

PROFESSIONAL RUFFLES AND PLEATS

The easy way to romantic ruffles!

From children's wear, doll's accessories to modern, fanciful blouses or home decor items: Ruffles can be found in all categories. It used to take a little patience to achieve precisely sewn results, until the introduction of the ruffler! It produces ruffles and valances automatically while sewing, making this sewing technique a much faster and more enjoyable affair.

We'll show you a few tricks for beautiful ruffle effects – so why not give it a try?



Fast and precise pleats!

THE RUFFLER

A presser foot outstanding in size and performance! At first sight the ruffler looks quite different, but at first try you'll know that it's quite different in performance too: It automatically produces small pleats in the fabric or evenly gathers the fabric. If desired, the ruffles can be attached to a piece of fabric simultaneously.

And to top it all:

You can choose between three different pleat spacings and determine their depths before sewing. Sewing on valances has never been faster before!

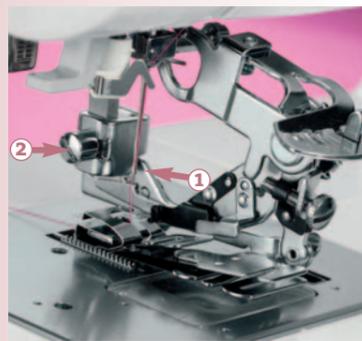


Materials Required for Sewing Ruffles:

- > SINGER® ruffler
- > SINGER® needle, size 80
- > Fine fabrics that can easily be gathered: Cotton, fine linen, silks, batiste, etc.

1 Preparing the Sewing Machine:

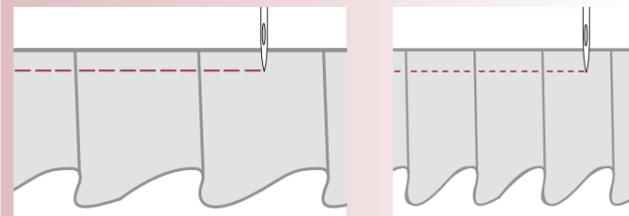
1 Unscrew the presser foot shaft of your sewing machine. Then thread the machine, as it is much easier to thread the needle's eye before attaching the ruffler! You can now secure the ruffler to the shank, making sure the ruffle regulator points to the front. Following the illustrated operating instructions included in the ruffler package, you can't go wrong!



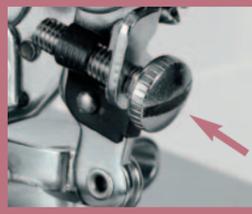
2 You can easily determine the pleat spacings, ranging from very tight to loose, in two different ways:

1. With the ruffle regulator allowing you to preset the number of stitches between the individual pleats. It lets you choose from 3 settings: One pleat for every stitch, after every 6. stitch or after every 12. stitch.

2. You can additionally determine the pleat spacings by the stitch length selected: A shorter stitch length will produce closer pleats, a longer stitch length wider pleats. The general rule is: Pleats on fine fabrics are sewn with a shorter stitch length than on firmer-type materials. The stitch length should be between 2 mm and 4 mm.



! Tip! The pleat depth can be set as follows: Do you see the screw on the foot's front? It adjusts the depth of the pleats. The more you turn it to the right, the deeper the pleats will be.



2 Preparing the Fabric:

3 Cut to size the valance in the required width, including a seam allowance of approx. 0.7-1.0 cm on each side. The length of the fabric strip depends on the piece of fabric on which you want to attach the ruffle: A general rule is to cut out the valance three times the length of the fabric piece. Due to the different types of pleats that can be produced with the ruffler, we recommend to sew a test piece first... >>

> Cut out a fabric strip, approx. 30 cm long. Select the required ruffle regulator setting and sew your test fabric strip. Measure the length of the finished ruffle and calculate the total length required for your project's fabric piece. It's the easiest way to determine the length of the fabric strip required for the valance.

Important: Before sewing the pleats, finish the valance's seam edge first. It's much faster than finishing the raw fabric edge on the completed ruffle!

! Tip! Spare the finishing part! If you're using a very fine, soft material, there's no need to finish the raw fabric edge: Simply cut out the fabric strip for the valance in a double width and fold it in half. When using slippery materials like chiffon or soft silks, stitch along the open edges with a long straight stitch ensuring a smoother pleated result.

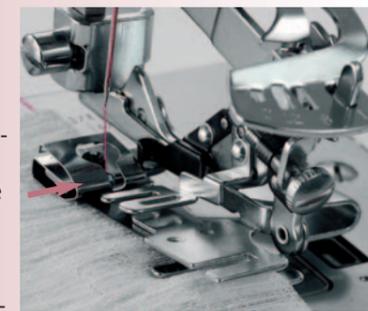


3 Let's Start Sewing:

Loose pleats:

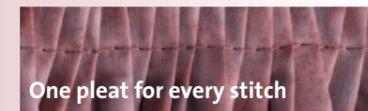
Ruffle regulator setting: 1; stitch length of straight stitch: 2.5 mm

4 Do you see the two black fabric guides on the ruffler? Raise the foot and place the precut fabric strip exactly between the two guides, making sure the valance shows to the left. While sewing the upper guide moves the fabric to the back ensuring that pleats are folded at the same time. That's all there is to it! You only need to »feed« the foot evenly with the fabric! Sewing at a slow speed makes this part truly hassle-free. **Important:** The foot must be lowered before you start sewing!



5 | Three settings – three different ruffle effects

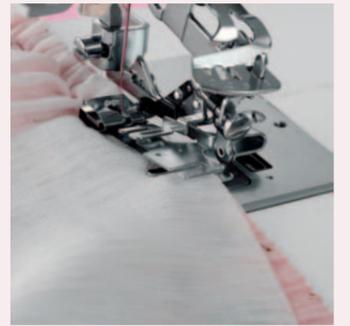
The ruffle regulator lets you easily determine the ruffle formation. The three examples on the right show you the different pleat spacings.



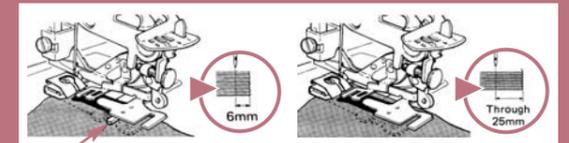
You want more variety? Simply play with the stitch length between 2 mm and 4 mm until you have found the optimal result for your work!

Attaching ruffles for fancy effects

Ruffling a valance and attaching it on a fabric piece in one single step is a technique allowing you to combine two sewing steps in one easy operation: Place the fabric on which you want to attach the ruffle under the ruffler. The precut fabric strip for the valance must be placed between the two black fabric guides as described before. This way the ruffle is pleated and simultaneously attached to the fabric piece.



! Tip! Which seam width do you want? Some valances are attached in seam width, and others by topstitching along the center of the valance. Thanks to the small metal pin located on the front left of the black fabric guides you can easily set the required seam allowance: If the fabric is inserted in the guide so the metal pin lies above the valance strip, the distance to the ruffle edge is approx. 0.6 cm. If the fabric is inserted so the metal pin is not visible, the seam allowance will increase up to 2.5 cm.



Attaching ruffles with center topstitching



The fast variation for beautiful effects: Ruffles that are attached with center topstitching! Finish both fabric edges of the precut fabric strip. For best results, use a narrow rolled hem! Place the fabric piece on which you want to attach the ruffle under the foot. Insert the valance fabric strip in the fabric guide so the metal pin is covered by the fabric. The fabric may extend up to the right edge of the foot (see Tip).

Of course, you can also sew this type of ruffles without attaching them on a fabric piece. Finish both fabric edges of the valance strip, insert it in the foot as described before, select the required ruffle regulator setting and start sewing!

