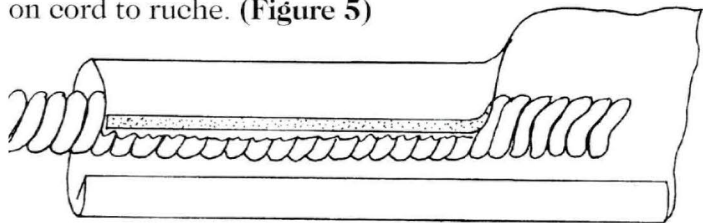


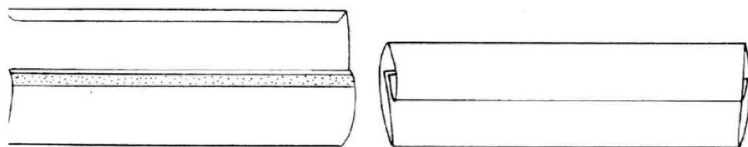
Fabric Tubes

Ruched cord cover: Cut cord to desired length. Cut a strip of fabric two times the length of cord by 4 inches wide. Lay fabric right side down. Fold one long edge of fabric over $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and press. Lay cord in center of fabric strip, bringing both edges over cord with raw edge of fabric underneath folded edge. Fuse with iron-on adhesive or fabric glue. Repeat until all fabric is on cord. Hold fabric on one end of cord with a pin. Push fabric cover back on cord to ruche. (Figure 5)



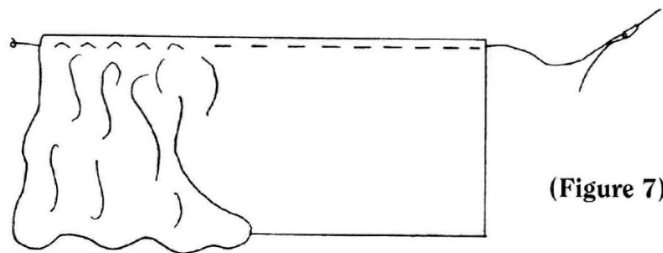
(Figure 5)

Tube of fabric for boxes or rod cover: Cut fabric to desired length by two times the width. Lay fabric right side down. Fold over one long edge $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and press. Fold both long ends to center, overlapping slightly so raw edge is under folded edge. Fuse edges together. Tuck ends into tube of fabric $\frac{1}{2}$ inch; fuse to make finished edges. (Figure 6)



(Figure 6)

Gathering fabric: Sew a running stitch across the top finished edge of your fabric with embroidery floss or fishing line and a large-eyed needle. Push fabric back on floss to gather, tie fabric around project, and arrange gathers. (Figure 7)



(Figure 7)

Other Nonsewing Options

Pins: Straight or safety pins can hold fabric on seat cushions and pillows in place. Also, use pins when a draped effect is desired on window treatments.

Bands: Use rubber bands to create poufs or rosettes in window treatments and table linens.

Staples: Make furniture slipcovers and chair-pad covers in a matter of minutes. Staples can even be used to hang window treatments.

Sticky back hook and loop fasteners: Can be hot-glued for extra hold to secure fabric instead of sewing.

Iron-on tapes: In window treatments use to make pleated and shirred headings.

Fabric Tips

- When choosing fabrics, buy the best you can afford. Go on your fabric store's mailing list so you'll know when decorator fabrics are on sale. Keep fabric width in mind. It is either approximately 44, 54, or 60 inches wide. It could make a difference in the amount of yardage you need. If you need two window treatments that require four yards of fabric for length but not for width, cut the four yards lengthwise to get two pieces. If you want lining, buy inexpensive cotton sheeting. Before cutting fabric, always ask yourself whether cutting the fabric in a different way would leave enough fabric for something else. Always save your scraps; they can be used to make decorative accents.
- Do not wash sheets or decorator fabrics. The stiffness creates a crisp look and holds poufs, rosettes, and folds in place. If fabrics do need to be washed, have them dry-cleaned instead or use starch to retain the body of the fabric.
- To cut a square or straight line in fabric, follow and cut along the repeat of the pattern or stripe. On solid-color fabric, use a yardstick and measure from selvage (manufacturer's finished edge) and mark your measurement; do this about every 12 inches for the entire length of the fabric. Draw a faint line connecting your marks and cut on line. On fabric with no

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