

Borders

You can, of course do anything you want for your border. This is a quick to make quilt and the border for my taste should be fun and scrappy (using up leftover fabrics from making the quilt) and not something to gnash your teeth over. If you are an experienced border maker and want to do a carefully planned and measure border, please do.

After experimenting with various pieced borders on my quilt, I decided to do a very simple border on my "9 Patch - Over/Under". I simply put a 3" strip of my Bold Patterned fabric as the border. [Here's a photo of my top with that border.](#)

Ideas

Feel free to put a narrow border in one fabric and a wider fabric in another fabric. You do not have to piece your border.

1. The most simple pieced border from your fabrics would be to cut up the remaining strips into squares and piece the squares together in the same size patches as the units in your 9 Patch blocks. Separate the body of the quilt top from this pieced border with a solid 2-3 inch strip of print or solid to set it off.

2. Or, you may wish to make Half Square Triangles from the 3.5" squares (or smaller squares if you were doing the wall size quilt). To do this you would take 2 squares of fabric as below. Before layering the squares in B, take the lighter color square and **press a diagonal crease across it** with an iron (see #C, the fine dark line is the crease mark.) This crease mark will be your sewing guide line and then the cutting line after sewing.

A. Two squares, right sides together.



B. Put them RIGHT SIDES together on top of each other:



C. The fine dark line below is the crease line you ironed into the top square. Now sew 2 seams where the thicker brown lines are, one on each side of the crease and a scant 1/4" away. (You can chain piece 10-12 of these at a time for fast piecing.)



D. Now cut on the crease line to cut the two sections apart. (I just use scissors.) Press the triangles open.



The result will be two half square triangles like this.

E.



This is a border made of the Half Square triangle units shown in [part E of the previous page](#). These can be arranged in various ways to form alternating triangles and stretched M's along the edge of the quilt.

These blocks will be about 7/8" smaller than the blocks making up the 9 Patch blocks so will not fall evenly. I recommend using a flannel board or a piece of quilt batting up on a wall to experiment with the arrangement before sewing them.

