

PLACEMATS

12" X 17" (+/-)

Simple pattern with NO binding (*For ease of use, I made this with FQs, so if you are using yardage, you could cut at 19" instead of 18"*)

Materials for 1 placemat:

2 FQs OR ½ yd – do not use selvages

Optional: You could also do it scrappy like in the picture on the right

13" x 18" batting

Thread to match or contrast (for quilting and topstitching)

Fabric glue or spray baste or pins (this is optional, but holds the fabrics better)

Instructions:

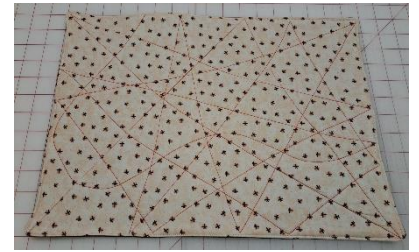
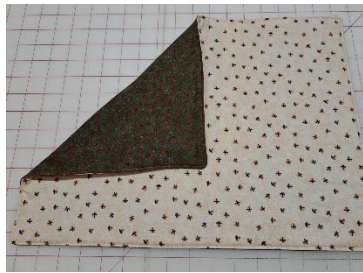
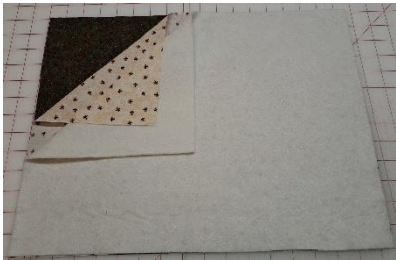
Step 1: If using FQs, cut a 13" x 18" piece of fabric from each FQ

If using a ½ yard piece of fabric, fold in half and cut 2 pieces 13" x 18"

If using scraps, sew them together and then cut down to the 13x18" size

Step 2: Lay your two pieces of fabric right sides together. Lay your batting on top of those two (batting will be facing the back of whichever piece you put on top) (Picture 1). You could use spray adhesive or fabric glue or pins to hold the batting on top of the fabric. This is just to hold it in place before sewing side seams. You could omit this step if you wanted. I use a walking foot, so I don't have very much movement in my sandwich, and I just pin it. Do whatever works for you, but remember to only put glue or spray between the batting and one fabric!

Step 3: Sew 3/8" around all sides leaving a 5" gap open for turning (Picture 2). Trim the corners, then turn your placemat inside out and press slightly to smooth out edges.



Step 4: Topstitch 1/8" around the entire placemat (this will close your open seam edge) (Picture 3).

Step 5: Finish the placemat by quilting whatever design you want (Picture 4). The fastest is to just do some diagonal straight lines in a random order up and down and sideways across the placement. As with the fabric choices, it is your choice to do whatever quilting you want to do to hold the placemat together. If you're a good free motion quilter, then meandering or loops would be great too! Again, your choice!

OPTIONAL with binding: If you have lots of binding and would prefer to have a bound edge, then sew/quilt as normal by sandwiching your pieces, quilting them and then adding on binding. I find this way takes more time and I can finish the placements faster using the flip and turn method versus binding, but it is your choice. Also, sew the binding by machine since the placements could get lots of laundering done to them.

NOTE: I like to use medium or darker value fabrics since food might be spilled on them. Yes, they are washable, but stains are not as likely to show. This is a good project for using up 2 ½" squares of fabric or strips or orphan blocks also. Also, remember these will be going to males and females, so make sure you're using a variety of fabrics.

Thanks for making them.

