Mitered Borders

The subtle seam of a mitered corner creates the illusion of a continuous line around the quilt. Mitered corners are ideal for striped fabric borders or multiple plain borders.

1. Referring to Measuring Quilt Center Diagram, measure your quilt length through the middle of the quilt rather than along the edges. In the same manner, measure quilt width. Add to your measurements twice the planned width of the border plus 2”. Trim borders to these measurements.

2. On wrong side of quilt top, mark ¼” seam allowances at each corner.

3. Fold quilt top in half and place a pin at the center of the quilt side. Fold border in half and mark center with pin.

4. With right sides facing and raw edges aligned, match center pins on the border and the quilt. Working from the center out, pin the border to the quilt, right sides facing. The border will extend beyond the quilt edges. **Do not trim the border.**

5. Sew the border to the quilt, starting and stopping ¼” from the corner of the quilt top, backstitching at each end. Press the seam allowance toward the border. Add the remaining borders in the same manner.

6. With right sides facing, fold the quilt diagonally as shown in Mitering Diagram 1, aligning the raw edges of adjacent borders. Pin securely.

7. Align a ruler along the diagonal fold, as shown in Mitering Diagram 2. Holding the ruler firmly, mark a line from the end of the border seam to the raw edge of the border.

8. Start machine-stitching at the beginning of the marked line, backstitch, and then stitch on the line out to the raw edge.

9. Unfold the quilt to be sure that the corner lies flat (Mitered Borders Diagram). Correct the stitching if necessary. Trim the seam allowance to ¼”.

10. Miter the remaining corners. Press the corner seams open.