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celebration banner - New Year

"Share your Sparkle"

12-1-15

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free spirit designs by maday



I wanted to create a simple & timeless decoration piece for my home based studio to welcome the New Year in style, using built in features from the 500E. The banner reads "Share Your Sparkle."

materials

Precut fabric - layer cake (10"x10") squares

optional: Fat Quarters for the fabric backing

Robison Anton rayon embroidery thread - 2 colors

sticky tear away stabilizer

optional: double sided fusible interfacing

(Warm Company Steam-A-Seam 2 double Stick Fusible Web)

optional: star stencil or other fun shape

¼ yard of coordinating fabric for making bias tape

optional: sturdy ribbon

rotary cutter

cutting mat

scissors

machines

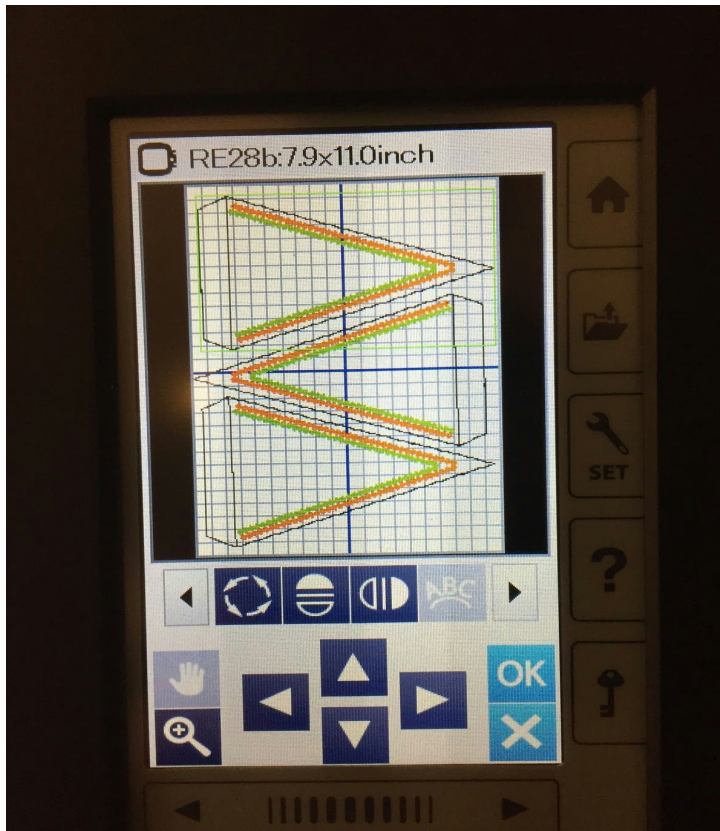
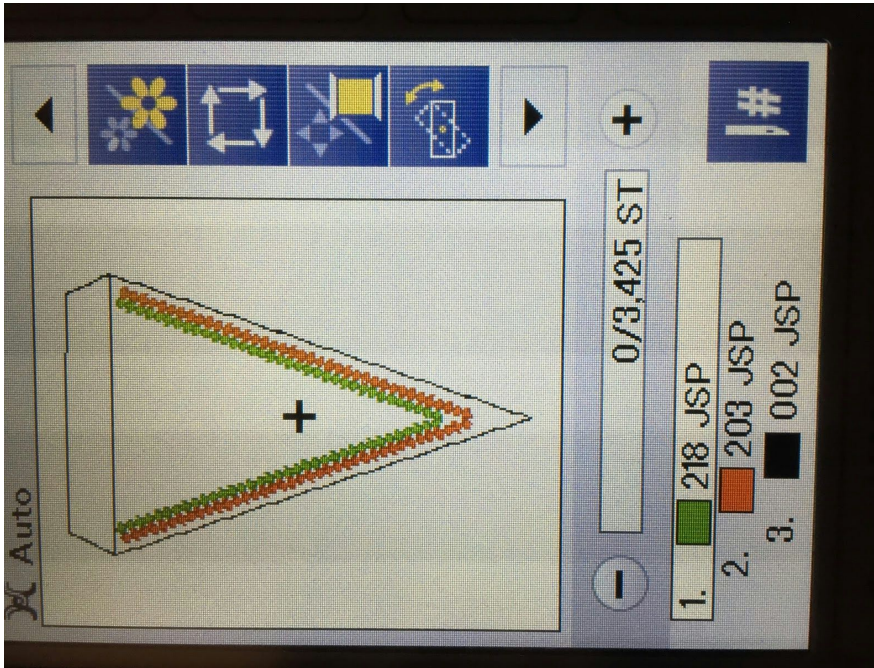
1. 500E - embroidery machine, hoop RE28B
2. MC 8900 - sewing machine

Getting Started

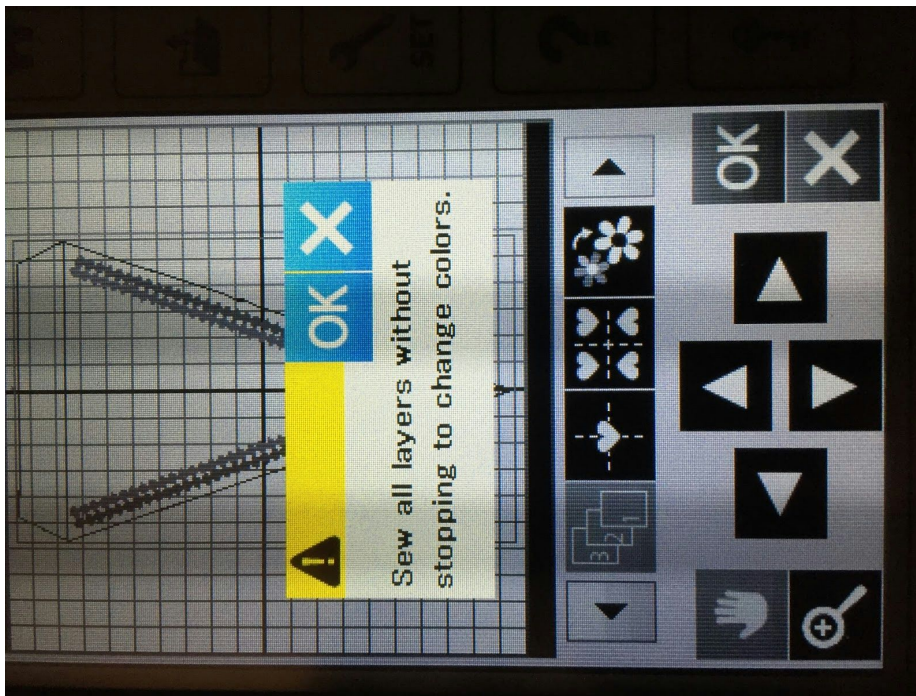
I used Maria Kalinowski's Gold Standard Sterling Silver fabric by Benartex and Banner stitch 41 from the built-in petite designs.

Please Note: If all of your banner pieces will be the same color, use fat quarters, making it possible to complete the project faster.

1. Cut a piece of sticky tear away stabilizer and backing fabric to cover the RE28B hoop; with this hoop you can fit 3 banners in 1 hooping.



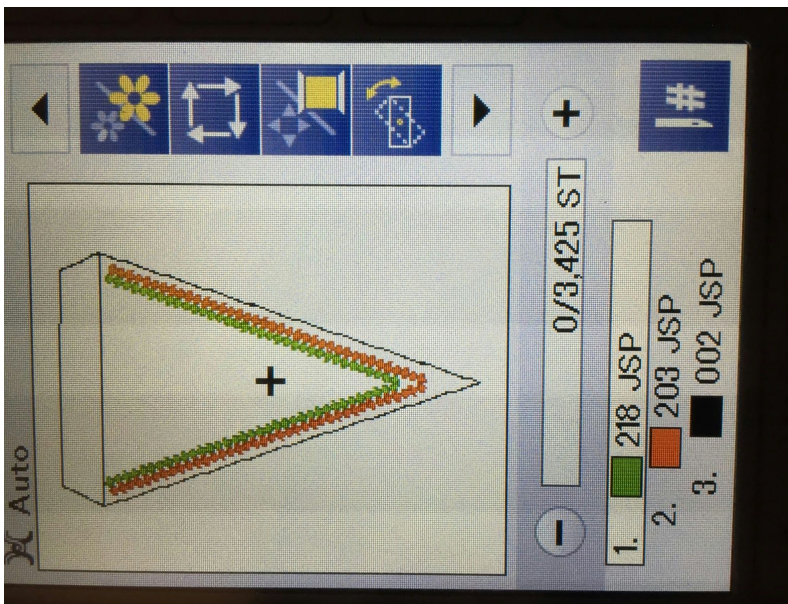
- I selected one (1) color of thread for the entire banner design (not including the letters) by selecting the flower icon under the Edit window.



- Place a 10x10 fabric square inside the hoop, matching the fabric edges with the inside edge of the hoop (sticky stabilizer makes it ideal for placing the fabric squares without shifting before the stitching begins).

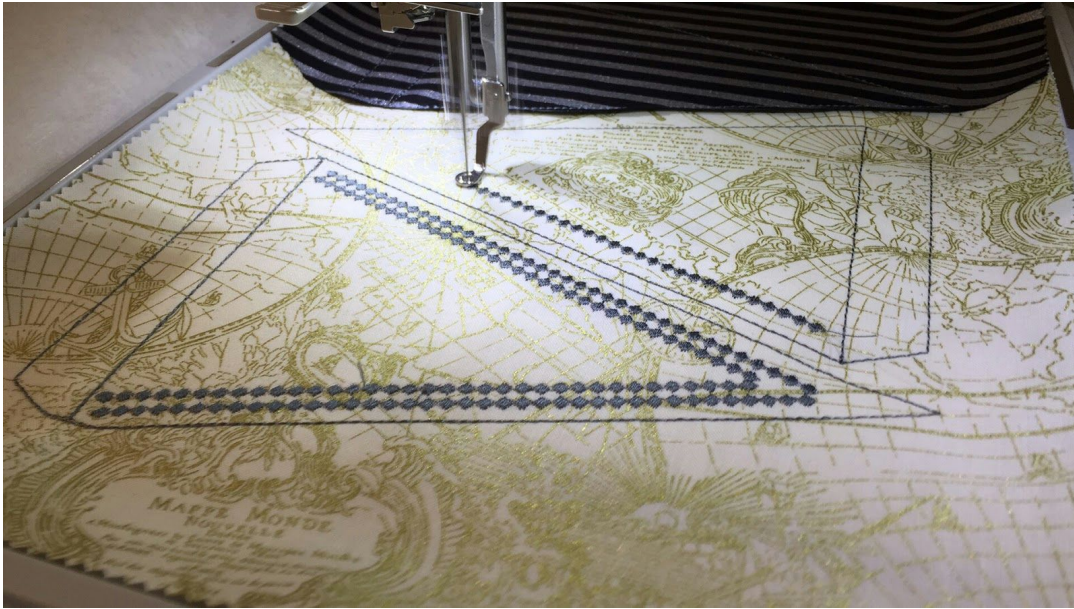


4. Stitch the outlines of 2 banners to cover the first 10x10 square. I started with Step 3 of the embroidery design to *have the outline of the banners stitch first to*



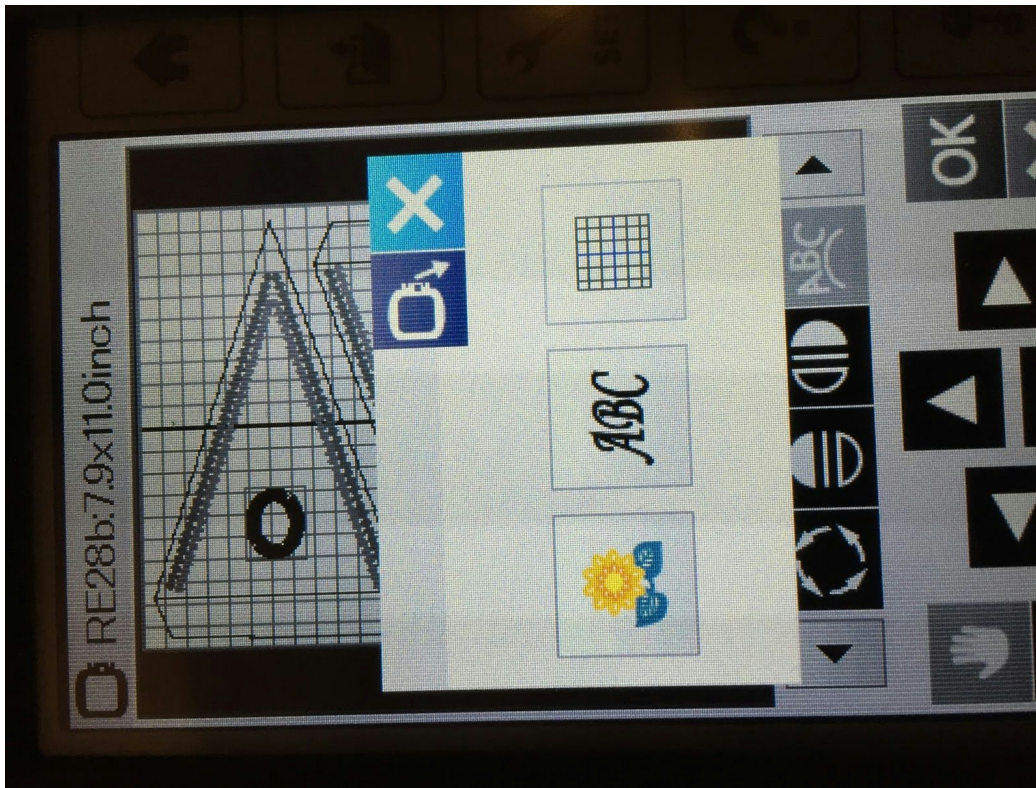
to eliminate puckers.

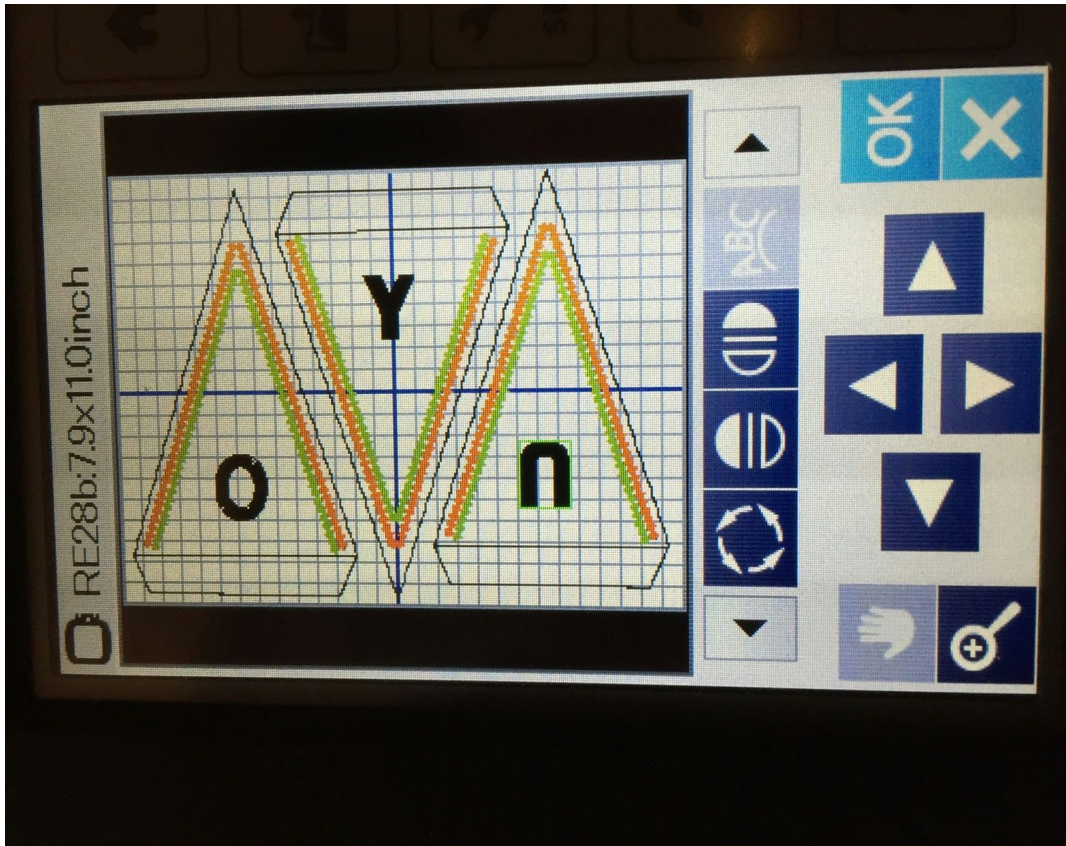
5. Carefully line the remaining side of the hoop with desired fabric, paying attention to the already stitched banners edge and stitch the last outline (3rd). On the photo below, you can see that the last banner is the one with the black, striped fabric.



6. Now you can restart the stitching from the very first stitch without stopping the machine; your banner outline will be stitched twice. I really liked this sharper look.

7. ADDING LETTERS TO THE STITCHED BANNERS - do not unhoop please

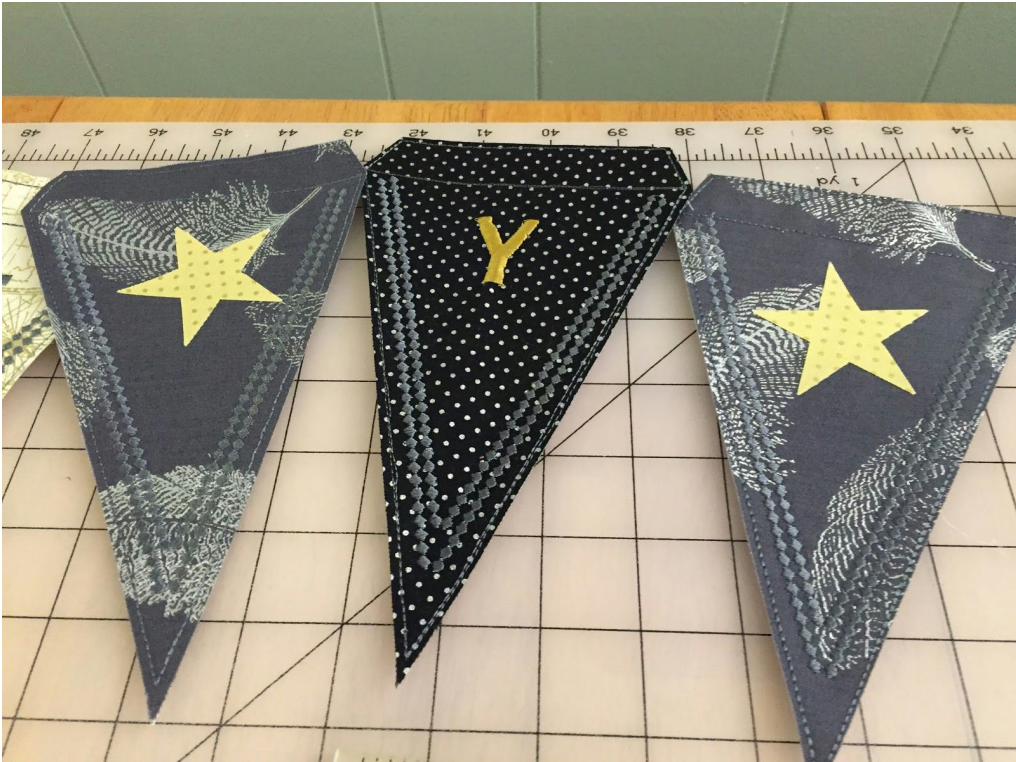




*** As you can see, i divided my banner into 2 sections because the sentence would have been too long to fit on one wall ! ***



8. Trace a star (or another fun shape) on one side of the double sided fusible web, cut and iron onto the banner. I left mine unstitched but you can use the straight or decorative stitches to stitch around the shape.



9. The length of the bias tape/ribbon will depend on the number of letters and/or characters you use. I cut 5 strips, 2.5" wide and 36" long, to create the bias tape (lengthwise on my fabric). I sewed the edges straight to join the tape, but you can sew it on a diagonal. You can also use ribbon here, making this step easy and fast. Fold the 2.5" strip in half (after you decide how long the tape will be) and iron.

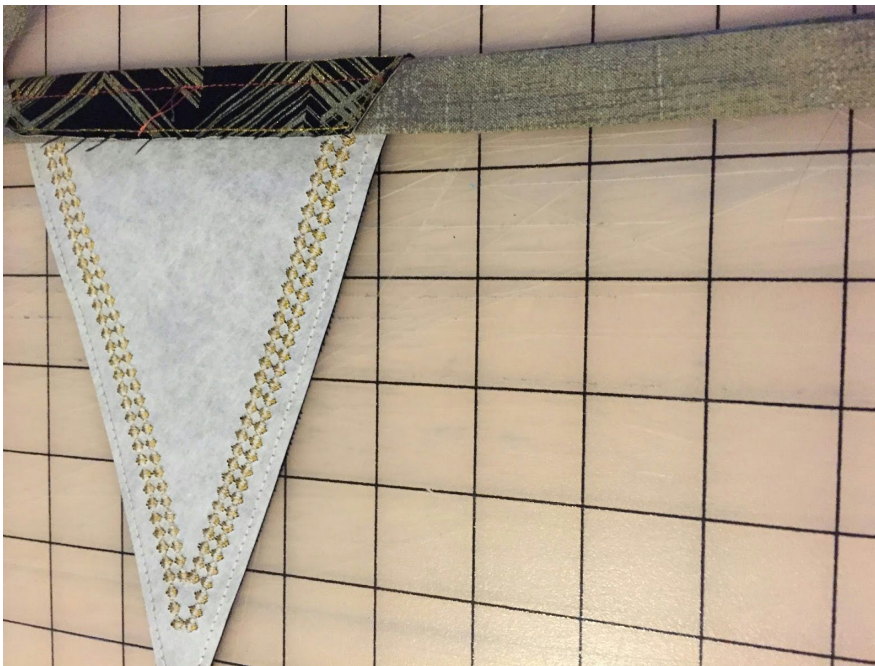


Fold the edges towards the inside and iron.



Fold one more time in half towards the inside of the original seam, lengthwise and iron; the tape will measure approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide :).

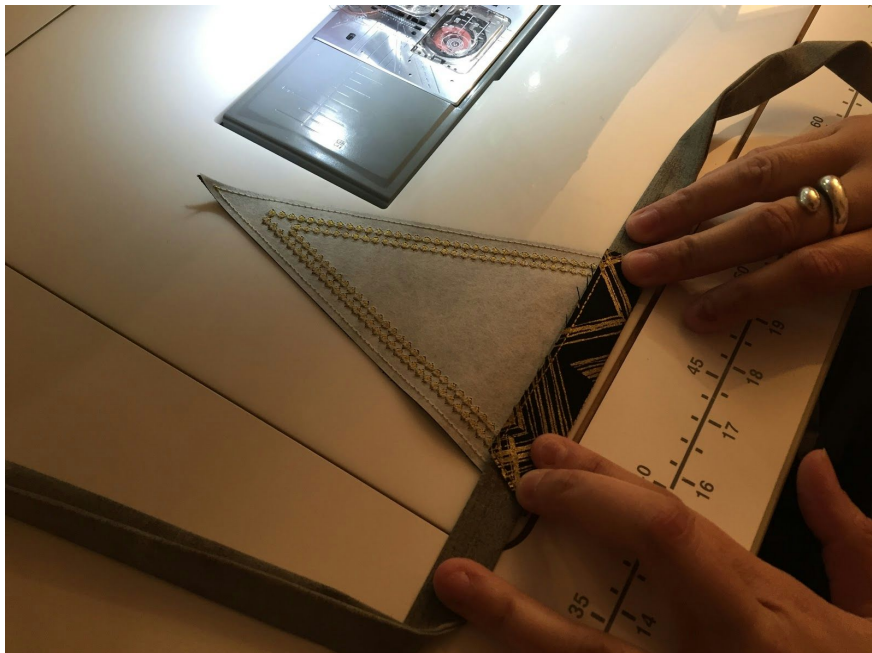




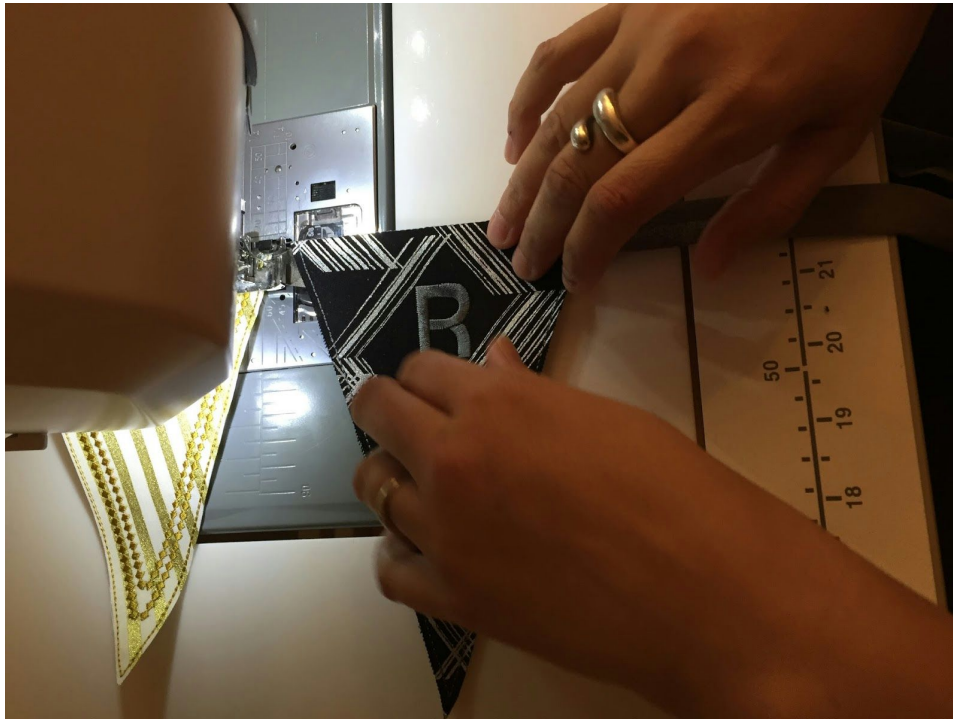
note: I did not add backing fabric to my banner pieces. The machine did a wonderful job stitching.

Finishing the Banner!

Place the top of the banner over the edge of the tape, use your $\frac{1}{4}$ inch foot, stitch along the top; make sure you leave enough of a "tail" to hang your banner on each side.



Continue stitching your individual banner letters by spacing them evenly.



This project is very versatile, making it the ideal party decoration, child's room accent or work celebration decor piece. It is wonderful to have it as part of the built in stitches for the new 500E and with the different sized hoops, our creative options are almost endless!