

How to Make a Tortilla Warmer with Winner Designs Circle Templates

What's better than keeping tortillas warm throughout the meal? Making them faster and easier with No Slip Templates!

Be sure to check out my <u>"Sew Up Some Tortilla Warmers"</u> video and print my "How to Use Tortilla Warmer" Handout.

If selling or gifting these Warmers, include the handout as an added bonus!



My No Slip Circle Templates are the perfect tool to make these useful Tortilla Warmers. My Circle Templates come in a wide range of <u>sizes</u> but I recommend the 10", 11", 12" or 13" for Tortilla Warmers. Choose the size of the Template that will accommodate your favorite size and type of tortilla as well as your microwave.

The No Slip Backing make the cutting process not only fast and easy but will result in consistent and professional looking warmers! If you want to take your Tortilla Warmer to the next level, use the optional Fussy Cut Frame to feature parts of your fabric when you are cutting.

Please read directions all the way through before beginning cutting and sewing!

Options: How you USE your Tortilla Warmer will determine how you MAKE your Tortilla Warmer.

- 1. Method #1 Microwave Safe Place tortillas in the warmer then heat in the Microwave to keep warm throughout the meal. This method requires all materials be microwave safe.
- 2. Method #2 NOT Microwave Safe Warm tortillas in a skillet or whatever, then place inside the warmer to keep warm. With this method, you can use Insul-Brite or Insul-Film and 80/20 or other batting you may have on hand. These materials are **NOT SAFE** for the microwave.

These directions use Method #1 - the microwave method. Nothing is fool-proof so be sure to refer to my <u>"How to USE Tortilla Warmer" Handout</u> and use common sense when microwaving!

In the video, I show 3 different styles of Tortilla Warmers:

Style #1	Style #2	Style #3
Binding only on unopened part of	No Binding at all	Binding all around
Tortilla Warmer (shown in video)	(shown here in written directions)	(Show step by step in video)

These written directions are for **Style #2.** It's the fastest, easiest and cheapest since it doesn't require binding! Whichever method you choose, refer to the video for more details.

There are loads of directions and videos online for making Tortilla Warmers so if you have a favorite, use that! What makes this different is the cutting process. The No Slip makes consistent circles faster!

Materials Needed for Style #2:

Basics: sewing machine, sharp scissors, straight pins or clips, iron, turning tool, pinking shears, etc.

10", 11", 12" or 13" <u>Circle Template</u> Rotary Cutter, Cutting Mat

<u>Fussy Cut Frame</u> (optional) <u>100% Cotton Thread</u> (to match Outer Fabric & Inner Fabric)

Edge Stitch Foot (optional) Chalk or marking pen (optional)

<u>Stiletto - Wooden Stiletto</u> (optional)

Fabrics & Batting

2 pieces Outer Fabric*
2 pieces Wrap-N-Zap Batting*

2 pieces Inner Fabric*

*About Fabric and Batting:

- Amount needed is based on size of Circle Template. Give yourself at least 1 extra inch for security.
- Outer and Inner Fabrics should be 100% Cotton Fabric with no metallics.
- I recommend a non directional Outer Fabric the 1st time. Once you make one, then you can choose a directional fabric or even something with a focal feature and Fussy Cut it with my Fussy Cut Frame.
- For Inner Fabrics, I like a non-patterned, colored fabric (like the green or pink) so you can easily see inside.
- Batting must be 100% cotton batting with NO Scrim. (I recommend Wrap-n-Zap). Do not pre-wash your batting.

Additional Materials is making Style #1 or #3:

- For **Style #1 or #3**, do not use pre-packaged binding. It isn't 100% cotton so it's not safe for the microwave. Instead, cut your own bias binding from 100% cotton fabric.
- For **Style #3**, I recommend adding stitching using my <u>Quilting Rulers</u>. This adds dimension and hold the layers together. That's especially helpful if adding a layer of plastic. Rulers come in 1"x10", 1.25"x10", or 1.5"x10".
- Want to add plastic inside your warmer? **Style #3** is the best option and you can see the process in the video. Use the largest Ziploc Baggies you can find minus the 'zip' part. Or recycle a bag that holds products like the ones that your Winner Designs templates sometimes come in!











Style 1

Style 3

Check out the video so you can see my quilting rulers in action!

Back to Style 2 Process:

- 1. First, we'll create 2 sandwiches sewn separately.
- 2. Next, we'll edgestitch around part of each turned sandwich.
- 3. Then we'll sew the 2 sandwiches together where we didn't edgestitch.
- 4. The 1st edgestitched area creates the opening to add the tortillas.



Style 2

Let's Get Started:

Cutting:

You need 2 'sandwiches' – 1 Outer Fabric, 1 Inner Fabric and 1 Batting for each sandwich. So you'll need 2 pieces of Outer Fabric, 2 pieces of Inner Fabric, and 2 pieces of Wrap-N-Zap Batting.

If you haven't used a Winner Designs No Slip Template, check out the cutting process in my video that starts at 18:44. Practice on scrap fabric before beginning.

To Cut -

Comfortable with a rotary cutter and my No Slip Templates?

Stack 1 Outer Fabric and 1 Inner Fabric right sides together then place batting underneath. Cut all 3 at the same time so you're ready for the sewing machine. Repeat the process for the 2^{nd} stack.

Not so comfortable?

Cut the 2 Outer Fabrics; then the 2 Inner Fabrics; then the 2 pieces of Batting.

Pinning and Sewing:

Make your 1st sandwich by stacking in this order:

1 Batting down, 1 Inner Fabric right sides up, 1 Outer Fabric right sides down.

Pin the 3 pieces together lining up edges.

Leave an area about 2" for turning. Mark or pin in the opposite direction to designate the area. You've got the start of a sandwich!

Repeat the pinning process for the other sandwich.

At the sewing machine, use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " or $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance; I like to use the edge of my foot as my guide. Move the needle if needed.

Begin stitching at the end of your turning area and stitch all around to the beginning of your turning area.

Backstitch at both the beginning and end.

Repeat for your other 'sandwich'.

Snipping/Clipping, Turning, Rolling, Pressing:

You can use pinking shears to cut off excess from your seams or make little snips to help 'ease' the circle. But... if you've used a ¼" seam allowance, it may not be necessary.

Take one circle and carefully turn right sides out through the turning area. Use a turning tool if it's helpful.

Once everything is turned right sides out, we want our circles nice and round. Working at the seams, use your thumb and fingers to roll back and forth, 'opening' seams out as close to what you've sewn as possible.

Press, then roll then press some more. Phillip's Wooden Stiletto is really helpful in turning above & to open the seams. Make sure turning area fabric is pressed and turned evenly inside to get a nice, consistent appearance. Pin if needed. Do this to your other sandwich, too.

Edge Stitching and Sewing your Sandwiches Together:

- 1. First, we'll stack the 2 sandwiches together making sure that everything lines up nicely.
- 2. Then we'll determine how much of an opening we want for our Tortilla Warmer.
- 3. We'll edgestitch only part of each sandwich the part that will be the opening for tortillas. (In the video, I did a decorative stitch to cover up my initial stitches. This works but it's not as pretty or clean.)
- Then we'll finish by stitching the 2 sandwiches together where we didn't edgestitch.

Before we do any sewing, we want our sandwich edges to line up as evenly as possible.

Place the 2 sandwiches together making note of the turned areas. It doesn't really matter if your turning areas are lined up together. You'll just want to be aware when sewing so you can nicely close the openings. Look to see if your circles line up evenly. (This is where the rolling and pressing we did earlier will pay off!) If they don't line up nicely, reposition them until you find the best look.

When you like what you see, pin them to hold them together.

Now, we're ready to decide how wide we want the opening to be. Remove a few pins if needed and fold your top sandwich back half way. Check out the opening. Then fold it back a little less like my picture. Decide how much you'd like for your opening. I like about 2/3 of the way.

Place a pin on the left and a pin on the right to designate the amount for the opening.

We'll 1st sew just the open areas where the tortillas will go in. To make it look nice, change top thread to match Outer Fabric. Change Bobbin thread to match Inner Fabric. Move pins down a bit then fold back sandwich out of the way. Change stitch length to 3.0 and edgestitch just the top layer, starting at the side as shown in the drawing, then turning to stitch along the edge. If this area contains any of the open turning areas, make sure that you have them turned in evenly and get stitched closed. Be sure to lock in stitches at the beginning and the end. Then flip over your project and do the same to the other top edge. The opening area for tortillas is finished!





Change stitch length to 2.5.

Change out the bobbin thread to match the Outer Fabric.

Make sure the 2 sandwiches still line up with edges as even as possible. Re-pin if needed but keep edgestitching on front in line with back.

Starting just before where your edgestitching stops, stitch the 2 circle sandwiches together.

If you still have turning areas open, make sure that they get closed nicely as you stitch.

Take your time and reposition if needed. Having edges lined up evenly gives a professional look.

If you need to stop and take out a few stitches and start over, it will be worth it!

Be sure to backstitch at the beginning and the end.

If finished edges aren't as nice as you'd like, you can stitch around again or choose a decorative stitch to stitch down the edges a bit. Then remind yourself this is to hold tortillas and not to walk down the runway!

Each one you make will look better as you work on seam allowances and turning and pressing - so have fun!

Print out my "How to USE Tortilla Warmer" Handout. Grab some tortillas, favorite meats, veggies, etc then call some friends. Gather round the table (or TV!) and enjoy your new Tortilla Warmer! I promise they'll want one, too~

You can find lots of other fun No Slip Templates at www.WinnerDesigns.com. Sign up for my Newsletter to see my latest projects, sales and specials!

Check out my 250+ videos at www.youtube.com/LindaVideos including Make a Microwave Potato Bag - No Raw Edges! and Make a Microwave Popcorn Bag - No Raw Edges! Subscribe to see the latest.

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Questions? Call me - Linda Winner - at 850-449-0259!

By Linda Winner

850-449-0259

mouserme@yahoo.com