

Sierra Quilt Guild Block of the Month
July, 2019
Skill Builder – Mitered Corner Block

The completed block measures 8 1/2" x 8 1/2" unfinished (8" x 8" finished). This month I wanted to share this formula for making mitered corners. You can use this formula on this block and also, more importantly, when making mitered borders on your quilts. It is a great skill to have in your quilting toolbox!

Fabric Requirements:

Fabric A: SUPPLIED Patriotic Stars

One (1) 5" x 5" square:

Border 1: (any coordinating fabric)

Four (4) 1 1/4" x 15" strips

Border 2: (any coordinating fabric)

Four (4) 2" x 15" strips



Step 1: Making the Center Block:

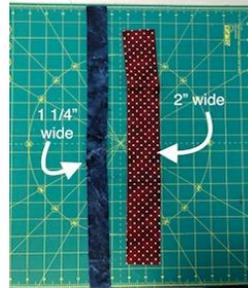
Utilizing the **supplied** 5" x 5" square of patriotic star fabric make a center block that measures 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" square UNFINISHED. You can let your creativity take over here. You could :

1. Leave as is and just trim it to 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" square.
2. You could add some coordinating fabric from your stash and make a 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" four-patch square.
3. You could use strips of the patriotic fabric with stash fabrics making sure your final square was 4 1/2" x 4 1/2". (This is what I chose to do for the sample.)
4. You can make ANY block pattern as long as you use some of the supplied patriotic fabric in the block and the unfinished measurement of the block is 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" square.

Step 2: Making the Border Strip:

Sew the 1 1/4" border strip to the 2" border strip and press seam towards the darker fabric.

The sewn border should measure 2 3/4" wide.



Step 3: The Formula:

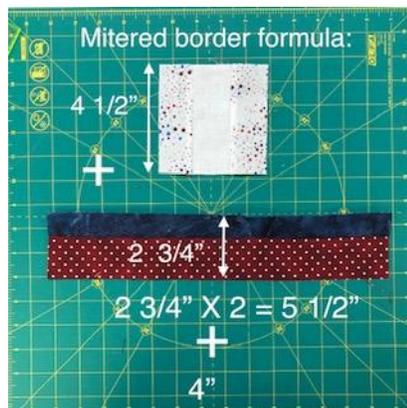
It doesn't matter what size block or quilt you want to put mitered borders on. This formula will determine the length you need to cut your border strips and it will come out perfect every time:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Measurement of the edge of your block or quilt} \\ + \\ \text{Width of your border(s) x 2} \\ + \\ 4'' \end{array}$$

So for our center block, the edge measures $4\frac{1}{2}$ ".
 The two border strips sewn together measure $2\frac{3}{4}$ ".

$$4\frac{1}{2}" + 2\frac{3}{4}" \times 2 + 4"$$

$$4\frac{1}{2}" + 5\frac{1}{2}" + 4" = 14"$$



So we need to make sure that our border strips are cut 14" long. Since all four sides of our center block measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ ", then all four of the border strips need to be cut 14" long.

Step 4: Block Assembly:



1. On the wrong side of the fabric, mark $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each side.
2. Mark the center point on each edge of the center block with a pin. Mark the center point on the edge of the border strip (the narrow border or blue blue border shown in photo).
3. Align the center points of the block and the border and pin.
4. Stitch between the $\frac{1}{4}$ " marks making sure to backstitch a few stitches on each end.
5. Repeat these steps until all four borders are sewn on.



Photo A



Photo B

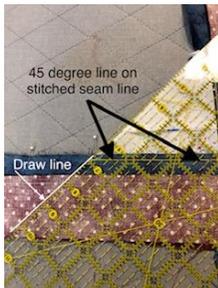


Photo C

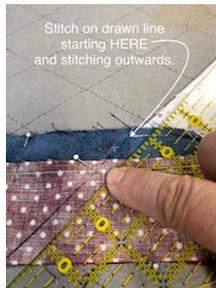
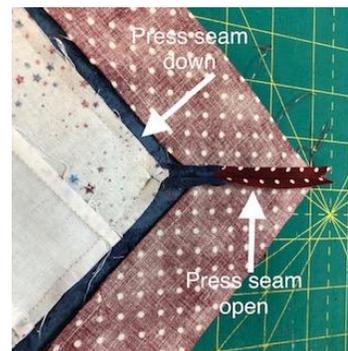


Photo D



- Your block should now look like Photo A...stitched on all four sides leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each corner open.
- Fold your block in half as shown in Photo B and pin the edges together.
- Place a ruler with a 45 degree line on the stitched seam line and draw a line - Photo C.
- Making sure your border seams are aligned, stitch on the drawn line beginning at the marked $\frac{1}{4}$ " point on the edge and sewing outwards. Refer to Photo D.
- Press block/border seam down. Press mitered seam open. Trim block to $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Questions??? Call Susan Rupp at (209)559-5654 or email: susanlrupp@gmail.com