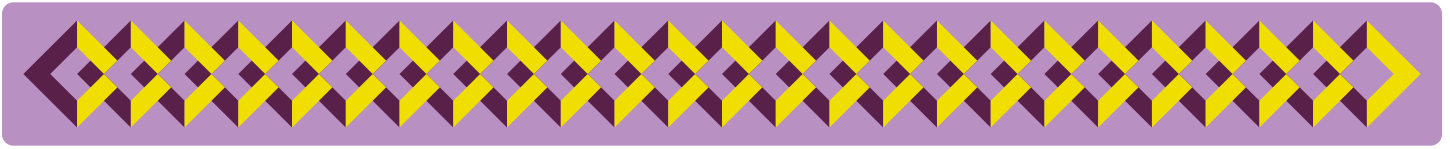


Directions for Placing Double Diamonds Down the Center of the Quilt Border



“Winging It”

If you want to “wing it” you can simply cut your border strip several inches longer than required. (For 1½” wide diamonds, add at least 4”. For 3½” wide diamonds, add at least 6”.) Remember that there cannot be seams on the Main (Border) fabric or the Contrast fabric where the diamonds are to be placed, so plan accordingly when you originally cut and sew your border strips.

Find the midway point by folding the border strip in half. Mark it with a chalk line. Follow the manufacturer’s directions for making Double Diamonds to cut as many diamonds as you like to the right of the midway point. Repeat on the other side by making the same number of diamonds to the left of the midway point. You’ll need to overlap the bottom set of slots on the Double Diamond Ruler™ with the first set of slits that you cut. (See Diagram B.) Once again, fold the border strip in half on the previously marked midway line. Both of the end diamonds should match up when they’re folded together. Trim both ends so that the borders are the length called for in your quilt pattern. Match the midway point of the border strip to the quilt’s midway point. Pin at the center and at both ends. Ease the border to the quilt and pin. Sew as usual.

“Planning It”

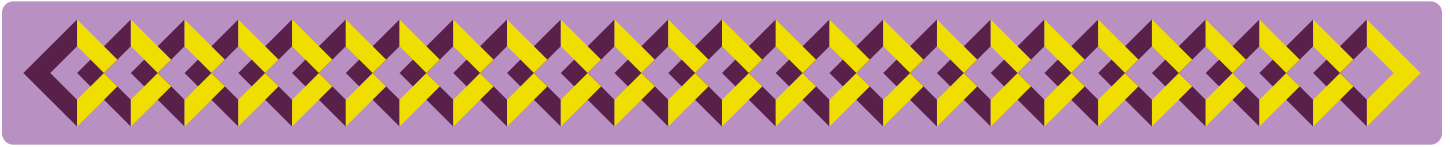
To plan the placement of your diamonds in a more structured way, follow these directions:

First, make some decisions about your Double Diamonds:

These directions assume that the diamonds will be centered on the border. Find the midway point of the border strip by folding it in half. Press in a good crease or mark it with a chalk line.

Decide how long you want your diamonds to stretch from tip to tip. If you’re not real worried about the exact ending points, simply chalk a mark near where you want your last diamond to end. Do this on both the right half and the left half of the border. If you need to be more specific, use the [Double Diamond Length Chart](#) to determine how many diamonds you must make to cover that distance.

When putting Double Diamonds on quilt borders, the border fabric is considered the Main Fabric. The fabric you fuse to the back of the border fabric is the Contrast Fabric. You will place a third fabric, the Background Fabric, underneath the diamonds. **Remember that there cannot be seams on the Main (Border) fabric or the Contrast fabric where the diamonds are to be placed, so plan accordingly when you originally cut and sew your border strips.**



Step #1: Prepare the Fabric

- **Prepare the Main (Border) Fabric:**

Cut your border fabric to the proper length plus a few inches for wiggle room. (For 1½" wide diamonds, add at least 4". For 3½" wide diamonds, add at least 6".) You may also choose to cut your border fabric slightly wider than called for in your pattern and trim later as in Step #4.

Fold your border fabric in half lengthwise. Press with steam to make a good crease. Now find the midway point of that piece of fabric by simply folding it half the widthwise. Either press a nice crease there or mark that midway point with a chalk line or pin. You'll be referring to this midway point often.

- **Prepare your Contrast & Background Fabrics:**

Width of Contrast & Background fabric:

If you are making 1½" wide diamonds, cut your Contrast & Background Fabrics 2½" wide. If you are making 3½" wide diamonds, cut your Contrast & Background Fabrics 4½" wide.

Length of Contrast & Background fabric:

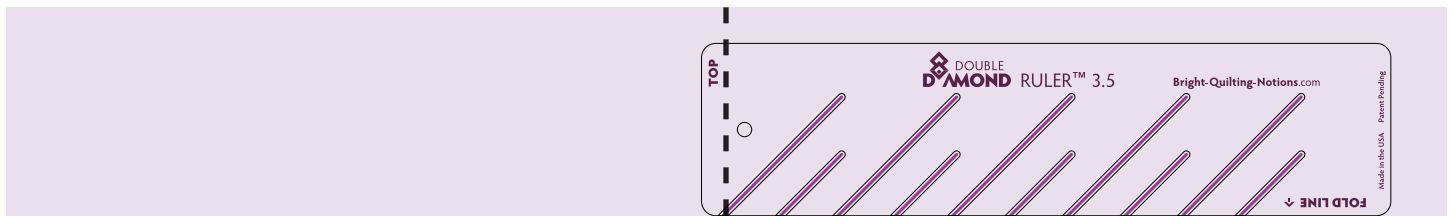
Decide how long you want your diamonds to stretch from tip to tip. You will cut your Contrast & Background Fabrics slightly longer than that length. If you are making 1½" wide diamonds, add 3". If you are making 3½" wide diamonds, add 5" to the length.

- Cut fusible web the same size as the Contrast Fabric strip. This can be several smaller pieces butted up next to each other. It's better to overlap the web than have gaps of fabric without fusing. Iron the fusible web to the Contrast Fabric following manufacturer's directions. Remove the paper.
- Place the Contrast strip on the back of the Main (Border) fabric between the end marks that you previously identified and chalked. Carefully center the Contrast strip (widthwise and lengthwise) then fuse it to the Main (Border) fabric.
- Fold this "fused piece" in half lengthwise once again with the Main (border) fabric on the outside. Press with steam to make a good crease. If necessary, mark the midway point once again with a chalk line.

Step #2: Cut Slits in Fabric

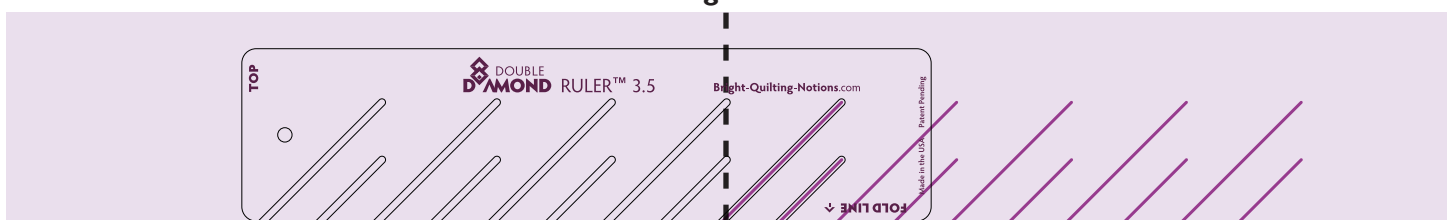
- Following the manufacturer's directions, cut slits for the diamonds placed to the right of the midway point. Be sure that you put the top of the ruler close to the midway point so that your diamonds open up the correct way. (See Diagram A.) Place the first slot on the ruler at the chalked mark where you want your first diamond to begin. Cut until you come close to the chalked mark where you want your diamonds to end. You may need to fold back the last diamond that you cut to see where the tip of the diamond will fall. Cut more slits if necessary.

Diagram A



- Once you have cut all the slits to the right of the midway point then you will cut the diamonds to the left of the midway point. Overlap the bottom pair of slots on the Double Diamond Ruler™ with the first set of slits that you cut. (See Diagram B.) Cut the same number of slits on the left side of the midpoint line that you cut on the right side of the border. (Don't count the overlapped set of slits.)

Diagram B



↑
Overlap the bottom pair of slots on the ruler with the first set of slits.

Step #3: Finish Making the Diamonds

- Fold back and tuck the diamonds following manufacturer's directions. (For further instructions about folding and tucking, use the directions on the inside of your Double Diamond Ruler™ package or on the downloadable tutorial "[How to Make Double Diamonds](#)" starting on Step #3.) Use fabric glue to temporarily tack the diamonds down.
- Place fabric glue liberally on the contrast fabric, which is on the back of the fused double diamond piece. Center your Background fabric and place it underneath the diamonds so that the right side of the Background fabric shows through the diamonds when viewed from the top of the piece.
- You can secure the three layers of fabric now or during the quilting process. If desired, sew a straight stitch down the center of the Double Diamonds. Make sure that the flaps are properly tucked under the diamonds below them before sewing.

Step #4: Finish your Double Diamond Border

- Remember that you cut your border several inches longer than required. When you trim the border to the proper length, you must leave the same amount of "gap" past both ends of the Double Diamonds. To do this, fold the piece at the midway point once again. Divide the correct unfinished length called for in the instructions in half. Measure that distance from the midway point out. Trim. (Example: If the correct length of your border should be 50", measure 25" from the midway point and cut.)
- If you cut your border a little wider than called for in your pattern, trim it to the proper width. Fold the fabric in half lengthwise. The crease should go right through the center of the Double Diamonds. Divide the correct width of the border in half. Measure that distance from the center crease. Trim and repeat on the other side of the center crease. (Example: If the correct cut width of your border should be 6", measure 3" from center of the diamonds and trim.)
- When you attach the border to your quilt top, align the midway points of each. Pin at both ends. Ease the border to the quilt and pin. Sew as usual.