

"9 Patch Over-Under" Mystery Quilt

by Susan C. Druding

Part Nine - Ideas for Adding a Border

You have finished the sewing of the top in Part 8. In this Part 9 Susan gives some ideas of types of borders you may want to add. These will be based on the strip you cut for making the quilt.

You can, of course do anything you want for your border including not adding one at all. 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 measured 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 (medium value) fabric as the border. If you would like to see a photo of a corner of Susan's quilt with border go to

http://www.equilters.com/library/mystery_quilts/myst-9patch-borderphoto.html

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 you 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 see an example of a border made from half-square triangles go to

http://www.equilters.com/library/mystery_quilts/myst-9P-pt9-bord2.html

3. A further sewn variation on the Half Square Triangle patch to use for a border is to take it one step further into what I'm calling a "**Divided Half Square**". This block will again be approximately 7/8" smaller than the Half Square block used to make it. You can see how this is done by going to

http://www.equilters.com/library/mystery_quilts/myst-9P-pt9-bord1.html#g

and several examples of this at

http://www.equilters.com/library/mystery_quilts/myst-9P-pt9-bord3.html

- - - - -

Have fun finishing up this project which certainly qualifies for the UFO Challenge which begins this month. I hope you'll have at least a completed quilt top to share with the guild during the Inspirations time of our April meeting.

