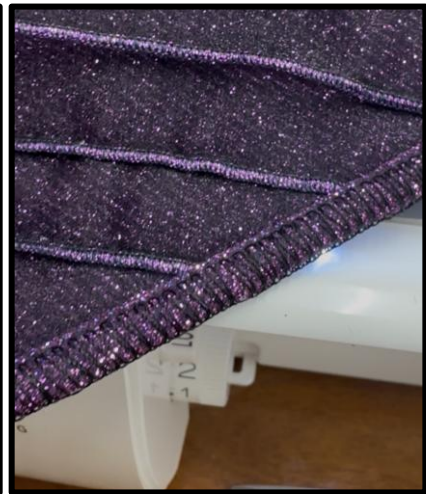
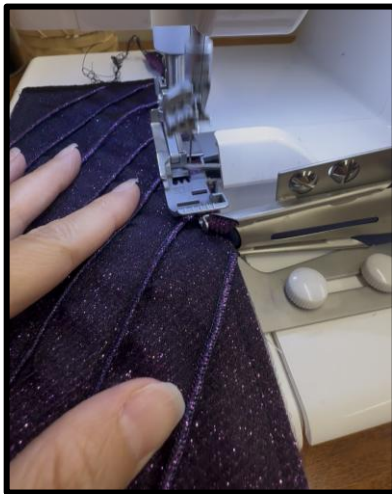
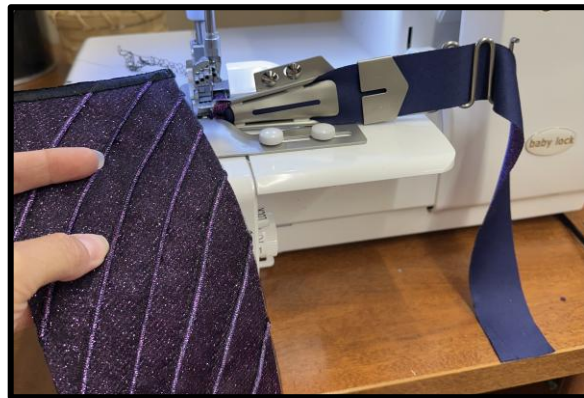


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Front Flap, go ahead and stitch it on.



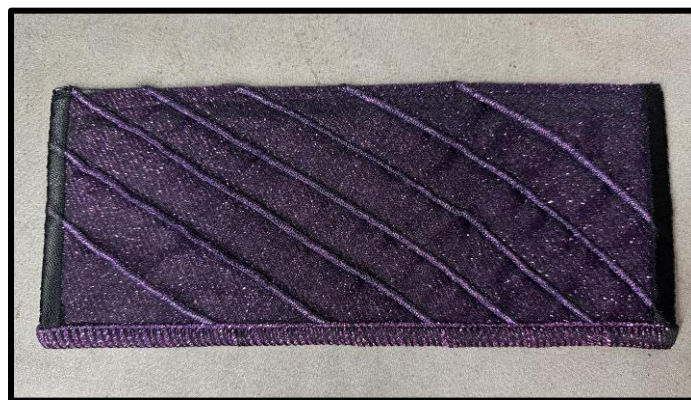
11. Once complete, you'll have extra serged fabric tails at the beginning and end of your stitch. Don't cut them off just yet. You'll need to fold them to the back side because they cannot be stitched into a seam.



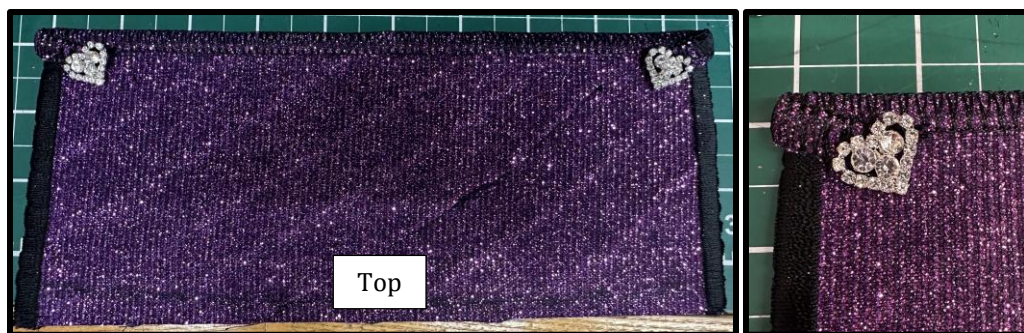


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12. Fold the binding flaps to the backside and hand-stitch in place. Clip the excess flaps off and cover/adhere with fancy buttons or gems of some sort. Set the Front Flap aside. Below is the underside of the front flap.



13. To create the wristlet strap, run an extra strip (that is long enough to create the bracelet plus extra, about 20") through the binder by itself using the 3-Thread Wide Overlock again. As recommended before, run a trial strip through to adjust the settings to your liking before creating the real strap. I used the same settings as the previous lower flap edge.
14. Cut the wristlet strap down to your preferred size. Slide a swivel hook onto the strip. Align the two raw ends up with each other and hand sew them together. Slide the swivel hook around to about a ½" or more away from the joined raw edge.



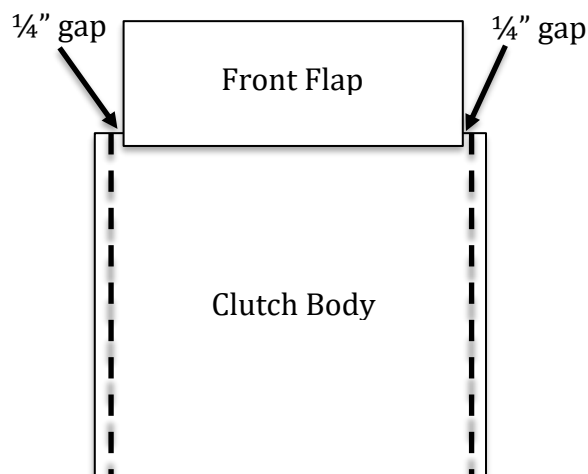


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15. To cover the join, you could find a large enough fancy bead to thread over the strap and glue in place. Or, I folded fabric over itself to create a small tube (raw edges to the inside), wrapped it around the strap at the join, just above the swivel hook, and hand stitched the little fabric tube in place to where it looked nice (raw ends placed on the inner sides of the strap). You could also use some thicker decorative thread and wrap around the join continually and evenly to make it look more finished.
16. For the clutch body, the interfaced piece will be used for the outer piece under the organza layer. Layer organza on top of the outer piece and baste around the perimeter to hold the organza in place.
17. Place the single layer of satin lining and the outer piece right sides together. The side seams will be stitched with a serger or sewing machine (don't stitch them just yet); the top and bottom edges will not be stitched right now. The seam allowance for the Clutch Body will be based on the Clutch Front Flap as it may have gotten smaller with stitching. To find your seam allowance, hold up the Front Flap to the top edge of the Clutch Body and determine your seam allowance. Yours may be a bit different if any of the side edges of the Front Flap were cut off during serging. Take into consideration that when the Clutch Body piece is turned right side out after stitching, the seam allowances and bulk of the Front Flap take up some space, so make sure there's a space about a 1/4" between the top flap side edges and where the side seams start.



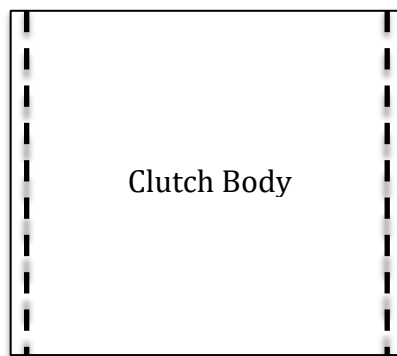


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18. After you've determined the seam allowance for the Clutch Body so that it will be the correct size (a little bit larger than the Front Flap), serge or stitch the side seams (with pieces right sides together) where you determined them to be.



19. Turn the Clutch Body right side out and press.
20. Then, press the top edge (where the Front Flap will be inserted) in about a ½". You may need to clip out any bulk from the seam allowance to get it to lay nicely.
21. Insert the Front Flap into the pressed-in edge of the body and topstitch it into place. Make sure to use the leveling button to help level the foot at the start!





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22. Finish the opposite open raw edge of the Clutch Body with the 3-Thread Wide Overlock Stitch and Decora 12 thread in the Upper and Lower Loopers and standard serger thread in the left O1 needle. Make the stitch length a .75 or 1mm. (You could also consider using a Glamour 12 thread here instead of the Decora 12 for a glittery finish)! Leave long serger thread tails at the start and finish.
23. Next, you'll need to make a little loop for the D-ring. You can stitch a small tube or use a piece of strong ribbon/cord. If you make a tube, cut a piece of extra fabric 1.25" x 2" and press it in half. Then, press the raw edges into the center pressed mark. Fold raw edges into the middle and fold in again. Press again and topstitch both 2" long edges.
24. Fold the loop in half. Place the D-ring onto the loop and hand stitch or sew just below the D-ring to hold it into place.
25. Decide whether you'd like to place the D-ring in the side seam or on the inside flap as mine is below in step 29.
26. If stitching the D-ring in horizontally, pin it into place behind the 3-thread decorative stitching (making sure the sewing machine won't hit it when stitching the side seams). Stitch it into place well to secure it. Clip off excess raw edge. Consider placing a small amount of fray glue on the raw edge of the D-ring loop (on the underside of the inside flap).



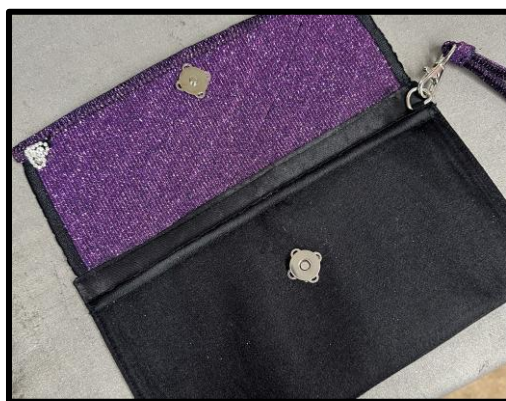


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27. Fold up the inside flap all the way or dropped down just a tiny bit. Press into place. If inserting in the side seam, pin the D-ring tab where you'd like it to be.
28. Topstitch an 1/8" away from the edge along both side seams to form the clutch.
29. Place and hand sew magnetic snaps and attach the swivel hook strap.



30. Sew or glue a fancy button to the front, if desired.



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