

Round Robin Rules

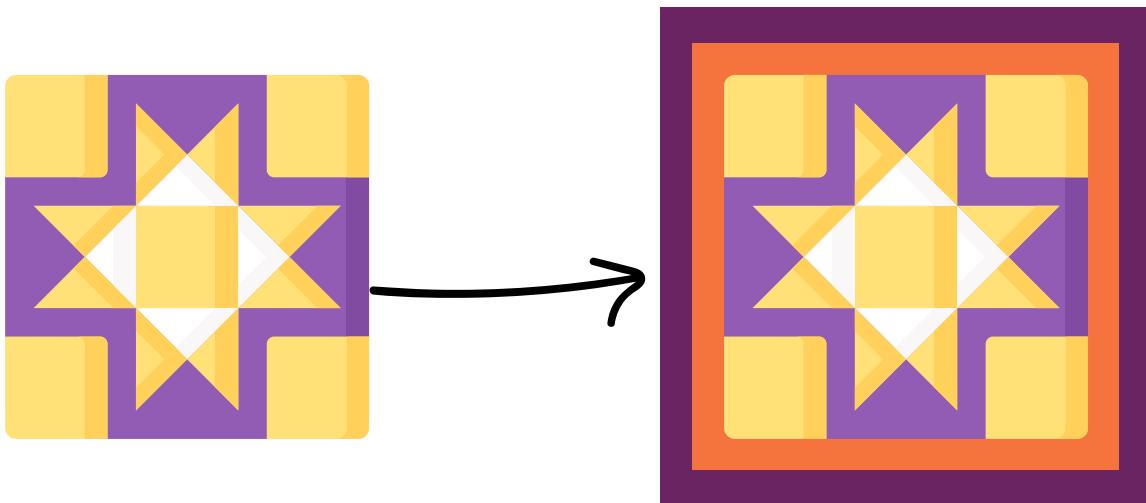


1. Start with a block of your choosing. It should be between 6" and 18". Something too small would result in a very small finished quilt, but something too big might result in a king sized monster! It's up to you.
2. Bring your quilt in a small box or bag to easily pass between each person.
3. When you get someone else's quilt, add between 2-6" on each side. If you add much more than that, their quilt will be way too big! With 8 people, if each person just adds 5" on each side, a 12" block will quickly become 92" (or over 7 feet across!) When we get toward the end, we'll ask each person how big they want their quilt, and we may stop early.
4. Decide if you want to see the quilt between each exchange. If you want it to be a secret, tell us now, otherwise, we will show off what we've done at each meeting!
5. Commit to finishing your portion on time. If it looks like you are unable to finish, ask the group leader to help out. If you decide you want to drop out at any time, that's fine. Please bring the quilt you're working on back, and we'll return your quilt to you as well. You DO NOT have to participate if you don't want to. And it's okay to drop out. It's not okay to steal someone else's quilt though.
6. If you have specific fabric you want to be used in your quilt, send that with the block.
7. It might be a good idea to send a small notebook with your quilt so you can give notes to those who will be adding onto your quilt, and so they can write you notes as well.
8. Be sure to always give your project to the same person. If you are unable to attend the exchange meeting, try to let the group leader know ahead of time, or send the project with a friend to exchange for you.
9. Try to always use better fabric and good thread. You don't have to use your most expensive fabric, but create something that you'll be proud to share with your new friends.
10. Always follow the guidelines left in the notebook from the quilt's owner. If they say don't use blue in their quilt. Do not use blue! If you are unsure, ask them. If they say no religious themes, don't use fabric with Bible verses!
11. Never ever change the work of a previous row!
12. Do try to do your best work. Press the seams, trim the threads, square the quilt. If you struggle with any of these aspects, please ask for help!
13. Most of all, don't stress, and have fun.

Round Robin Ideas

So you joined a Round Robin and have your first quilt block. What do you do with it now? Here are a few ideas, from super simple to a little more detailed, but still easy!

These are just ideas to get you started. You do not have to follow any of these steps. If you want to try something more complex, feel free to do that.

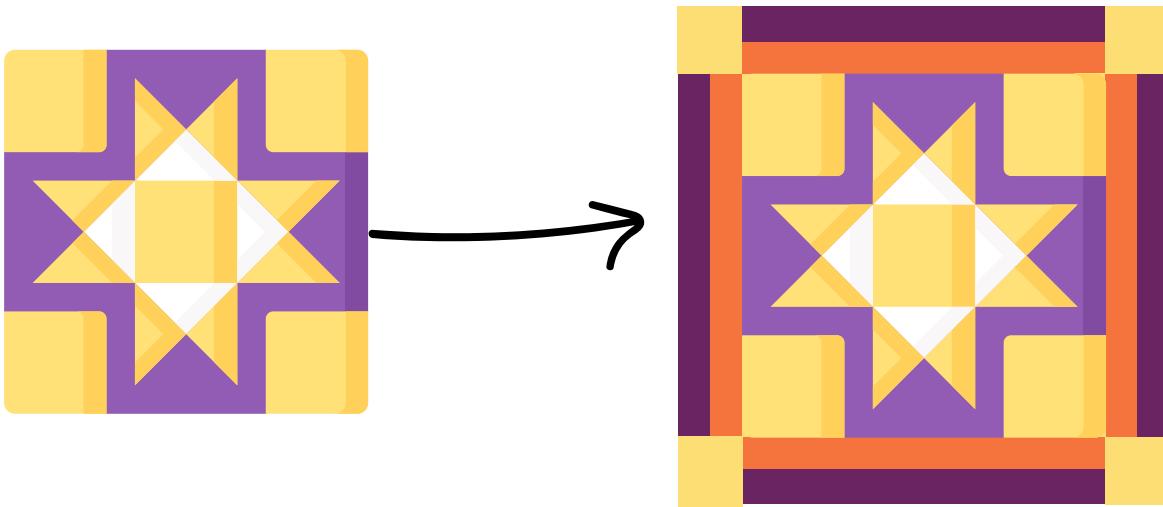


1. Basic Border

First is just a simple border. Adding border is a good skill you might need for any quilt or quilt block.

1. Decide how many borders you'd like to add, and how big those should be. For this Round Robin, you need to add between 2 and 6 inches per side. You could add one six-inch border, or 3 two-inch borders, or anywhere in between. I would not recommend doing anything smaller than 1 inch. In the image above, I've just shown 2 borders. Remember that Quilt math is different than normal math. In quilt math, you have to add seam allowances. If you decide on 2" borders, you need to cut your fabric at $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wider, at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. (1/4 inch for each side.)
2. Measure 2 opposite sides of your block. They should be the same. Let's just pretend your block is 10.5 inches. And if you want 2 inch borders, you will need 2 pieces of your border fabric at 10.5" x 2.5". Sew these onto both sides.
3. Now measure the top and bottom. Cut your pieces 2.5" x the new width. Sew these to the top and bottom.
4. If you want to add more borders, repeat these steps.

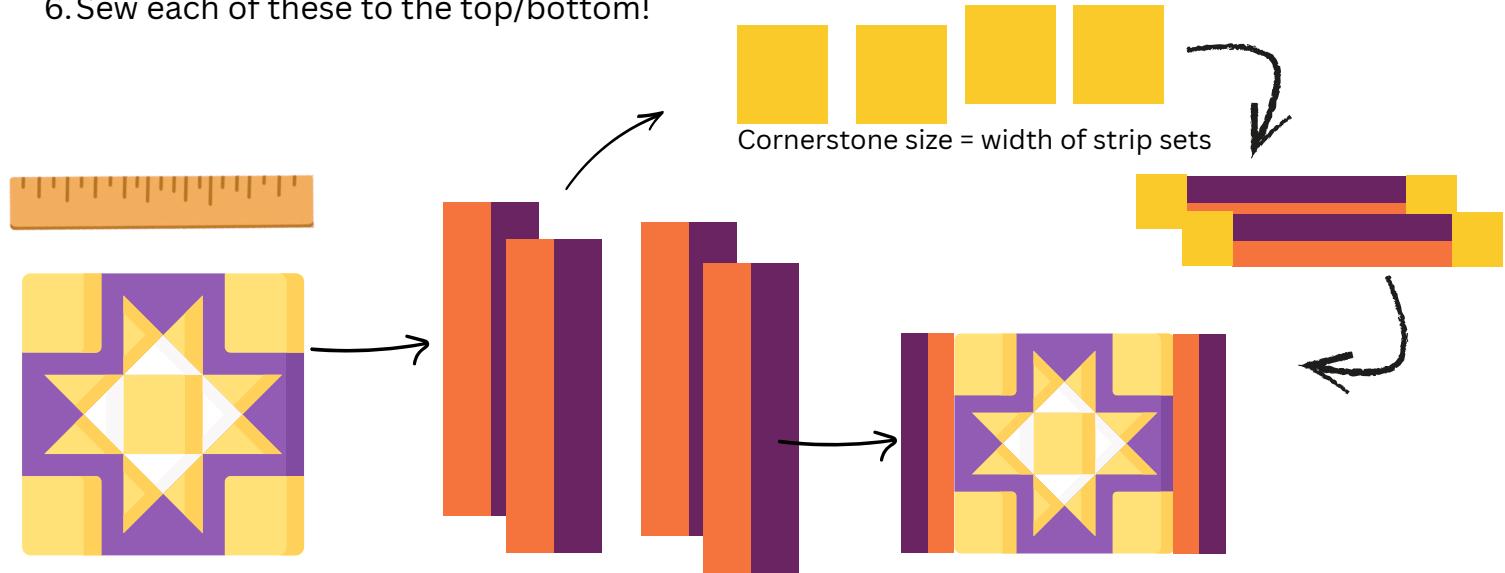
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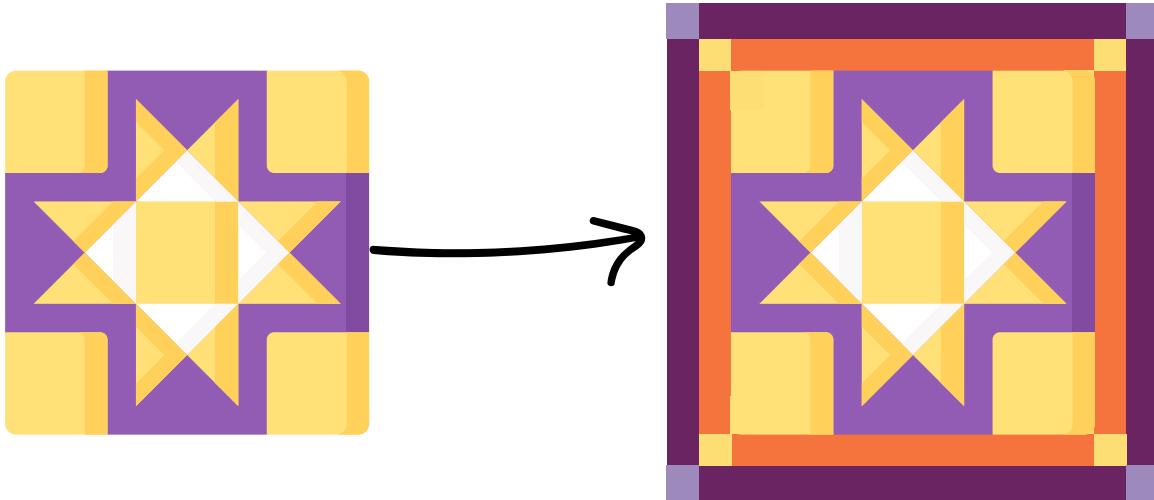
2. Border with Big Cornerstones

Similar to a basic border, Large cornerstones help frame the block.

1. Again, Decide how many borders you'd like to add. I'll once again use 2 as my example, and I'll make them both 2", which in quilt math, means you'll need to cut your fabric at 2.5". This will make the cornerstones 4 inches, but you'll cut them at 4.5". (If your measurements are different, just measure how wide your strips are in step 3, cut your squares to that size)
2. If your block is square, this will be much easier. First step is to measure each side. Squares should all be the same. If you've got a rectangle, talk to me separately.
3. Cut ALL your border strips 2.5" wide by that length. Sew each of the borders to its partner. (In this example, sew the purple ones to the orange ones).
4. Sew 2 sets of these onto each side of the block.
5. Sew the cornerstones to each end of the other two border sections.
6. Sew each of these to the top/bottom!



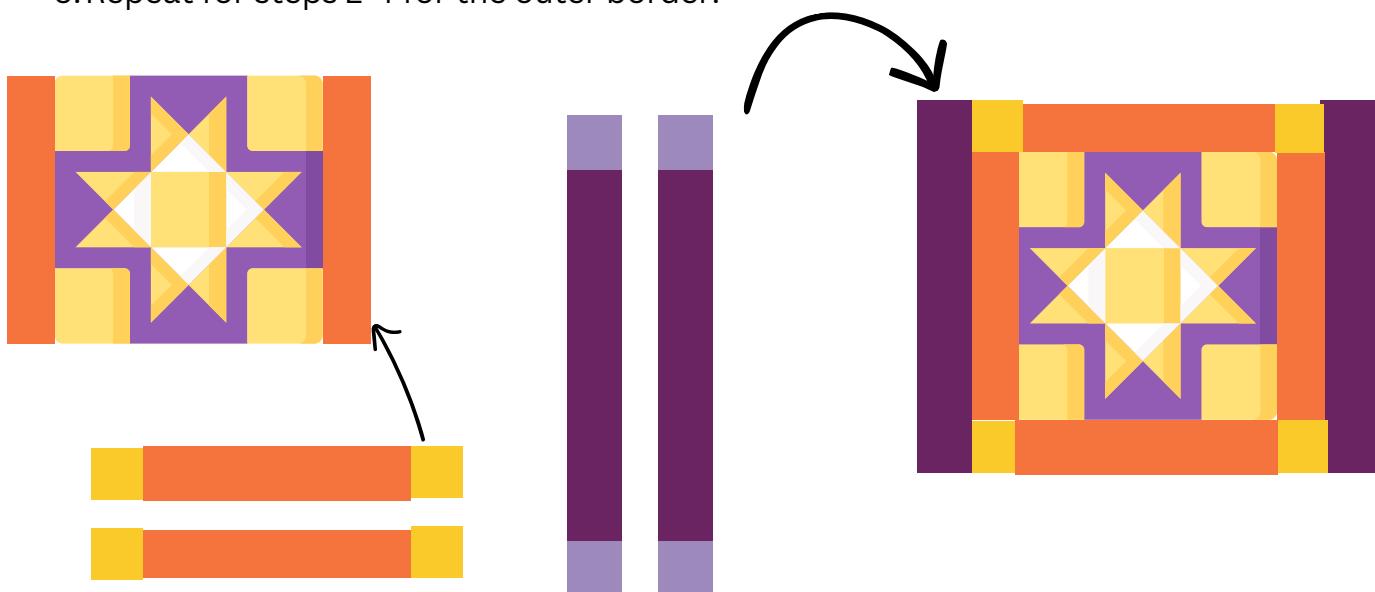
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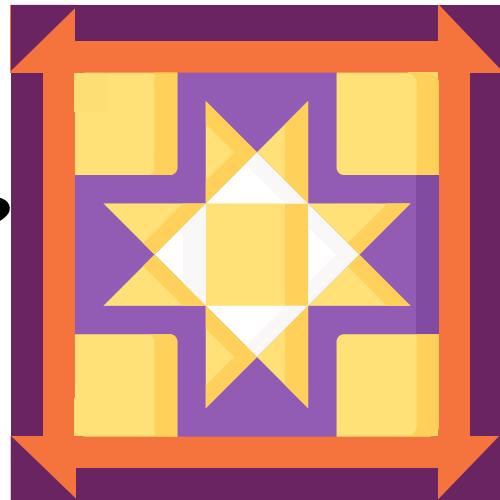
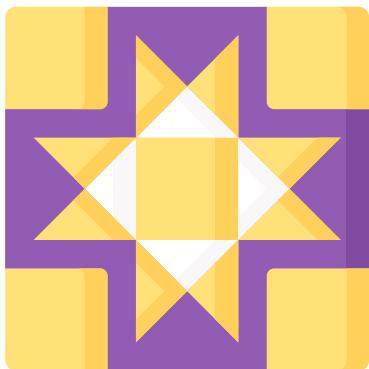
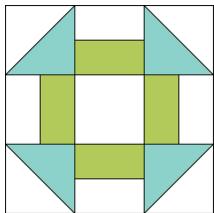
3. Border with Small Cornerstones

This is a mix of the first 2. Simple borders, but with a corner stone in each level, rather than one large cornerstone.

1. Measure your block and decide how many borders and how wide you'll make them. Again, in my example, I'll use 2 borders at 2" each.
2. Cut the first border the width of the block. For example, if the block is 10.5", cut 4 strips of the inside border to 10.5" and 2.5" wide.
3. Sew 2 pieces to opposite sides of the block. For the other 2, sew cornerstones to each end.
4. Attach these to the top.
5. Repeat for steps 2-4 for the outer border.



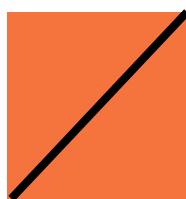
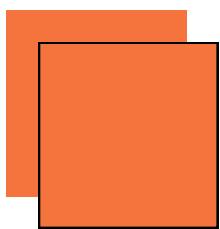
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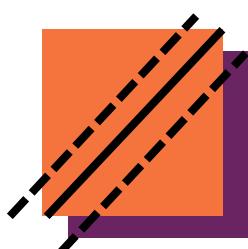
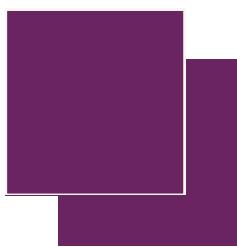
4. Churn Dash Border

This Version is basically just Borders with Large cornerstones, but the large cornerstones are Half Square Triangles instead of solid blocks. This will form something that is similar to a Churn Dash Block (show above).

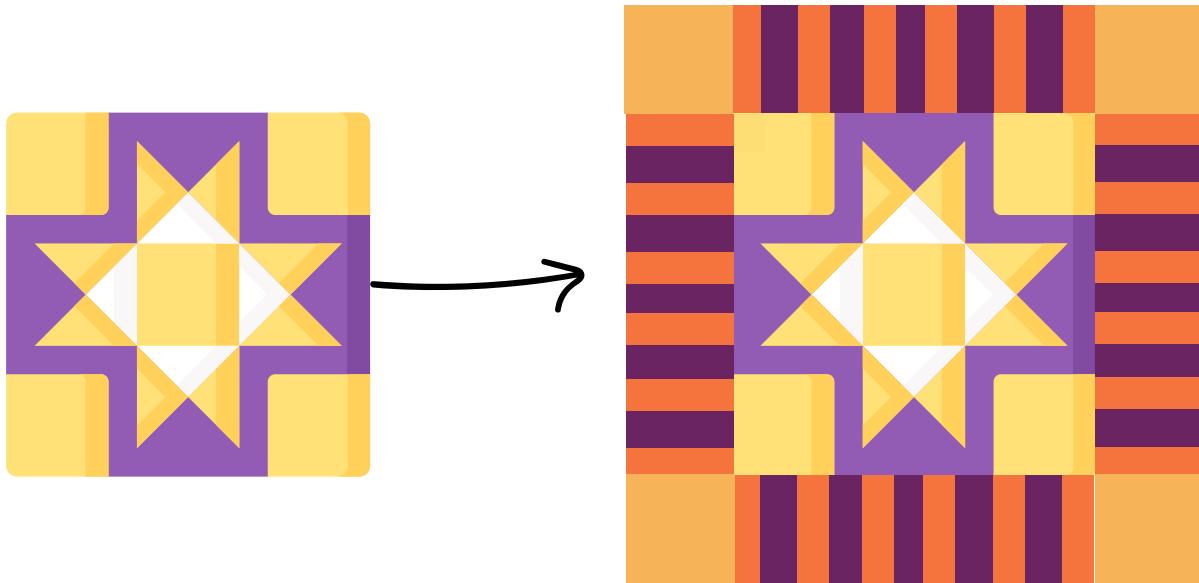
1. Follow the steps in “2. Border with Big Cornerstones.” Except replace the solid cornerstones with Half Square Triangles (or HST). Follow the steps below to make your own HSTs.
2. Figure out how big your cornerstones need to be. (Measure the width of your combined border strips). Add 1” to this measurement. So if your combined strips are 4.5” wide, you will need 5.5” squares.
3. Cut 2 squares of each color for your HST’s. (in the image above: Dark purple and orange). Draw a diagonal line on the back of the lighter-colored squares.



4. Place the fabrics right sides together and sew 1/4” from the line on both sides. (Dotted lines in the image)
5. Cut on the drawn line.
6. Press open, and then trim to the correct size.



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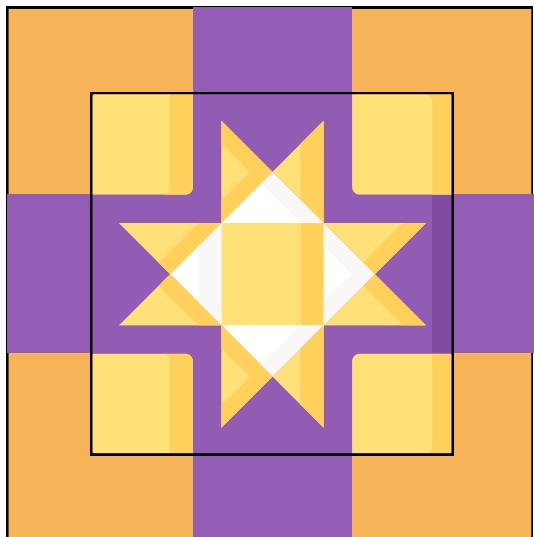
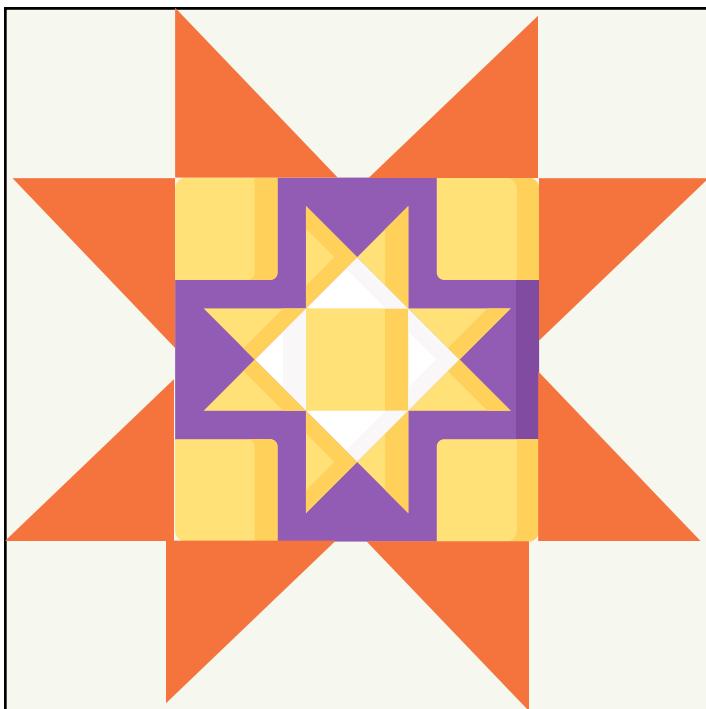
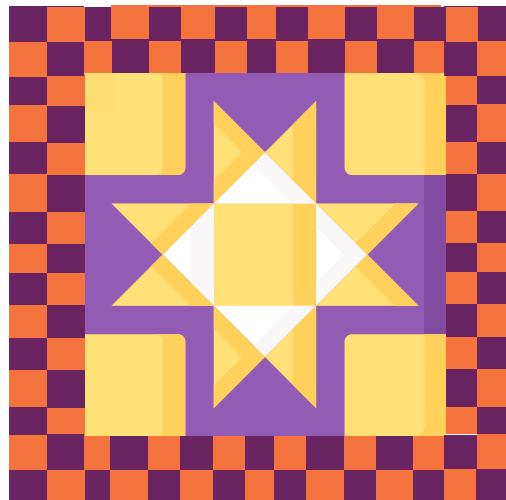


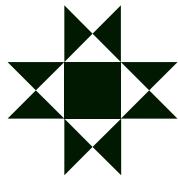
5. Piano Key Borders

Like Before, the first steps are to measure and decide! How wide do you want your borders, how many keys do you want on each side, or how wide do you want them? This border is doable at 1" wide. The hard part will be the quilt math.

1. Measure your block. If it's a number with $\frac{1}{2}$ " after it, this will work in 1" increments.
Subtract .5" from your measurement. This will tell you how many 1-inch piano keys you will need per side. (Eg. If your measurement is 10.5" then you'll need 10 keys. If it's 15.5, you'll want 15 1-inch keys.)
 - a. If you decide you want to do a different width of keys, just divide your block width by the width you want your piano keys (eg. 15" divided by 3" wide keys is 5 keys per side.)
2. Cut your piano keys $\frac{1}{2}$ " wider than the key-width, found in step 1. (1" keys = 1.5" strips, 3" keys=3.5" strips). Cut them to the length you'd like. I'd recommend between 3" and 6" long.
3. Sew the keys together. You will need 4 sets. They should be the width of your block after pressing. If not, your seams were not the right size, or you're bad at math. That's ok. Add a few more keys and trim to size. If its too big, trim it down.
4. Now you will need 4 cornerstones. How long did you make your keys? That's how big of cornerstone you make.
5. sew 2 sets of piano keys together either side, then sew the cornerstones to each end of the remaining 2 sets.
6. Attach these and you're done!

Other Ideas





Quilt Math

Quilt Math is quite different than regular math. Normally $2+2=4$, but if you sew a 2" square to a 2" square, you will get 3.5", not 4". This is due to the seam allowances, or the fabric that gets folded under and inside the fabric. This is why you will often see "Finished" size or "Unfinished size."

Finished Size: is the size of the finished block or piece AFTER it is sewn into the quilt. This does not include seam allowances. A

Unfinished Size is the size of the unfinished block or piece. This is before it is sewn into the quilt it does include seam allowances.

If your quilt pattern says to "Trim block to 6.5 inches" Then do just that. This means your unfinished block is 6.5", but after it's sewn into the quilt, it will be 6".

If you know you're making 12" blocks, this usually means FINISHED, so you will need to trim to 12.5".

So, the trick to quilt math is knowing if you're talking about finished or unfinished.

If you are designing your own quilt, or block, (or section for a Round Robin), I find it easier to figure out what you want in Finished size, then you just need to add $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to everything.

When you get your round-robin block, the first thing you do is measure it, then SUBTRACT $\frac{1}{2}$ ". This is because the block is not in its finished state, so it's "unfinished" and $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each side will be used up in the seam allowances.

Once you get your Finished Size, then decide what you're doing to it. In the case of something like the Piano Key borders, lets say you want 10 piano keys across the top, and you want them all to be 1" finished, this means you cut them to 1.5" unfinished.

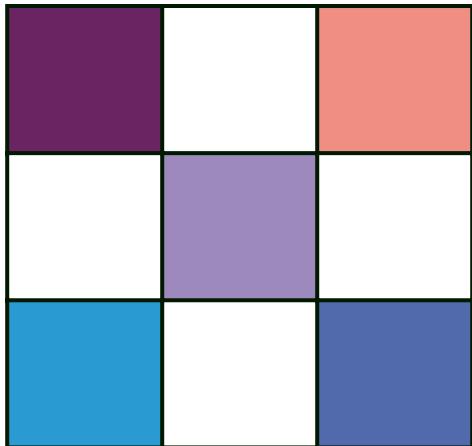


Disappearing 9-patch Baby Blanket

Fabric Requirements:

1 Yard Background Fabric (or 4 Fat-Quarters)

5 Assorted Fat Quarters in your chosen prints



1. From each of these fat Quarters, cut [9] 5.5" squares. You will need a total of 91 squares.
2. Arrange as shown here.
3. Sew together in rows. Sew the rows together. Make 9. You can vary the location of each fabric, or keep them all the same.

1. Cut each 9-patch block in half both directions.
2. Mix up all the pieces
3. Sew back together in any arrangement you like.
4. Sew the blocks together in 3 rows of 3!

Add a border if you'd like to enlarge it some!

