Simple Mitered Placemat



Material Needed

- Cut 8-1/2" x 14-1/2" Focus Fabric (Center)
- Cut 16-1/2" x 22-1/2" Border & Backing Fabric
- Cut 12" x 18" Lightweight Batting (I used Quilter's Dream Poly) *Optional*

Note: The Focus/Center Fabric can be directional. I wouldn't recommend directional fabric for the Borders/Backing.

Assembly

1. Center Focus Fabric on Batting (if using. If not using skip to Step #4)
2. Stabilize the Batting to the Focus Fabric by stitching along 1/8" from the raw edge
3. Add a few lines of quilting just to keep Batting from shifting. Additional quilting can be added later
4. Mark the Center of the Focus Fabric edges (Long & Short). Also, Mark ¼" from each Corner all the way around the Focus Fabric. Mark the Center of the Backing/Border Fabric edges (Long & Short),
5. Pin the Long Edge of the Backing/Border Fabric to the Long Edge of the Focus Fabric matching the Center marks T**he Batting will extend past the raw edges and the Backing/Border Fabric will extend past the edge of the Focus Fabric.** Mark the Backing/Border Fabric 1/4" from the end of the Focus Fabric on both ends. Repeat for the other Long Edge. *On one edge leave an area unstitched for turning later.*
6. Stitch using ¼" seam beginning and stopping ¼" from the edge of the Focus Fabric. Remember to Backstitch at the beginning and ending of each seam. Repeat the process for the 2 Short Edges pinning the Center marks and the 1/4" corner edges. *Tip – Use caution to avoid catching excess Fabric in the seam.*
7. Being careful to avoid the excess fabric, fold one long edge to the neighboring short edge, with the batting side together, carefully folding the excess batting and excess fabric out of the way
8. Align a ruler along the fold, placing the corner tip of the ruler at the seam line. Mark a line from the fold to the seam line & stitch on the mark. Remember to lock/back stitch at the beginning and end. Trim 1/4 inch from the stitching remembering to not cut the batting. Repeat on all 4 corners.
9. Use the opening on the side & turn the placemat right-side out. Carefully poke the corners (a chopstick is handy) and smooth the batting (if used) to the edges. Press it and make sure the 1/4-inch seam is turned under to close the opening.
10. Top stitch on the Border fabric around the Center Focus Fabric to close the opening. Then stitch about ¼" from outside edges to tack down the edge of the batting.

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Technically the placemat is done but I like to add some finishing touches.

Optional Finishing

A. Add a second round of stitching to frame the center focus fabric.

B. Add top stitching along the outer edge and another round of stitching about 3/4 inches in. It will help hold the batting from shifting.

C. *Quilt as Desired* – Quilting the center isn't really needed but a little helps to stabilize the batting, if used.

Variation #1

Fussy Cutting or Orphan 8" Block – Either Fussy cut an 8-1/2" square or use an Orphan Block 8-1/2" square (unfinished) and add a bordera (Cut two 3-1/2" x 8-1/2") on the sides (not top & bottom).

In this placemat I added 2 columns of five 1-1/2" x 3" (finished size) Flying Geese. This center is 8-1/2" x 14-1/2" and replaces the Focus Fabric in the Simple Mitered Placemat.

I used the *4 at a time* method to make the Flying Geese which gave me 2 extra.

For the *4 at a time* method, you will need to Cut 3, 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" squares of the color fabric and Cut 12, 2-5/8" x 2-5/8" squares of the background fabric. This will make 12 Flying Geese, but you will only need to use 10. Sew 5 Flying Geese together as shown & add to the right and left sides of the Center block. Use this in the place of the Center Focus Fabric and follow the above Assembly instructions.



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Variation #2

Star Block Center with Borders – This will replace the Center Focus Fabric in the original instructions.

Make 4 Flying Geese (using 4-at-a-time method)

- Cut 1 large square – 5-1/2” x 5-1/2” Background Fabric
- Cut 4 small squares – 3-1/8” x 3-1/8” Focus Fabric

Cut the remaining pieces for the Star Block and Placemat Center

- Cut 1 Center Square – 4-1/2” x 4-1/2” Focus Fabric
- Cut 4 Corner Squares – 2-1/2” x 2-1/2” Background Fabric

Assemble Star as Shown.



Cut 2, 3-1/2" x 8-1/2" strips of Background fabric and add to the right & left sides of the Star Block. This will now measure 8-1/2" x 14-1/2" and replaces the Center Focus Fabric in the above instructions. Follow the above Assembly instructions to complete the placemat.



See a full tutorial with pictures – https://quiltmouse.org/2026/10/14/a-blog-hop-with-fall-fortnight-2026/