

Take-Along Place Mat

SPECIFICATIONS

Skill Level: Confident Beginner
Place Mat Size: 18" x 14"
(includes binding, excluding ties)

Make a set of these place mats today and picnic tomorrow. The zippered pocket will make it handy and easy to pack.

MATERIALS

For 1 place mat:

- 1 fat quarter yellow-with-white dots
- 1/3 yard orange gingham
- 1/2 yard yellow floral
- 20" x 16" batting rectangle
- Thread
- 14" coordinating zipper
- Machine zipper foot
- Basic sewing tools and supplies

CUTTING

From yellow-with-white dots:

- Cut 1 (20" x 16") backing rectangle.

From orange gingham:

- Cut 3 (2 1/4" by fabric width) strips.
Subcut 1 strip into 2 (2 1/4" x 15") tie strips.
Set aside the remaining 2 strips for binding.

From yellow floral:

- Cut 1 (14" by fabric width) strip.
Subcut strip into 1 each 14" A square, 3" x 14" B strip, 5 1/2" x 14" C strip and 4 1/4" x 14" D strip.

Here's a Tip

You may use a zipper longer than 14" and trim off the excess after stitching between the B and C strips. Be sure to stitch across the trimmed bottom to keep the zipper slide from coming off before securing ends in the place mat layers.

COMPLETING THE PLACE MATS

1. Fold the B and C strips in half lengthwise with wrong sides together to make a 1 1/2" x 14" B strip and a 2 3/4" x 14" C strip, as shown in Figure 1.

2. Place the closed zipper on a table right side up with zipper pull at the top.

3. Place the folded side of the B strip on the zipper tape to the right of the zipper teeth and pin.

4. Attach zipper foot to the machine and stitch through B and the zipper close to the folded edge of B as shown in Figure 2.

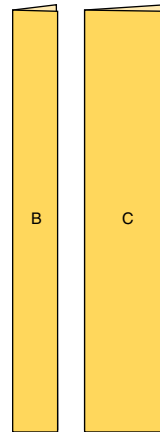


Figure 1

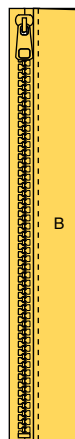


Figure 2

5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 with the folded C piece to the left of the zipper to complete the B-C zipper unit as shown in Figure 3.

6. Place the backing rectangle wrong side up on a table; place the batting rectangle on top. Place the A square right side up on top of the backing/batting layers leaving 1" of batting showing above, below and at right-hand side of A as shown in Figure 4.

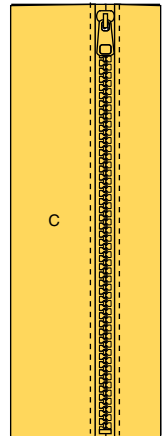


Figure 3

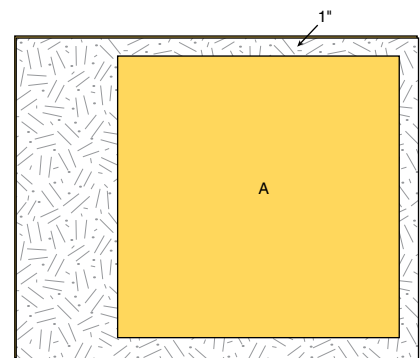


Figure 4

7. Referring to Figure 5 on page 3, draw quilting lines from top to bottom 2" apart starting on the left end and working to the right end using an erasable fabric marker.

“I like a quick and easy project that can be done in one day. A zippered pocket on the side of the place mat is handy for storing utensils. Just roll it up, tie it, and throw it in your bag! It is great for use at the office, cafeteria or at a picnic table at the park.” —Cinzia Allocca



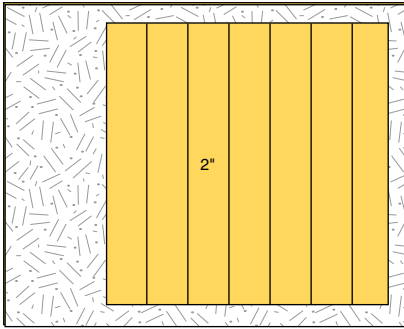


Figure 5

8. Quilt on the marked lines.

9. Place the B-C zipper unit right side down on the left end of A as shown in Figure 6.

10. Place the D strip right side down on the B-C zipper unit; pin through all layers.

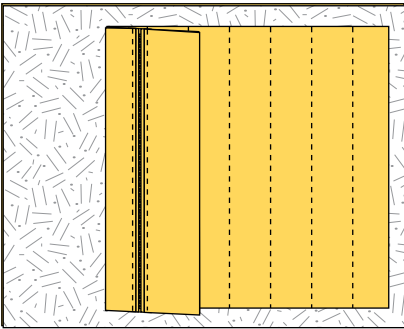


Figure 6

11. Stitch through all layers using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance referring to Figure 7.
12. Flip D to the right side and press

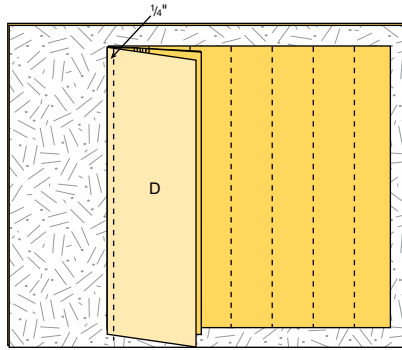


Figure 7

down. Mark a vertical line 2" to the left of the seam line and stitch to quilt D as shown in Figure 8.

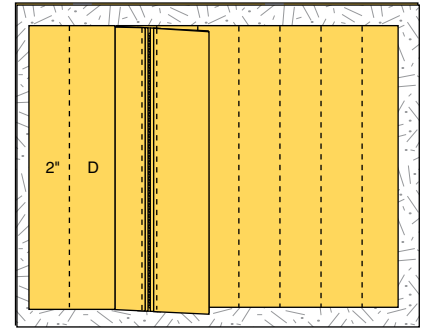


Figure 8

13. Flip the B-C zipper unit to the right side on top of the quilted D piece and press to flatten. Matching raw edges of B-C to D, stitch layers together $\frac{1}{8}$ " from edge as shown in Figure 9.

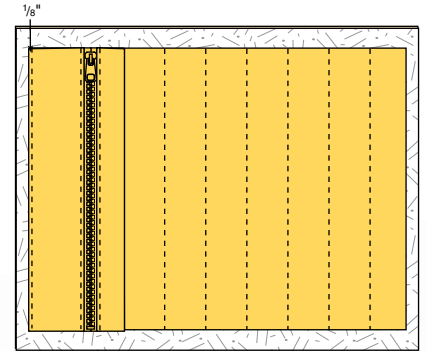


Figure 9



14. Trim layers to 18" x 14".

15. Fold one short end of each tie strip $\frac{1}{2}$ " to the wrong side and press. Fold each strip in half along length with wrong sides together and press. Open the strips again and fold in each long edge toward the center creases; press.

16. Refold the strips along the center creases and press again; pin to hold. Edgestitch along the open edges to finish the ties as shown in Figure 10.

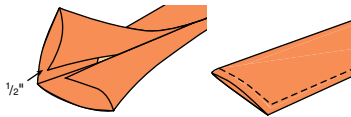
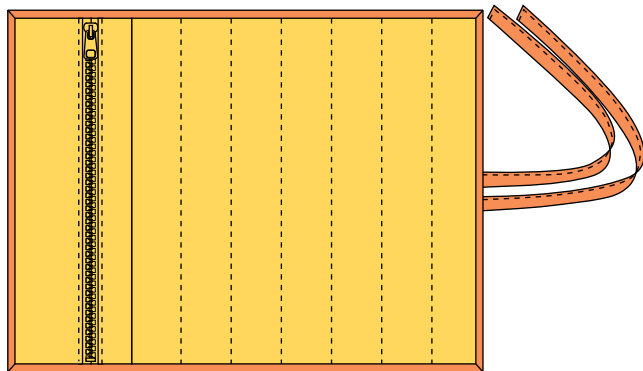


Figure 10



Take-Along Place Mat
Placement Diagram 18" x 14"
(includes binding, excluding ties)

17. Lay the trimmed place mat back side up on a table. Center the ties to the left-side edge of the place mat as shown in Figure 11; pin to hold. Stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from raw edge to secure.

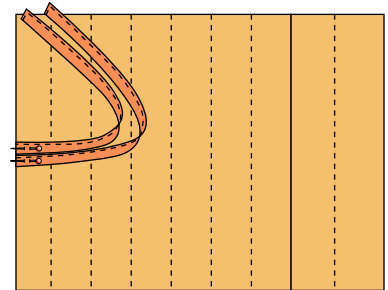


Figure 11

18. Bind edges referring to Quilting Basics on page 5 to finish the place mat. **QW**

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Quilting Basics

Quilt Backing & Batting

We suggest that you cut your backing and batting 8" larger than the finished quilt-top size. If preparing the backing from standard-width fabrics, remove the selvages and sew two or three lengths together; press seams open.

If using 108"-wide fabric, trim to size on the straight grain of the fabric.

Prepare batting the same size as your backing. You can purchase prepackaged sizes or battings by the yard and trim to size.

Quilting

1. Press quilt top on both sides and trim all loose threads.
2. Make a quilt sandwich by layering the backing right side down, batting and quilt top centered right side up on flat surface and smooth out. Pin or baste layers together to hold.
3. Mark quilting design on quilt top and quilt as desired by hand or machine.
Note: *If you are sending your quilt to a professional quilter, contact them for specifics about preparing your quilt for quilting.*
4. When quilting is complete, remove pins or basting. Trim batting and backing edges even with raw edges of quilt top.

Binding the Quilt

1. Join binding strips on short ends with diagonal seams to make one long strip; trim seams to ¼" and press seams open (Figure 1).

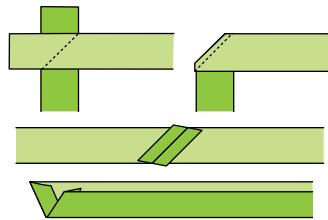


Figure 1

2. Fold 1" of one short end to wrong side and press. Fold the binding strip in half with wrong sides together along length, again referring to Figure 1; press.
3. Starting about 3" from the folded short end, sew binding to quilt top edges, matching raw edges and using a ¼" seam. Stop stitching ¼" from corner and backstitch (Figure 2).

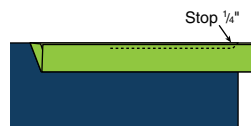


Figure 2

4. Fold binding up at a 45-degree angle to seam and then down even with quilt edges, forming a pleat at corner, referring to Figure 3.



Figure 3

5. Resume stitching from corner edge as shown in Figure 3, down quilt side, backstitching ¼" from next corner. Repeat, mitering all corners, stitching to within 3" of starting point.
6. Trim binding end long enough to tuck inside starting end and complete stitching (Figure 4).

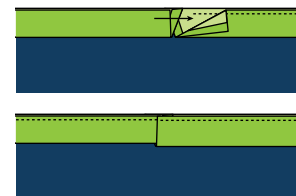


Figure 4

7. Fold binding to quilt back and stitch in place by hand or machine to complete your quilt.