

OCTOBER 2020 BLOCK OF THE MONTH – FALL PLACEMATS



I hate to remind you, but it won't be long until the holidays are upon us. I'm thinking Thanksgiving! This month's BOM will be a make-up block. That means you can make more than one. You can make up to 4 placemats; tops or completed mats.

IMPORTANT: PLEASE call me at 831-335-1302 or email me at wordsmith2004@hotmail.com to let me know that you want to participate and to tell me **HOW MANY** blocks you want to make.

You will receive **3** credits for each placemat **top** you make. If you are a new member, and you make two tops, that will fulfill your requirement of **6** credits so you can participate in the drawing. If you layer, quilt and bind your placemat, you will receive **6 credits** for **each completed placemat**. If we receive enough placemats, I'm hoping to have drawings of sets of 2 or 4 for each winner. If I receive 20 placemats, that would be 5 winners of sets of 4.

PLACEMENT SEWING INSTRUCTIONS:

I will supply you with a 4" x 10" rectangle(s) for the center. You will use your stash to supply the surrounding strips. Please use Fall colors in solids or small prints. Think gold, rust, orange, yellow, black for accent if you like; the colors of the turning leaves. I got this collection of fabrics shown here at Modern Handmade in Scotts Valley.

Supplies: 1 rectangle(s) 4" x 10" (How many do you want)?

This placemat is made from a rectangle surrounded by strips. From your stash, cut a coordinating strip 2½" larger or smaller. In the photos, I used 2½" strips all around. You may make the strips different sizes as long as the finished top(s) are the same size of approximately 13½" x 20".

Please use ¼" seams throughout. Apply the first strip to the left side of the rectangle, cut to size. Press strip open. See Figure 1. Apply the second strip to the right side, cut to size. Press open See Figure 2 below.

Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Next, apply strip to top, then bottom. See Fig. 3. Press strips open. Trim even. Continue applying strips; left, right, top, bottom, pressing strips open until your completed placemat measures approximately 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 20". Placemats may vary in size according to the width of your seams but, if you are making 2 placemats, they should be equal in size.

Fig. 3



If you complete your placemat with backing, batting and binding, this would be a great chance to practice your machine or hand quilting.

Remember to mail your completed block(s) to me at 328 Redwood Dr., Felton, CA, 96018 with enough time to reach me by the next Zoom meeting on November 9th, 2020. As always, call me with any questions.

NOTE ON MACHINE QUILTING:

The picture below shows my straight line quilting. It was fun and easy. When machine quilting, be sure your stitch is slightly longer than usual. I used #3.5 on my Janome. Look in your manual re machine quilting. Go slow and let the machine take the layers. Do not push or pull the fabric through the machine.



If you would like to know how to do Quilt As You Go on this placemat, call me at 831-335-1302 and I'll talk you through it. It is fast and easy. You will use batting as the foundation to apply the strips. When you are finished, the placemat will be attached to the batting. Then, you will apply a backing with some simple quilting stitches and it is finished. In the photo on page 1, the placemat on the right, I used the "Quilt As you Go" method.