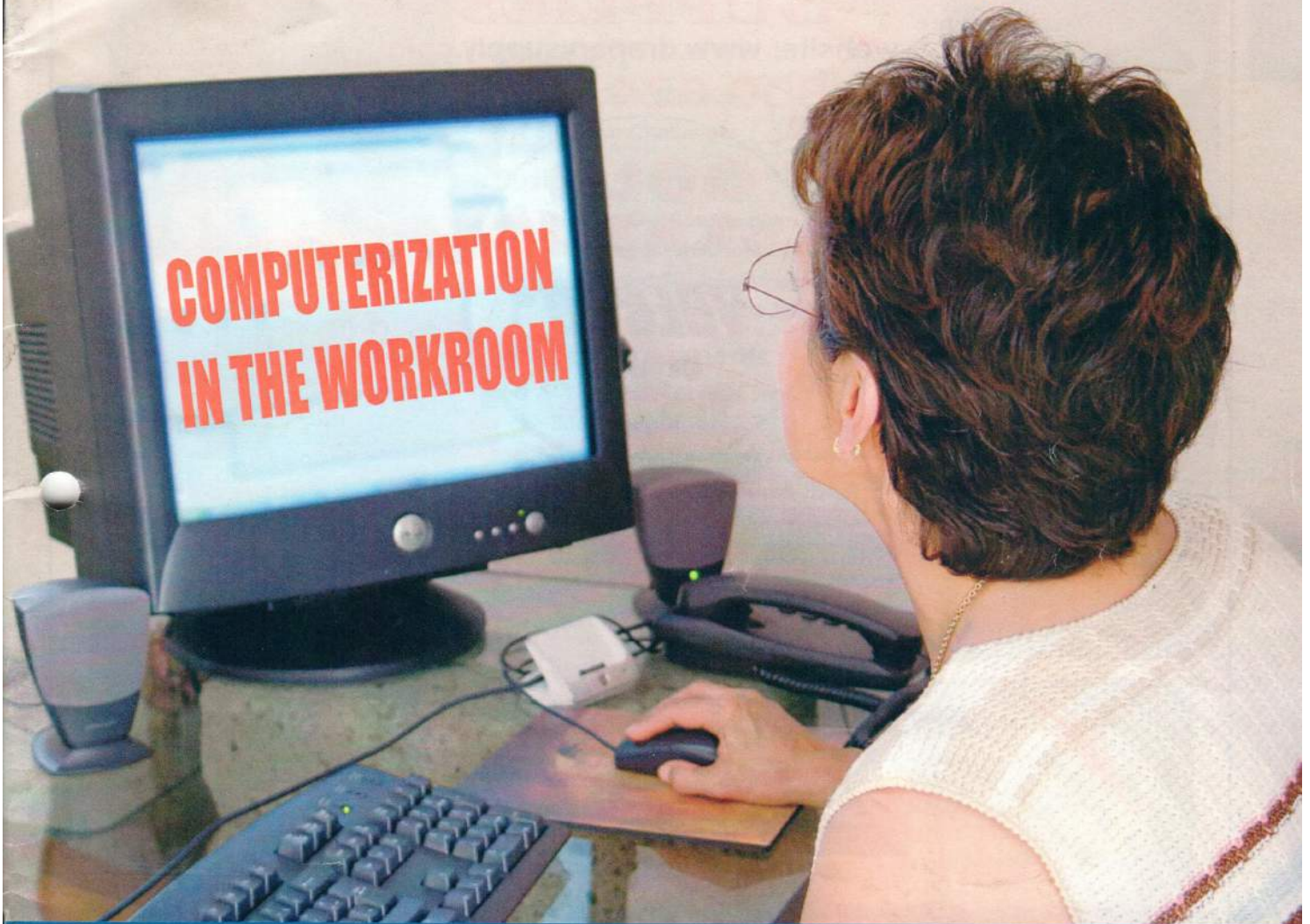


Sew WHAT?

M A G A Z I N E

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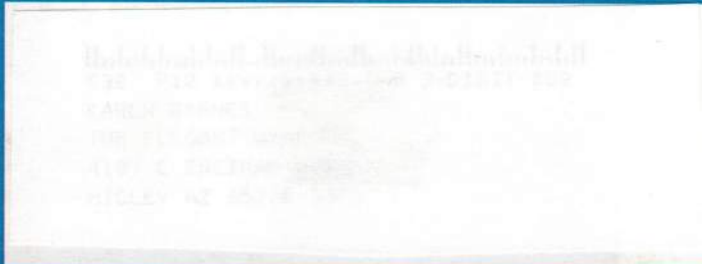
Awning Valance with Shaped Banding

Wing Chair Slipcover

Computer Power to Build Your Business

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Awning Valance with Shaped Banding

2nd Place Winner – 2005 Window Treatment Workmanship Contest

By Karen Barnes



MATERIALS

- 1 yard main fabric
- 1 yard contrast fabric for the banding
- 1 yard fabric for the micro cording
- 1½ yards blackout lining
- ¼ yard of regular lining
- ½" plywood
- One 1"x3"x8" lumber
- #16 poly cable cord (Conso)
- Fringe adhesive
- Two-sided tape

AWNING FRAME

- 1) From the plywood, cut two triangle pieces for the sides of the awning frame. My sample is 15"x8" at the bottom and 2½" wide at the top. The angled side is 16".
- 2) Cut two pieces of the 1"x3", 29" long.
- 3) Cover the inside of the triangle pieces of plywood with the contrast banding fabric. The outside will be covered with the

awning fabric later. (Make sure you cover the triangles so they are a mirror image of each other.)

- 4) Cover the 1"x3" boards with blackout lining.
- 5) With a nail gun, line up the 1"x3" with the top of the plywood (staples on the lining facing up.) Nail it together on both the sides. The other piece of the 1"x3" will be nailed at the bottom edge of the angled side between the plywood triangles. (Again, staples in the lining need to be facing up.) Line up the bottom front corner of the 1"x3" with the point of the triangle. Don't worry that the back edge of the 1"x3" hangs down a little lower than your triangle sides. It won't matter when it's hanging up on the wall.
- 6) Cut a piece of blackout lining that is about 4" bigger all around than the face width and the height of the awning. Placing it face down on the frame, staple the lining all around the frame, starting at the top edge, then the sides, and last the bottom edge. Pull it tight as you staple. Cut off any excess

lining. This lining should feel nice and tight once it's all stapled on.

PLANNING THE SCALLOP SIZE

- 1) Plan out how many scallops you will be using on the face of your valance by dividing the face width by 10". Round up or down to a whole number, and now divide the width of your valance by this new number to get your scallop size. I don't recommend making this style of scallop less than 10" wide, but you can make a simple scallop 5"-8" wide, or whatever size you feel looks good. Make a template of your shaped banding.
- 2) The projection of my awning is 8". I chose this size of projection because it works well with the size and style of my scallop. With whatever style of scallop is chosen, plan your projection so the scallop ends in a logical place (whether at the end of a whole scallop or the middle of one—you may have a scallop and a half, for example.)

Prepare micro cording by covering it with ½" wide strips that have been cut on the bias and seamed together.

FABRICATING THE SHAPED BANDING

- 1) Cut a piece of main fabric 10"x48½".
- 2) Make a template of the shape of your banding and place it on this strip of fabric, lining up the template to the bottom edge of the fabric strip. Trace around the top edge of the template with an erasable marker.
- 3) Cover your micro cording. Glue-baste the micro cording with fringe adhesive to the right side of the fabric, lining up the edge of the micro cording with that line. It is very important to clip and notch the seam allowance of the micro cording so that you can go around the curves and the corners.

- 4) Stitch the micro cording to the fabric.
- 5) Place another line of fringe adhesive along the seam allowance of the micro cording. Place a piece of regular lining over this and press. The lining needs to be tall enough to cover the short and the long points of the scallop. Flip this fabric over and stitch, following the same stitching line as before.
- 6) Turn and press, clipping the corners and the scallop.
- 7) Cut a piece of banding fabric 6"x45½". Lay this strip on the table face up. Place the main fabric strip on the top, the wrong side to the right side of the banding. Leave enough room at the bottom for the width of your banding, plus the seam allowance. Fold the top piece back, and place a line of glue along the lining. Place it back down, and set the glue with an iron. See



Illustration 1

illustration 1. Take it back to the sewing machine and stitch the pieces together by stitching in the ditch between the cording and the scallop. Flip the fabric to the back side and trim away the lining and the banding fabric above the stitching line.

- 8) Place a piece of blackout lining on the table (10"x48½"). This is your interlining. You need to interline it with blackout lining to prevent shadows. Glue-baste the interlining to the face fabric at the lower edge.
- 9) Now, draw a stitching line with an erasable marker for the bottom

of the scallop. This line will be used as a guide for the 2nd row of micro cording. My line is 1¼" away from the first micro cording. Repeat the process of glue-basting the micro cording along this line, clipping and notching so the cording can go around the curves. Stitch micro cording. See illustration 2.



Illustration 2

- 10) Cut a piece of the contrast fabric 10"x48½". Pin to the scallops right sides together, and stitch around the micro cording, sewing just inside your previous stitching line. Trim away the excess fabric next to the stitching line, clip the curves, turn, and press. Trim the whole scallop flap so that it is 7" high.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

- 1) Cut out the main fabric 31"x20".
- 2) Cut out the side triangle pieces the same size as the wood triangles, plus ½" seam allowance on all sides, except the back side. The allowance there should be 1". If you are using a striped fabric for your whole awning, plan for pattern matching the stripes on the scallop to the triangle stripes.
- 3) Stitch the micro cording to the sides of the main valance piece. Sew the angled sides of the triangles to the micro-corded sides, right sides together.
- 4) Stitch the triple cording to the bottom of the main valance, right sides together. The triple cording is made by sewing three rows of micro cording together, laying them one on top of the other in a graduated fashion.
- 5) Stitch the scallop flap to the bottom edge of this, right sides together. Run a strip of two-sided tape along the bottom edge of the 1"x3" frame. Place the valance on the awning frame. The scallop flap seam should

fall right at the bottom edge of the frame. Finger-press the seam to the two-sided tape. Flip the valance back, and secure this edge with a few staples along the scallop seam allowance.

- 6) Staple the top of the valance to the frame. Staple the sides of the valance to the ½" side of the plywood, turning under the extra fabric allowance at the sides.
- 7) Run a row of micro cording along the top edge of the valance, using two-sided tape to hold in place. Cut a piece of the main fabric 37"x5". Lay this strip of fabric face down along the cording at the top edge. Staple a tacking strip over this. Flip the strip of fabric over the tacking strip, and staple along the back side of the 1"x3".

Your awning valance is now complete!



Karen Barnes is the owner of The Elegant Window, a workroom to the trade located in Gilbert, AZ. She is an active member in the local WCAA chapter and is a Certified Workroom Professional. She also is a Window Fashions Certified Professional Specialist. Karen says she is a firm believer in the importance of continued development and education through the Custom Home Furnishings Conference, seminars, and other industry-related educational events.