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Round Tablecloths

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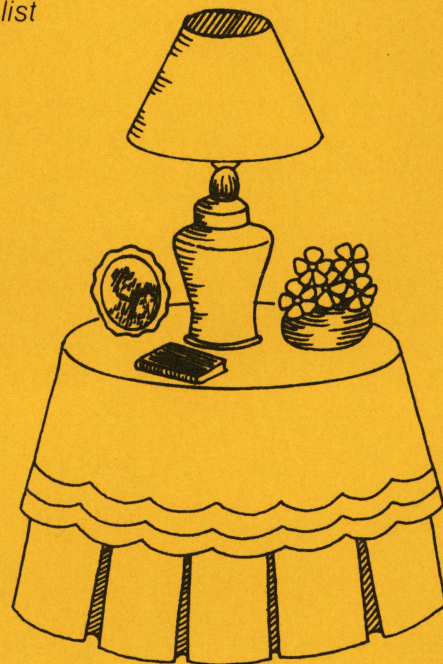
Extension Housing and Home Furnishings Specialist

Add a gay splash of color to a room with a floor-length cover on a round table. The table may be finely finished or an "ugly duckling," cardboard, a circle of plywood nailed to the top of a box or an empty wire cable spool. You may choose the dining table or an end or lamp table in the living room, or a bedside table.

Use any firmly woven dress, suit, slipcover or upholstery fabric of cotton, linen, synthetic or blend. Use a bedspread or sheet. The width of these means no seams, even for large tables. Use synthetic knit fabrics. Most come wide enough to eliminate the need of seams, except for large tables. Use fabric backed vinyl for a cover that is easy to clean.

For the family dining table, a second round tablecloth extending only 3 to 6 inches over the sides simplifies laundering. The "layered look" using one or more shorter cloths over a floor length cover is very attractive.

For a lamp or end table, a piece of plate glass or $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch thick clear, rigid plastic, cut to fit the top, eliminates frequent launderings.



Materials and supplies needed:

- Pins
- Shears
- Tape measure
- Fabric
- Sewing machine
- Matching thread
- Tailor's chalk (optional)

Measuring

To determine the amount of fabric needed, follow this example and see Fig. 1:

Diameter of table top (A)	24 inches
Top edge of table to floor (B) $30 \times 2 =$	60
Width of hem (none for vinyl) $1 \times 2 =$	$\frac{2}{86}$
Total	86

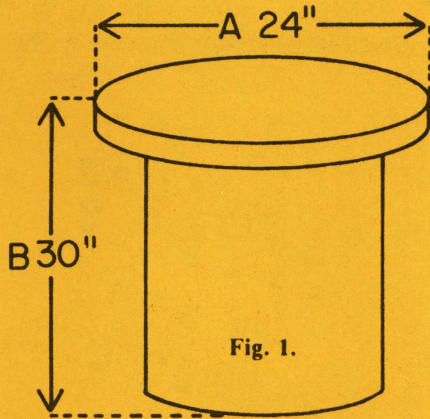


Fig. 1.

To determine the hem you will need, follow this example and see Fig. 2:

$\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch when hand turned

$\frac{1}{4}$ inch if done with a narrow hemmer on a machine

When adding fringe, subtract the depth of the fringe minus $\frac{1}{2}$ inch

$\frac{1}{2}$ -inch seams for panels

The total is the size of the square needed. If your fabric is too narrow, seam two or more widths together off center rather than through the center. Your square may have only one seam — off center.

With 48-inch fabric, you would need one 48-inch width with two panels of 20 inches each ($\frac{1}{2}$ -inch seam = 2 inches). Sew the panels to the 48-inch width of fabric. In this example, you would need 5 yards of 48-inch fabric to make this cloth.

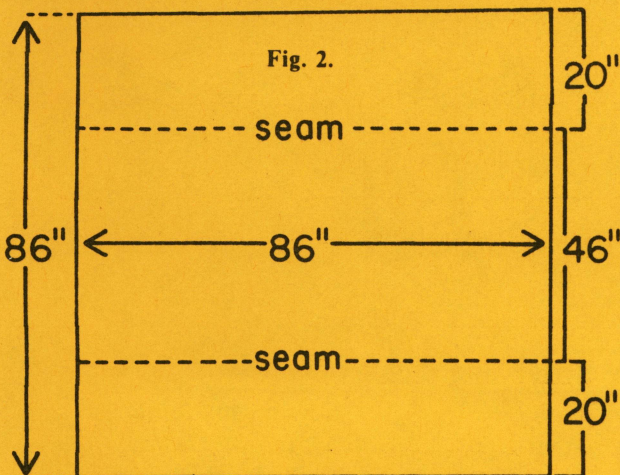
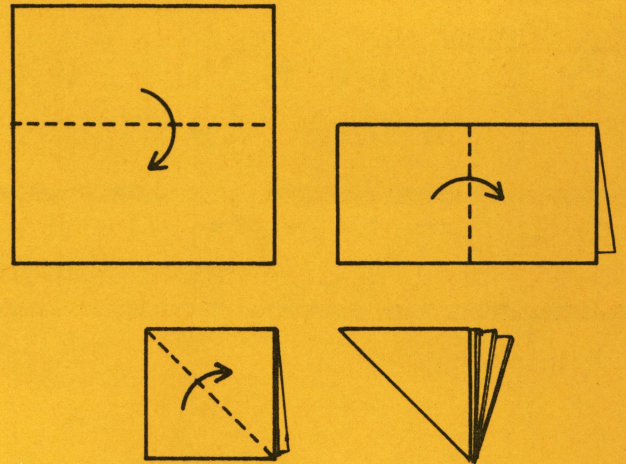


Fig. 2.

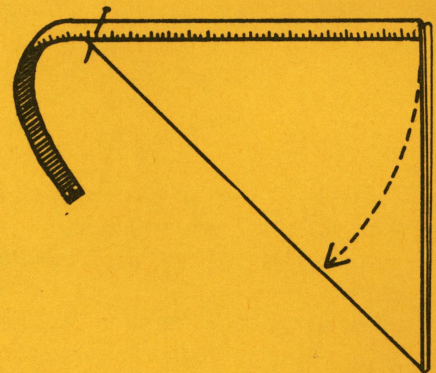
Marking the Circle

Fold the square of fabric into eighths



Place on a flat surface

Divide the total from your measuring in half. Find this amount on a measuring tape. Pin the tape to the point of the folded fabric. Move the end of the tape measure across the fabric, marking with tailor's chalk or pins.



Cut the fabric on the line of chalk marks or pins. Be sure to keep all eight layers of fabric smooth. On heavy fabric, cut only one or two layers at a time. Cut vinyl one layer at a time.

Hemming

Open the fabric. Stay-stitch $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$ inch from the raw edge to prevent stretching. Hem with a narrow hemmer attachment on a sewing machine. Or, turn under $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and then $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (the amount allowed under "Measuring"). Stitch the edge of the hem down all around. Sew on any fringe after the hem is done.