

The Quilter's Quilters

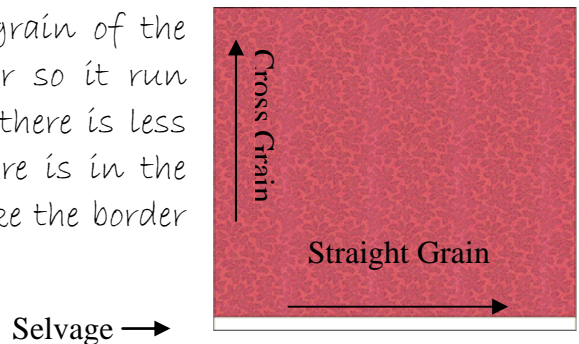
How To's !

Applying Borders to your Quilts

So much time and care has been taken in piecing your quilt. Taking the same time and care to attach the borders correctly will result in a quilt that is both flat and smooth all over.

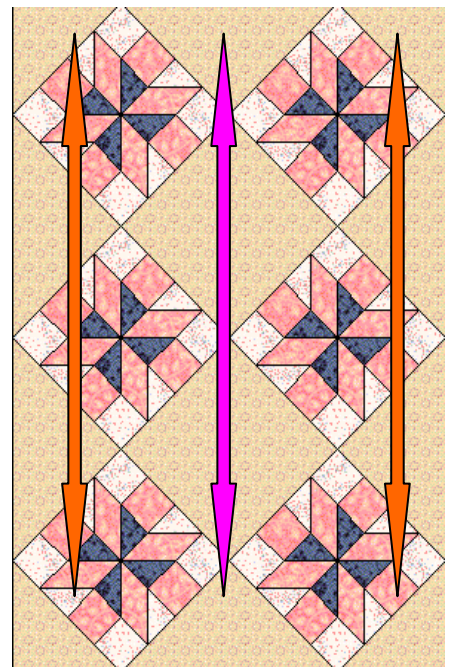
Flared, wavy or rippled borders are common in the quilts I receive. These will not quilt out... and when quilted you have a quilt that will be uneven and will not lay flat. I find when I have these quilts it is hard to quilt them without distorting the quilt or having to sew pleats in the borders as I go..

Borders are best cut along the straight grain of the fabric... In other words cutting the border so it run parallel with the selvage. This is because there is less stretch across the straight grain than there is in the cross grain... test it and see! This will make the border more stable when sewing.



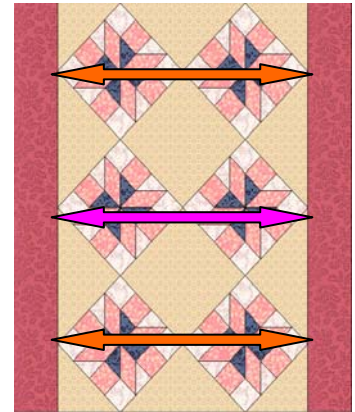
Here are the steps in apply a border.

1. Measure the length of your quilt once **thru the centre** and once **along both edges** of your quilt. If this was a perfect world all these measurements would be the same. If the three measurements have a difference that is greater than an inch, some easing in and adjusting will be necessary or you will end up with wavy borders. If the three measurements are within an inch of each other then chances of a wavy border are low. Take an average of these 3 measurements as use this as the length of your side borders.



2. Mark the centre and the quarter points of the quilt top and border pieces.
3. Pin these points together, then pin in between easing in any fullness.. use as many pins as you like to ensure that the edge is stabilised enough for sewing. Sew borders into place.

4. Repeat the process across the width of the quilt and sew the borders on to the top and bottom of the quilt.



If you are adding more than one border you should use this process for each border as you apply them..

I can not stress enough that you give your borders as much attention as you do with the rest of the piecing as they all have a part in making your quilt beautiful.