Sewing Technique: Casing

A casing is a folded over edge of fabric or an application that is applied separately to the garment. The end result is used to enclose a drawstring tie or elastic. Casings can be used at the waist, ankle or wrist when constructing clothing, or at the opening of a bag or purse. Depending on the application, there are a multiple types of casing to choose from. A few types include: invisible, joined, topstitched, multiple rows of elastic casing, or a casing with a drawstring cord.

1. Cut a piece of fabric to a finished size of 4”x6”. For this sample, a 4” length will be used. Serge along the 4” edge of the piece of fabric. Note: this technique can be applied to a project or garment. For this tutorial a sample is only being created.

3. Use the following formula to identify the distance to measure from the edge of the 1/4” folded edge in step three. **Elastic width + 1/4" = width of casing fold**

4. Stitch along the new folded edge of the fabric creating a “tunnel” for the elastic to slide through. A bodkin tool can be used to thread elastic or cording through a casing wider than 3/8”.

**Note:** This tutorial correlates with the following Utah Clothing and Textiles 1 State Standards and Objective(s): 

**Standard:**
6. Students will demonstrate basic construction techniques.

**Objective:**
2. Construct an appropriate casing for the project (1/4” wider than the elastic or cording used).

**References:**

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