



Self border with EASY mitered corners!

This can be made with a pieced top of any kind, or a top of just one fabric!

Cutting:

Top: 12" x 16"

Back/border: 16" x 20" (after quilting – cut a bit bigger, then cut down to size)

Batting: 12" x 16"

Construction:

- Layer backing (wrong side up), then center batting & top (right side up). You should have about 2" of the backing showing on all 4 sides – just make it consistent on all 4 sides. Pin in place and quilt as desired (!) (as simple as parallel lines or fancier – whatever you can do nicely).
- Cut backing to size using whatever is the smallest side (i.e. if you have 2" on 3 sides and 1.5" on another side, cut them all to 1.5")
- Press a ¼" hem on all sides of the back, wrong sides together.
- Sew around this folded edge 1/8" from the outside of the fold – OR – use washable glue stick to hold down the ¼" hem. Don't worry about corners – they will be cut off later, so neat corners are needless! – but the stitching along the edges will show, so be neat there.
- Press the sewn fold – don't skip this step!
- Using a ruler with a 45 degree diagonal line, lay ruler with the diagonal line along the edge of the top, and slide it toward the corner so that the edge of the ruler is ¼ from the top of the top's corner. Use a rotary cutter to cut off the corner. Repeat with other corners.
- Flip over so back is facing up. Fold backing together to line up 1 side of the placemat with its adjacent side; pin in place, and sew from the corner of the placemat out to the edge backstitching at the starts and stops – you're sewing the mitered corner. Finger press the seam open (clip up to but not through the seamline in order to make the open seam lie flat). Sew all 4 corners.
- Flip back up, and bring the backing/border around to the front of the placemat, GENTLY poking the corners to make a nice point. Remove any pins that may be under the border, and then pin the border in place for sewing. Sew around the inside edge of the border on the same line that you sewed in the 2nd step – or use a decorative stitch. You can also sew ¼" or ½" or 1" from outside edge of quilt, or as much as you want.
- Ta Da!