

## Show#2002-1 Blouse with Perfectly Polished Pintucks and Topstitching

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Details make the difference and turn projects into designer style works of art! I love to begin with a simple basic pattern and then add machine made details to create a striking garment. For this project I chose corded pintucks and channel stitching to perk up a blouse and add decoration to otherwise plain yokes and cuffs. Learn how to add these easy accents and then apply the techniques to any item you choose. **Are you ready? Let's go sew!**

### **Special supplies featured in this show:**

- [Brother](#) XP1 Luminaire Sewing & Embroidery machine
- [Brother SA179](#) Seven Groove Pin Tuck Foot and Cord Guide for creating corded pintucks.
- [Brother SA189](#) Vertical Stitch Alignment Foot for stitching evenly spaced lines of topstitching.
- Brother 2mm twin needle, part code XE4963-001
- SAQTXP1 Wide Extension Table for support during sewing and quilting.

- [Coats & Clark](#) Sewing thread – I used Dual Duty XP all-purpose thread for the pintucks and channel stitching. For more prominent channel stitching you could consider using Coats & Clark 30 weight machine quilting thread as an alternative.
- Cording such as crochet cotton size #3 for corded pintucks.
- Featured pattern is Simplicity 8297, view D.



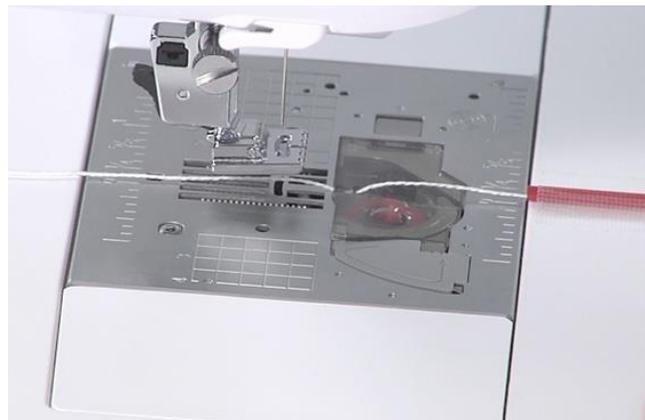
### Basic Steps for embellishing the blouse:

Select a lightweight soft fabric for best results with fine pintucks. I used rayon challis. Pick a pattern with a yoke or modify pattern by drawing a line for a yoke on your pattern. Be sure to trace off the yoke and add seam allowance to each new edge. Use yoke pattern to cut an oversized piece of fabric for stitching pin tucks.

Select a straight stitch in the center needle position.

Thread machine for twin needle stitching, using two identical spools of thread. **Tip:** Consult your machine manual for specific threading when using a twin needle. It's important to follow all guidelines in your manual.

Attach 7 groove pintuck foot to machine. Secure small piece of narrow straw with low tack adhesive tape, centering it directly in front of the bobbin case cover. Thread cord through straw and into cord guide on bobbin case cover, then slip under center of foot.

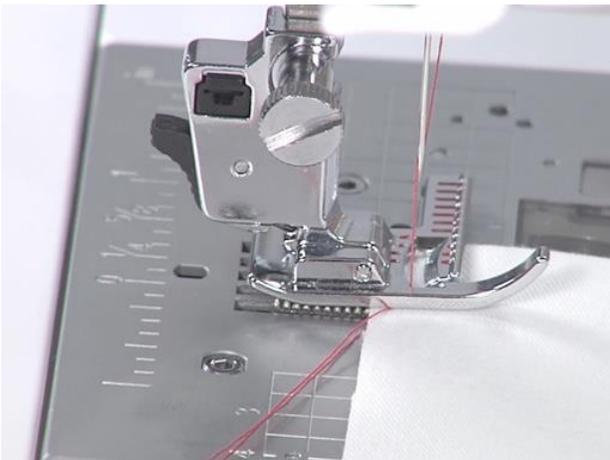


Mark first line for tuck on fabric and stitch, using center groove on foot. Reposition fabric for next tuck, skipping as many grooves as you like for interesting spacing. Continue to stitch pintuck rows as desired, with previous pintucks nestled into grooves as you sew. **Tip:** It's best to practice stitching tucks on scrap fabric to determine how much additional fabric you'll need to cut for an oversized piece. When finished with tucks, place pattern on top and cut yoke. Repeat process for each yoke piece, stitching tucks as desired. See finished tucks on completed blouse below:



Set up for channel stitching (topstitching with multiple, equally spaced lines of stitching), changing machine to single needle sewing. Stitch evenly spaced lines to fill an entire cuff area as follows:

Attach the vertical stitch alignment foot and use the marked lines to sew first line and space additional lines of stitching. **Note:** Channel stitching is a term borrowed from the quilting world where multiple rows of evenly spaced straight stitches are used to decorate a quilt top. For many years I have used this technique on garments to create a high-end look. Stitching perfectly spaced rows of straight stitches close together is a mark of fine sewing. **Tip:** Once again, it's best to test your stitching on a scrap of fabric. Space the first line by guiding the edge of the fabric along one of the lines on the foot. Determine the distance you want for each parallel row of stitching and stitch the same distance between each row. I found it easiest to do all the stitching on my completed cuff after attaching it to the sleeve, and before stitching the buttonhole. See foot and completed blouse with close up of cuff below:



For project updates and future tutorials, be sure to visit [www.letsgo sew.com](http://www.letsgo sew.com).



#### **Additional Resources:**

- I invite you to visit me at my Sewing and Embroidery website [www.letsgo sew.com](http://www.letsgo sew.com). You'll find online lessons, videos, free downloads, plus lots of sewing and embroidery information and inspiration!
- Sign-up for letsgo sew.com news [HERE](#).
- Find me on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).
- Be sure to visit the [Stitching Sewcial](#), the Brother blog, to read my posts on a wide variety of sewing and embroidery topics.

Happy Sewing!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne". The letter "J" is stylized and includes a small red heart shape.