

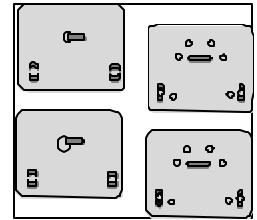
FOOT OF THE MONTH

Eyelet Plates

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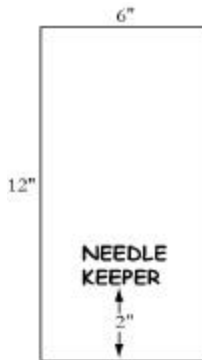


Make this great little needle keeper to keep next to your machine. When you take out a needle that is still good, you can put it in its proper spot to be easily identified when you are ready to use it again.



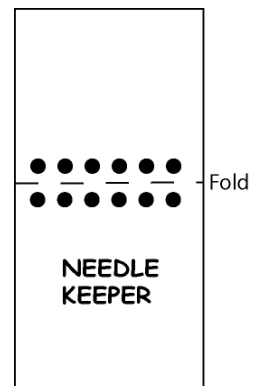
Sewing supplies:

- 1/2 yard cotton, linen or denim fabric
- Sewing thread to match fabric
- 4mm and 6mm Eyelet Plates appropriate for your machine
- Eyelet Cutter #412 37 55-45
- 1/4 yard Flannel or felt for "pages"
- Medium to heavy fusible interfacing
- 1/4" wide Steam-A-Seam 2
- Rotary Cutting Mat
- 2 wooden beads with large holes
- 1/2 yard yarn, twisted cord or 1/8" ribbon
- Pinking shears



Mark off 6" x 12" rectangle on your fabric. Mark the position for the lettering as shown. Embroider the words Needle Keeper, or write them with the built in letters on your sewing machine.

Cut the embroidered fabric on the marked lines. Cut an additional 6" x 12" rectangle from the same fabric. Cut interfacing the same size, and fuse to the two rectangles. Place the two right sides together, and sew with a 1/4" seam allowance, leaving a 3" opening to turn. Trim the corners, turn and press. Insert a small piece of Steam-A-Seam 2 in the opening and fuse to close.



Fold the needle keeper in half, and mark the position for 6 eyelets. They should be 3/8" down from the top fold, and evenly spaced across the width. Mark 6 additional eyelets on the back, in corresponding position.

Open out the needle keeper, and place on a rotary cutting mat. Using the eyelet cutter, cut the holes as marked. Lower the feed teeth, remove the foot and ankle. Snap the 4mm Eyelet Plate onto the machine. Select a zig zag stitch, width 5. Place the hole onto the eyelet plate finger. Bring up the bobbin thread. Begin to stitch, and gradually, rotate the fabric around the hole. When the eyelet is complete, go to the next, and repeat. Continue until all the eyelets are stitched.

Mark an additional eyelet hole on the fold line, near the right hand edge. Snap on the 6mm and stitch the larger eyelet.

Make the pages for the needles, by cutting 6" squares of flannel or felt. Write the needle names, like Universal 80, etc. on the pages, using the lettering in your sewing machine or a permanent marker. Place two pages wrong sides together, and stitch about 3/4" from the edge, all the way around. On the sides and the bottom, trim 1/4" from the sewn line with pinking shears. Leave the top un-trimmed.

To assemble your needle keeper, thread the yarn or 1/8" ribbon onto a hand needle. Place the pages in the needle keeper, with the top of the page, all the way up into the fold. Using the threaded needle, start on the top, and go through the eyelet hole, through the pages, and out the back eyelet hole with the yarn, ribbon or twisted cord. Come from the back, up to the top, the same way. Keep going in and out through all the eyelet holes. Tie a bead on the ribbon, yarn or twisted cord, on each end, by the eyelet. Cut off the remaining tail. Thread the remaining tail through the large eyelet and tie in a knot. You can use this large loop to hang the needle keeper on a cabinet knob, or hook.

Place your needles in the keeper. Be sure that if a needle is damaged, or dull, you throw it out so that you don't re-use it by mistake, and have problems.