

MINI QUILT - COASTER pattern

by Teje Karjalainen

Hello and welcome to make a coaster - mini quilt!

With this small project you learn the simple basics to make a quilt!

You will see that it's easy and so much fun! After making this coaster you can let your imagination fly and start to create quilts in any size!



In the beginning I have listed the tools and materials I have used. You can use any fabric prints or colours you prefer. This is a perfect project to use scraps or recycled fabrics.



Tools: cutting mat, cutter and ruler
scissors

Materials: fabrics by your choice
wadding or fleece
fabric for backing
fabric for binding
thread for sewing and quilting



- * Cut 4 squares in 2" x 2" size from your colourful fabrics. Sew them together by two and two. Seam allowance is $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Take care to keep them in the order you like.
- * Press the seams open and iron them.
- * Sew these two pieces together. You can use a pin to help the first seams to match.



- * Press again the seam open and iron .
- * Trim the edges. Do this from all sides so that the centre mains in the middle. Lines on your cutting mat help you to do this.



Now you have a beautiful, little patchwork block!

* Cut 1,5" stripe from white fabric. You don't need to measure the length because we cut it during the work.



- * Sew the white stripe on the first side like this and then cut it.
- * Press the seam open. If you can, it's always good to iron after every piece, but here

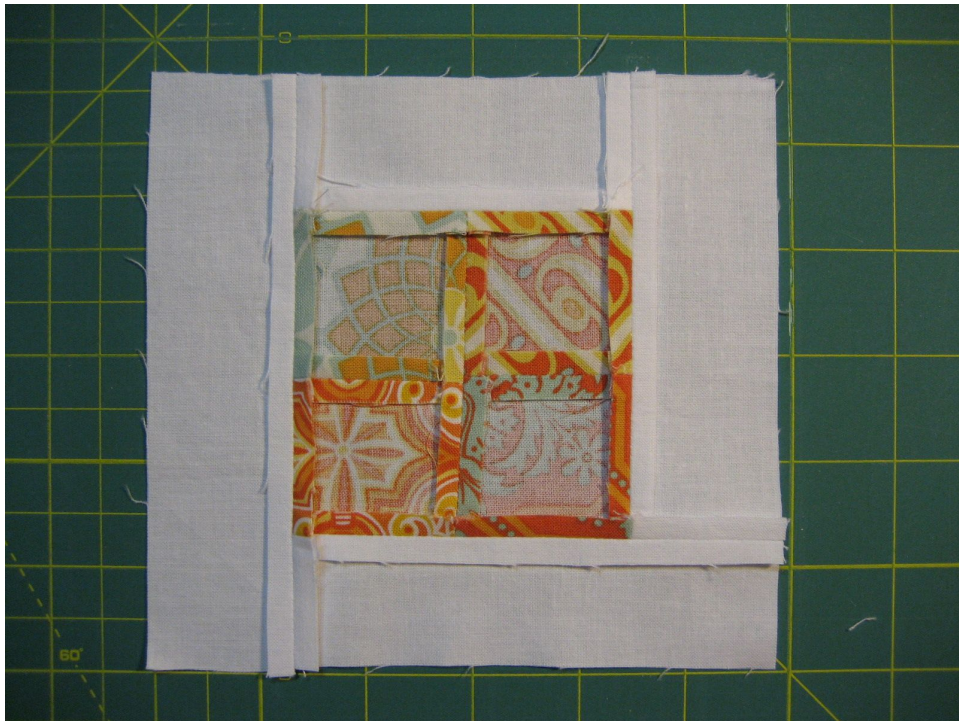
you can sew all the white stripes and then iron them.

I prefer to open the seams and not to press them to one side. I like to make the seam symmetric and also to have the same (as much as possible) thickness everywhere. Only if the other fabric is much thicker I may open the seams to the side of the thinner fabric.





* Sew white stripe on all the 4 edges. If your stripe is not long enough, cut more stripe and continue. If you make many coasters, you can cut more stripes in the beginning.





* Cut a little bit bigger piece from the wadding/fleece and the fabric you like to use for

the back side.

The bigger your quilt is, the bigger you cut the wadding and the backing. In a big quilt it's better to cut them 3"-4" bigger, because when you make the quilting the edge of your quilt change a little bit. On this mini quilt the size doesn't change, but it's good for you to learn this from the beginning.



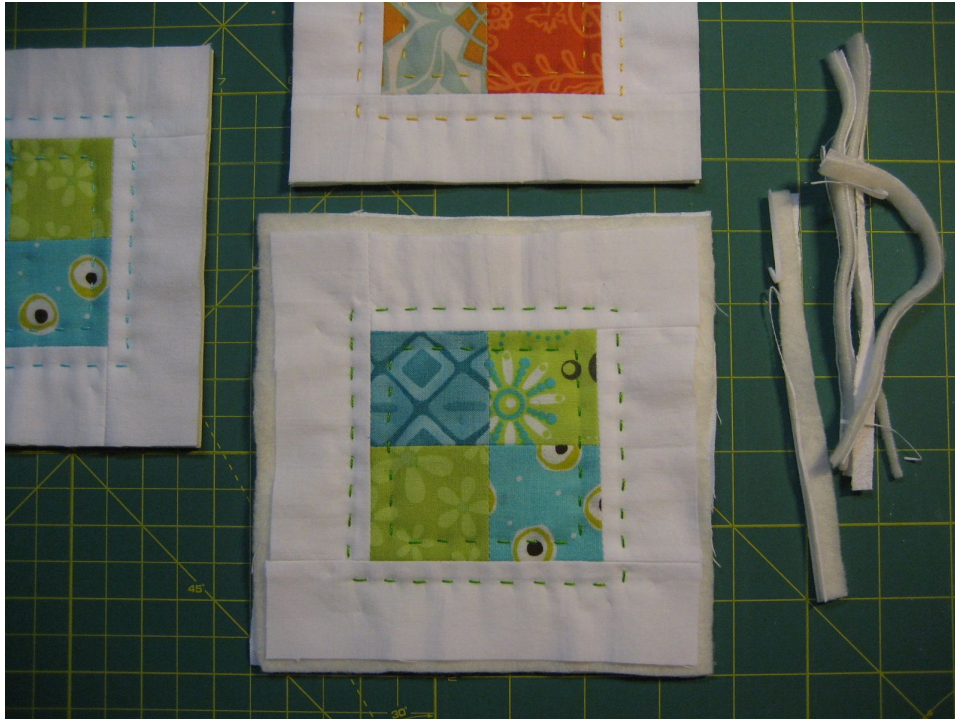
* Now you have the backing, wadding and the quilt top. Pin them together.



Make the quilting as you like. You can stitch by hand or by machine. I quilted by hand using 'Perle' cotton threads n:o 8.



After you have made the quilting, trim the edges.



* Cut for the binding 2,5" wide stripe. Fold it double and iron it.



Start to pin the binding from the middle of one edge. Raw edges of binding with raw edges of quilt top.



In the corner turn the binding up like I show in the photo. Then turn it back down and continue pinning.



Continue pinning all around and make all the corners like this.



When you come to the end, turn seam allowance in both ends and cut the rest of the binding. Now you need to take few pins away to be able to sew the last edges together.



After sewing the edges, put removed pins back. This may be a little bit difficult in this kind of small work. After doing this few times and in a bigger quilt, you find it easier. You can put a diagonal pin to help in the corner.



Start sewing $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the corner as shown in photo and stop $\frac{1}{4}$ " before the next corner like in next photo. In the beginning and at the end make few back stitches to insure the sewing.



Sew every side separately like this.

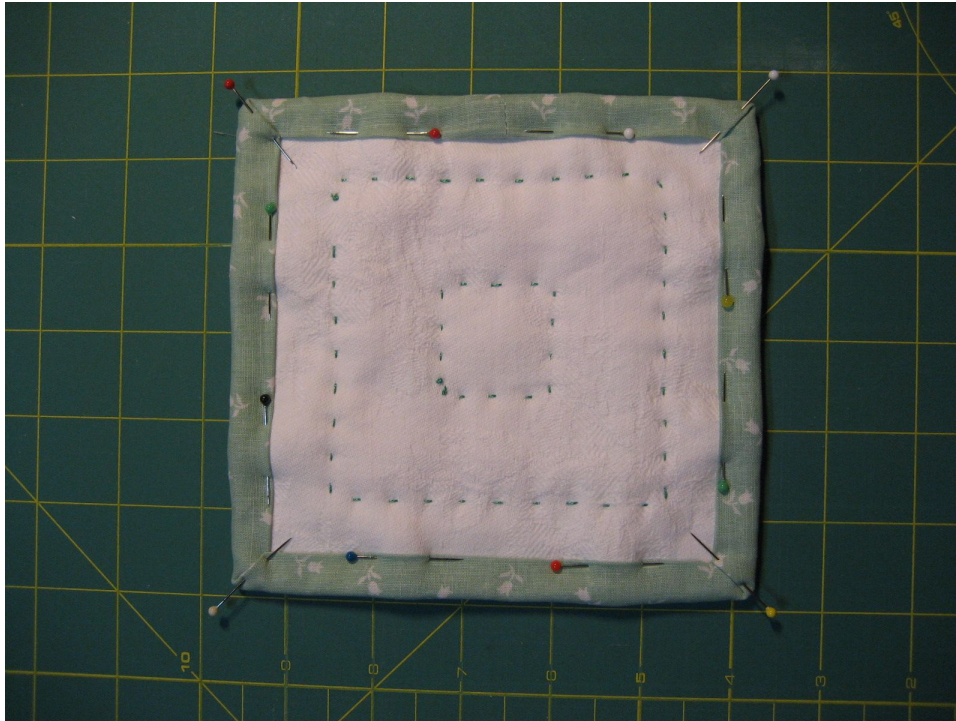




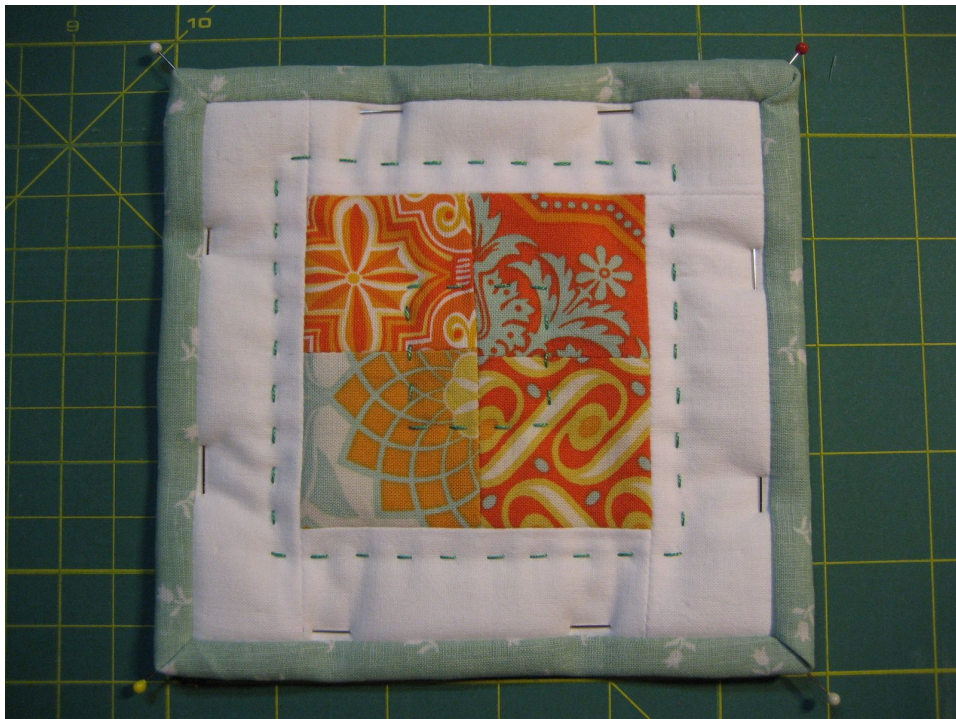
Now your work should look like this. You can press the seams with your nail or iron. Then turn the binding to the back side. You may wonder how the corners are going to be nice (as I was thinking before I had made the binding this way). Don't worry, they go perfect on their own.



Pin the binding to the back side.

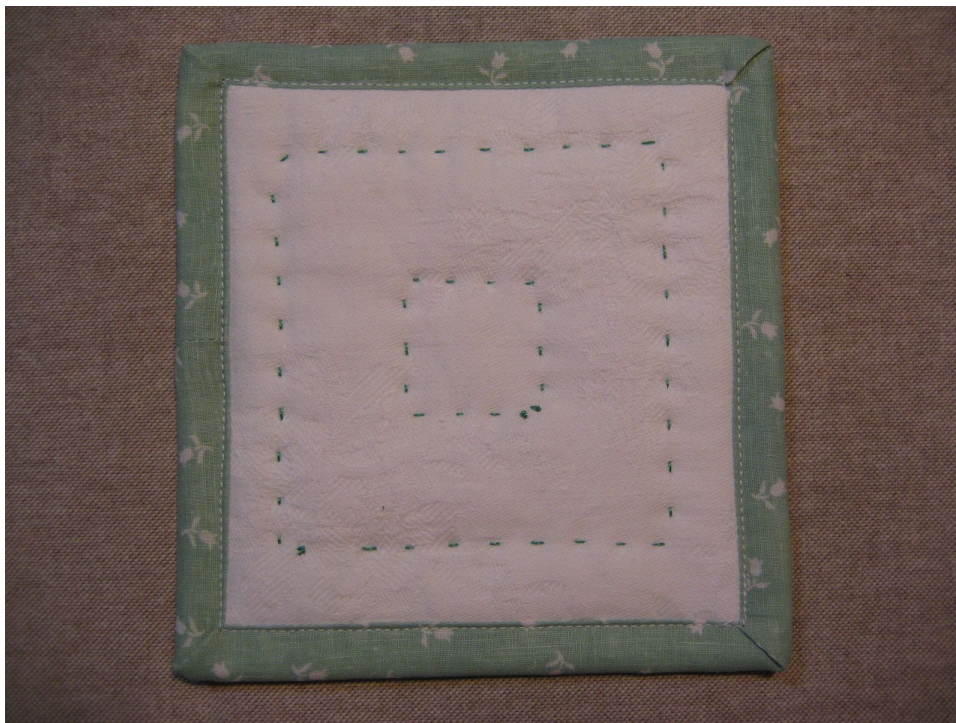
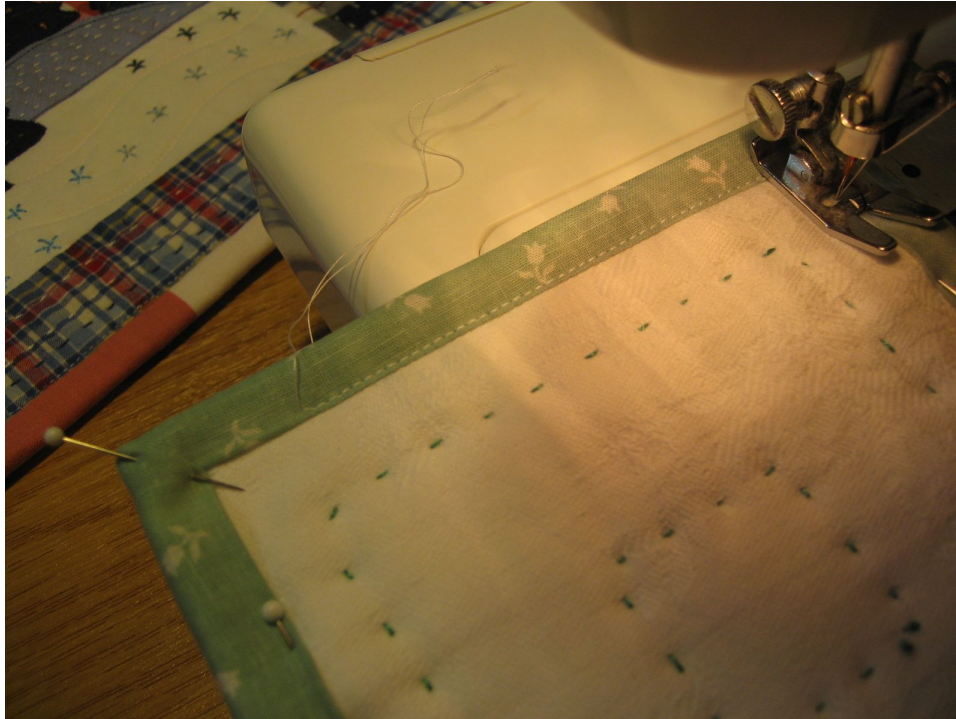


Take care that you have put pins so that when you sew, the stitching is going to be on the right side just next to the binding.



Sew all around. Don't start from the corner; it's easier to have the start/end

somewhere in the middle of the side. Even I have put pins in the corners, we don't need to sew there. The corners stay well with the stitching around.



And there you are! Your mini-mini quilt is ready!

Congratulations, great work!



I hope you find this tutorial easy and useful. If you have any questions, I'm very happy to help you!

Happy sewing!

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