

## Show#2013-1 Piping tips that will have you thinking outside the box!

Presented by: Joanne Banko  
[www.letsgo sew.com](http://www.letsgo sew.com)

**Let's stay in touch!** I'd love to help you make the most of **your** sewing machine!

[CLICK HERE](#) to add your name to the [letsgo sew.com](http://www.letsgo sew.com) email list and receive timely tips, sewing news, free tutorials, and special updates. You'll be the first to know about new blog posts and detailed previews of the online It's Sew Easy TV show.



These tips are designed to help you learn new tricks for accenting your projects with piping. **Are you ready?**

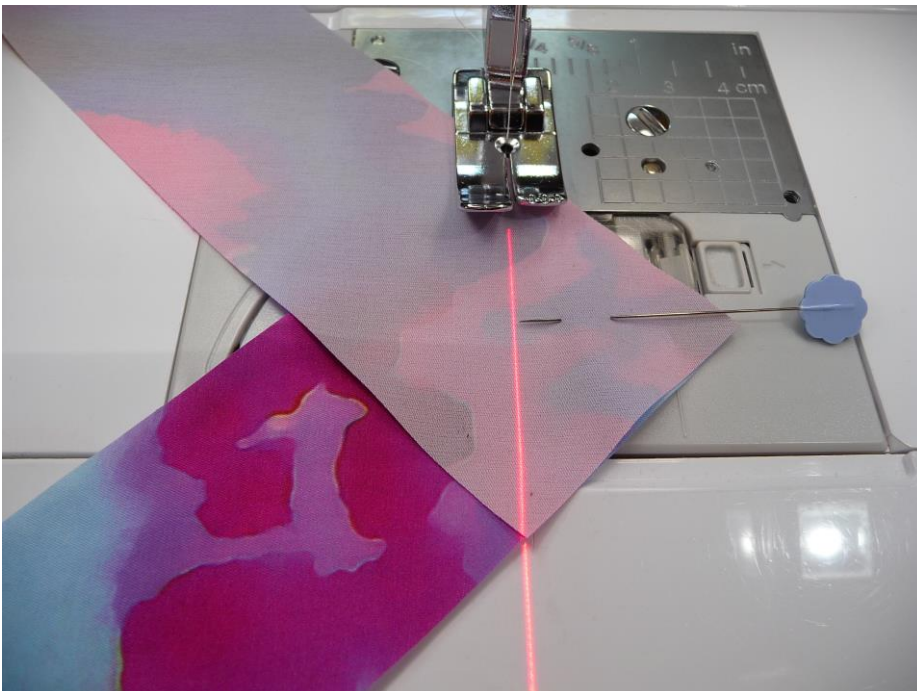
**Let's go sew!**

### Special supplies featured in this show:

- [SA210](#) Snap on Piping foot (for serger)
- [SA150](#) Snap on Brother Pearls, Sequins, and Piping foot (for sewing machine)
- [SA192](#) Snap on Brother Piping foot with oversized channels (for sewing machine)
- [SA161](#) Low Shank, Screw on Brother Adjustable Zipper and Piping foot (for sewing machine) **Note:** High shank machines require an adapter.
- Brother SAQTXP1 Wide Extension Table for support during sewing and quilting.
- Brother My Custom Stitch™ feature for creating wide spaced blanket stitch to cover piping with a decorative stitch.
- Wrights Maxi Piping, 1/2" (13mm) wide fabric covered piping, comes in packages ready for use.

## Piping Tips and Tricks:

- ✓ This show featured techniques for standard dressmaker size piping with cording that measures about 1/8-inch in diameter. This size is ideal for use with SA210 and SA150. SA192 is designed to use cord that is larger. It's ideal for use with piping filler cord measuring 3/16-inch in diameter. All of three of these feet have grooves on the bottom of the foot to accommodate the piping cord. SA161 is adjustable, allowing you to use this foot with any size cording.
- ✓ Piping cord comes in many sizes. It's easy to make your own custom covered piping by cutting and piecing bias strips, wrapping them around a cord, and sewing close to the cord with one of the feet listed above. Some say you can use fabric that is cut on the straight grain for piping in straight seams. However, I prefer bias cut strips. I think fabric molds better over the cord when cut on the bias. In addition, it's essential to have cord covered with bias if you plan to sew it around curves.
- ✓ Always sew diagonal seams when piecing strips for piping. If you have a laser guide on your machine, use it to help sew a perfect seam from point to point. Press seams open and then trim down to 1/4-inch.



- ✓ Making piping on a serger is quick and easy. Snap on the piping foot and thread machine for a 3 or 4 thread stitch. Wrap fabric strip around cord and place under foot with cording resting in the groove of the foot and raw edges of fabric on the right. Serge along the edge to create piping. **Note:** You can also sandwich ready-made piping between two layers of fabric and use the serger to sew piping in place. This technique works for straight edges and those that are just gently curved. Sharp corners with piping will not work with the serger method.
- ✓ To make custom piping on the sewing machine, wrap bias around cord and place under foot with cording nestled in the groove. Move needle position so it's just to the right of that cord, shifting it a little bit so it's not too close to cord. When you are finally inserting the piping into your garment or craft move the needle position so it is closer to the cord, shifting the straight stitch so it sews close to the cording and covers your initial stitching.
- ✓ To pivot corners with piping, snip the piping seam allowance, snipping close to the initial stitching line. Mold the piping around the corner, rounding it slightly.
- ✓ To create piping accented with decorative stitches, begin by snapping on the clear piping foot. Place ready-made piping or custom piping you've created under the foot and select a simple open decorative stitch. Lengthen the stitch slightly and set the width so it covers the cording. Examples shown below feature metallic thread and the feather stitch.



- ✓ Use the special Brother My Custom Stitch feature to create a long wide blanket stitch or use one built-in to your machine to accent piping with this type of decorative stitch. The effect simulates stripes and looks really special with contrasting thread on the piping.



Visit [letsgosew.com](http://letsgosew.com) for project updates and future tutorials, and It's Sew Easy TV series 2000 BONUS FILES, including instructions for the piped pillowcase, journal cover, and eyeglass case shown below.



#### Additional Resources:

- I invite you to visit me at my Sewing and Embroidery website [www.letsgosew.com](http://www.letsgosew.com). You'll find online lessons, videos, free downloads, plus lots of sewing and embroidery information and inspiration!
- Sign-up for letsgosew.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!

Joanne