



## “Sweet Networking Basket”

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**Description:** This pattern is for a fabric basket to promote networking at any event. The material used is a purchased dish drying mat that incorporates eyelets and ribbon. The design of the basket shape is not new and many variations can be found although using the chosen materials, particular message design and purposing for networking is unique.



*Finished Fabric Basket*

Materials needed:

**Small Dish drying mat— The size purchased may allow two baskets to be sewn**

**Plain Material to embroider or to write on ( visit the scrap bins ) Cut the plain material to the size desired**

**Matching Sewing Thread and Embroidery thread**

**Stabilizer if using an embroidery machine**

**If not embroidering use Permanent Markers, Puffy Paint or stamp pads and ink  
( heat set the Permanent Markers and ink with your iron)**

**(8) 5/8 inch Eyelets and tools to set into fabric**

**Ribbon to tie ends**

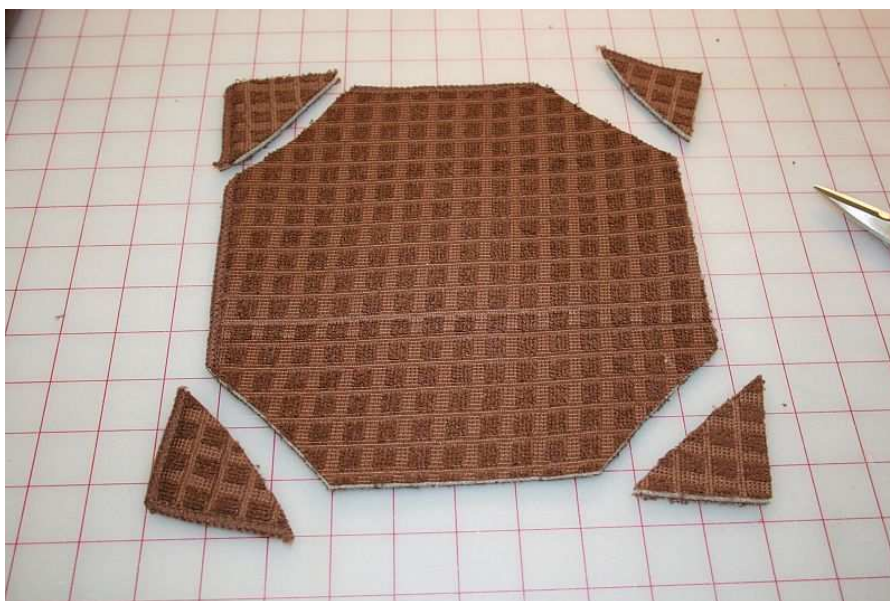
**Sewing machine or Serger, various notions**





Our fabric basket utilizes a drying mat that can be purchased from a dollar store. The picture shows the mat cut in half with the starting cut width being about 9 inches and the length being about 11 inches. This type of fabric is great for this use because it does not slide easily on a table once completed so it is very stable. The padded nature also makes it self supporting

Your goal is to have a square so we cut the length to 9 inches.



Next you will cut each corner off evenly and the factory seams so all sides are the same. It should look like a stop sign.







Now you can finish all of your sides with either a Serger or a Zig Zag on your sewing machine. Then you will set your eyelets on four sides. Note we left our Serger seams long and then tied them off by using a tapestry needle so they would not unravel. Various colored thread can also be used for decoration.

Your basket is basically sewn now. You can stop at this point and thread ribbon through each adjacent eyelet to pull up the corners and create the basket.



Finish the ribbon in any style you want like a square knot or a bow.





You can personalize your basket with a message to encourage networking. We machine embroidered a little bear and the words "Take a Sweet and Lets Meet" The embroidery design is from Designs by Sick: Colorlines Sweetheart Bear 009. The text is standard on our Brother PE 770. We cut our fabric with pinking shears for a cute finish and top stitched onto the basket.

What a friendly little invitation!



The ribbons on each side will hold business cards and blank paper. Each corner allows pens to be held and candies can go in the center







One side view shows contact or business cards slipped into the area where the ribbon is tied.

Small blank index cards can be slipped into the opposite side to gather contact information when you are networking at your function



The holes created by the folds are great places to put pens



Yummy chocolate is always a positive ice breaker!

This would look great on your event table.

*Enjoy!*

