

MAKING MY QUILTED POT HOLDER

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Tucson Quilters Guild, 2006

You will need:



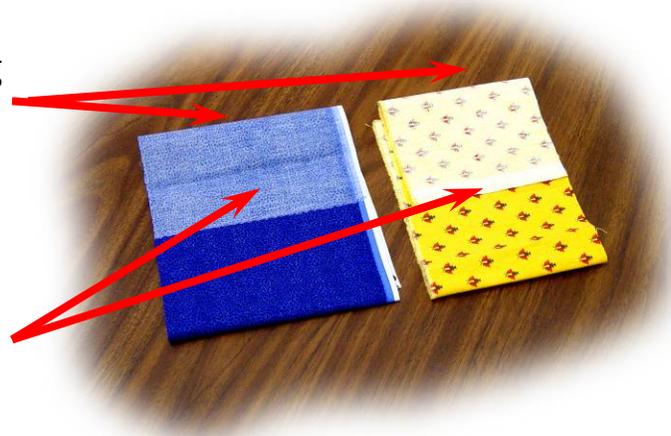
- Two pieces of fabric
- Batting
- Small Template
- Large Template
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Pins and needles
- Thread
- Embroidery floss

Step 1: Identify both sides of the fabric.

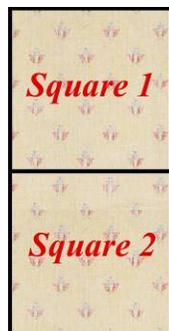
The two sides of fabric are different. The brighter, more colorful side is called the *right side*. The plainer side that shows less of the design is called the *wrong side*. A light colored strip along the edge of fabric is called the *selvage*.

Wrong
sides

Right
sides



Step 2: Fabric layout.



Step 3: Use the small template to draw four squares.

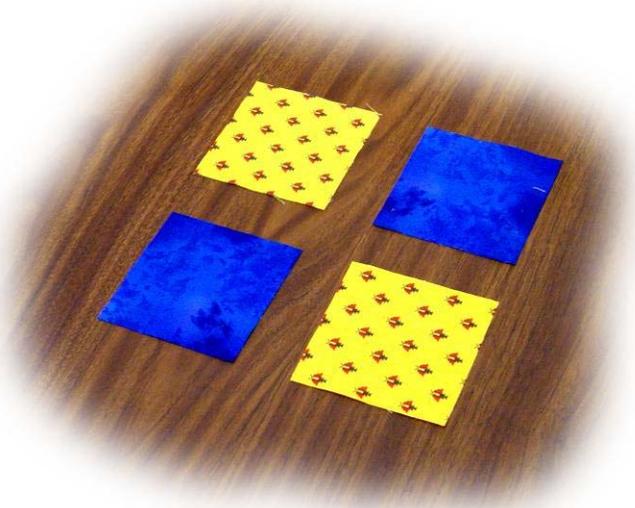
Your small *template* is a *square*. Each side is 4-1/2 inches long. Place the template on the *wrong side* of your fabric in the location labeled *Square 1* in the fabric layout from *Step 2*. Hold the template down firmly and draw around its edges with your pencil.

Place the template on the *wrong side* of your fabric in the location labeled *Square 2* in the fabric layout and draw around its edges.

Do the same thing for *Squares 3* and *4* in your other piece of fabric.



Step 4: Cut out the squares.



Step 5: Put the right sides of *Squares 1* and *3* together. Draw a seam line.



Place your small template along one edge of the matched squares so that it is this far  in from the edge. This is about the width of your pencil. Draw a line on the fabric along the edge of the template.



Step 6: Pin your two squares together.

The fabric outside of the seam line is called the *seam allowance*. This will not show in your finished quilt. Use two pins to hold the squares together. Place these inside the seam line. This will hold the squares together while you sew.



Step 7: Thread your needle and practice a running stitch.

A *running stitch* goes up and down along the seam line. The thread alternates between going *down* from *above* the seam line and *up* from *below* the seam line. The thread *never* goes around the edge of the fabric.



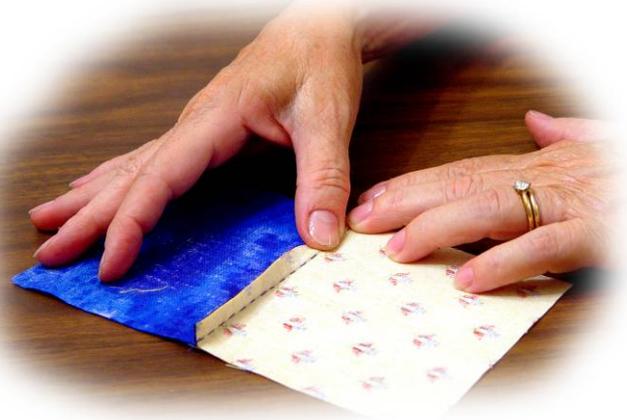
Step 8: Sew along the seam line.

Tie a knot in your thread and start sewing with a *running stitch* at one end of the seam line. Sew along the entire seam line, using small stitches. When you are done, tie a knot in your thread and then cut off the extra thread.

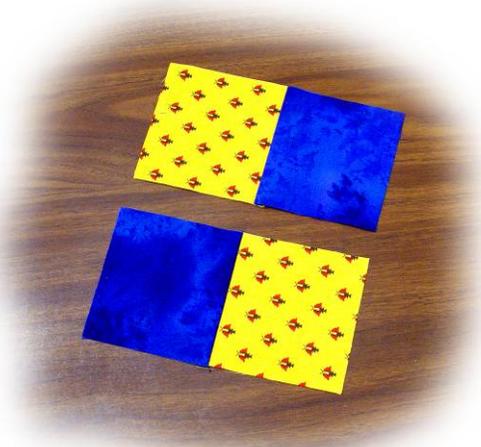


Step 9: Open up your squares and fold over the extra material.

Use your fingers to fold over the seam allowances. Fold both seam allowances together, with the lighter fabric on top of the darker fabric. Press the allowances down firmly with your thumb. This is called *finger pressing*.



Step 10: Redo Steps 5 – 9 using Squares 2 and 4.

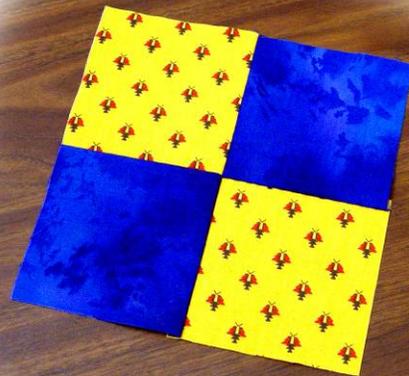


You now have two strips, with two squares in each strip.

Step 11: Sew your two strips together, as shown.

Fit your two strips together, right side to right side. Draw a seam line and then sew along the line. Fold over the new seam allowances together and finger press them down.

You have finished a *quilt top*! Each of the squares that you made is called *quilt block*. Sewing them together is called *piecing* the quilt top.

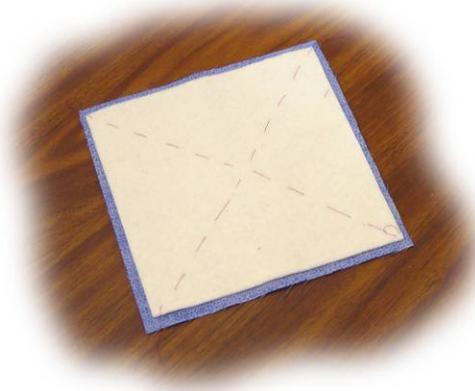


Step 12: Use your large template to draw a square on your Backing Fabric. Cut out the backing.

Save the extra pieces of your fabric. Quilters call a collection of extra material your *stash*.



Step 13: Sew a batting square to the wrong side of your backing.



Your leader will provide a precut square of quilt *batting*. Sew this to the middle of the wrong side of your backing with large running stitches. This is called *basting*.

Step 14: Fit the right side of your quilt top onto the right side of your backing. Draw a seam line on all four edges of the wrong side of your quilt top. Sew the quilt top to the backing along three of the seam lines. Leave the middle of one edge open.

Sew completely along the seam lines on three sides of the quilt top. Sew along the ends of the seam line on the fourth side. Leave one hand's width of opening on the fourth side.



Step 15: Turn your project inside out. The right sides of the quilt top and backing will be on the outside. The batting will be on the inside.



Step 16: Sew the open edges together to close the quilt.



Fold over the open top and backing edges. Finger press both seam allowances. Sew these together with a *hem stitch*. If done carefully, your seam will not be visible.

Step 17: Tie the middle of two opposite squares with embroidery floss.

Pick a square to *quilt* with a tie. Draw lines between the two pairs of opposite corners. The lines will cross each other in the middle of the square. Start close to the middle. Use a needle to thread *embroidery floss* through the top and back up through the quilt. Tie the two ends with a *square knot*.



Step 18: Quilt from corner to corner in each of the squares that you did not tie.
not tie.



Draw a *quilt line* between the opposite corners of the squares that you did not tie. Quilt along each line with a running stitch. Erase all pencil lines or rinse them off with cold water.

Your quilted pot holder is finished!

