Unpicking Overlocking Stitch

By Dani Castley

As frustrating as it is, there are times that you will need to unpick overlocking (serging). This can be frustrating, it can be damaging to the edge of the fabric, and it can take time.

Here is some easy to follow steps:

Look at your overlocked piece. Have the side up, where you can see to two parallel rows of straight stitching.



Run your stitch ripper along the fabric, between the two rows of stitching.

Take care to not snag or cut the fabric only the stitches.





Grab the edge of the fabric, pulling the loops off the fabric.

On this side of your work, you will be left with two parallel lines of stitching.



Turn your work over.

On the back you will see a loopy stitch.

Use your stitch ripper to free one end of this stitch, and then lift that up, pulling it off the fabric.





Turn your work back over.

You have the two rows of straight stitching left.

Use the stitch ripper to free the ends, and then gently pull those off too.

Done Hope this helps.