

## Wipe Clean Vinyl Place Mats

Cheerful vinyl table mats with silverware pocket and chalk cloth at top to write individual messages or doodle while waiting to eat.

Read through all instructions before beginning.



### Requirements:

½ yd Color Me Happy Vinyl

cut two strips 9" x w.o.f.

subcut four 9" x 17 ½" for mats

four 4 ½ x 4 ½" for pockets

¼ yd Chalk Cloth

cut two strips 3" x 47"

subcut four strips 3" x 17 ½" mat top

four strips 1 ¼" x 5" pocket trim

tissue paper

black thread

¼" sewing foot

chalk



### Optional but recommended:

Wonder Clips

Seam-Fix Seam Ripper

Wooden Iron

### Something about Vinyl:

Vinyl does not slide very well under a sewing machine needle. Add paper to the top and bottom and it slides through fine. For this project, tissue paper is best so that you can see through the paper where to sew. Add a sheet under the project and on top. After sewing, hold stitches while carefully tearing away the tissue paper.

### Helpful tools:

**Seam Fix Seam Ripper:** This tool not only rips out seams, but has a plastic tip that grabs and removes threads, or in this case, helps to remove bits of tissue paper stuck in between the thread.

**Wonder Clips:** Best not to use pins to hold the vinyl pieces together while sewing as they could leave holes. Wonder Clips act like a spring clothespin to hold the layers together but are small and easy to use.

Increase stitch length to 2.6. *Do not* use a regular iron to press seams.

### Creating the place mats:

With right sides facing, clip a chalk cloth strip to top of a vinyl mat.



Place tissue paper underneath and stitch together. Begin and end all seams by back stitching a couple of stitches. Carefully remove the tissue paper.



Open and press seam towards *place mat*. A wooden iron can help with the pressing or use firm pressure with a finger taking care not to stretch the vinyl.



Place a sheet of tissue paper under the mat and another one on top. If the sheet is big enough, you can use half on the bottom and fold the other half to the top.

With the edge of your quarter inch sewing foot resting next to the chalk cloth seam, topstitch  $\frac{1}{4}$ " on top of the vinyl. The picture below shows part of the tissue torn away so that you can see what the end result should be. Tear away the tissue paper when done sewing and remove any little bits with the Seam Fix Seam Ripper.



### **Creating the pocket:**

With right sides facing, clip a chalk cloth pocket strip to the top of a vinyl pocket. Place tissue paper underneath and sew the trim to the pocket.



Bring Chalk Cloth to the back leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " trim in the front forming a cuff. With tissue paper underneath and on top, top stitch. Carefully tear away paper.



Clip pocket to either the right side or the left side of the mat, whichever way you prefer.



With tissue on top and underneath, sew pocket to mat starting on the inside of the mat, then continue to sew the pocket bottom and the other side of the pocket.



Place tissue under and on top of the whole mat and finish sewing around the remaining outer edges.

Repeat to make three more mats.



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