

Make Modern Placemats with The Sewing Loft

# Sew at Home

OnDemand Classes

Education by Baby Lock & Designer's Gallery



## Make Modern Placemats with *The Sewing Loft*

These placemats are sure to be the talk of your next dinner party! The herringbone detail will definitely catch the eye of your guests and start the conversation.

Project finishes approximately 18" x 12 1/2"

**Skill Level: Beginner**

Created by: [Heather Valentine, Designer/Blogger The Sewing Loft](#)

### Supplies:

Baby Lock Sewing Machine  
Baby Lock Quilting Foot with 1/4" guide  
7" [Steam a Seam 2](#)  
Heat erasing pen  
6 1/2" clear quilter's ruler  
Basic sewing supplies  
Coordinating thread

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Point turner

Self healing mat and rotary cutter

3 Coordinating fabrics

Batting

\*1/4" seam allowance is used unless otherwise indicated.

### Cutting Instructions:

(8) 1 1/2" x 6 1/2" strips per color 24 to total

(1) 4" x 14" fabric A

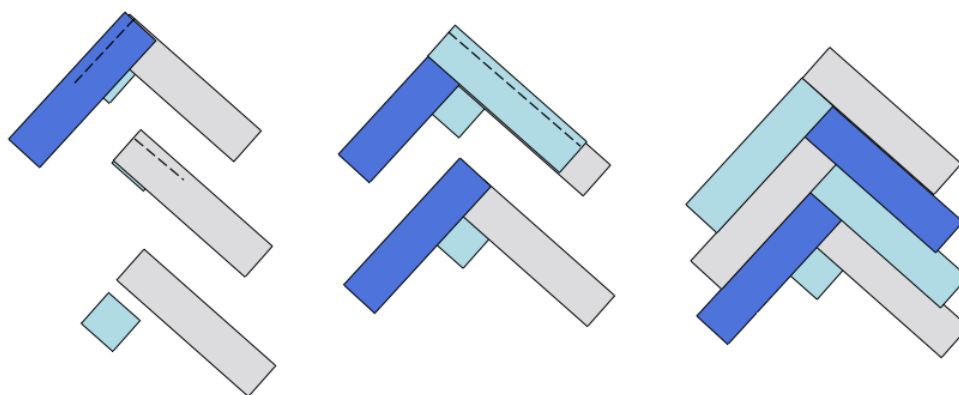
(1) 9 1/2" x 14" fabric A

(1) 13 1/2" x 18 1/2" fabric B

14" x 19" batting

\*Cutting instructions are for one placement. Adjust accordingly.

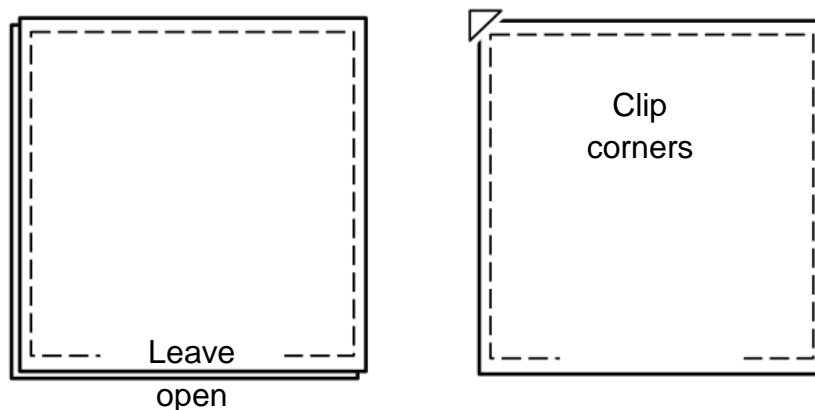
### Instructions:



1. To create the herringbone: Cut one strip into a 1 1/2" square. Layer and align 1<sup>st</sup> strip right sides together with the edge of square. Straight stitch along edge using the guide of the quilting foot, press. Flip piece to expose right sides and layer the 2<sup>nd</sup> strip with edge; stitch, press and flip. Repeat the process while alternating fabrics to create the herringbone pattern.
2. Trim herringbone piecework to 6 1/2" wide; do not worry about the length. Be sure to use the lines on clear ruler to keep the braid straight.
3. Mark 3" from the outside edge of batting. Position herringbone patchwork along mark, right side up. Layer solid over top and straight stitch pieces along the edge using the guide of quilting foot. Press, flip and top stitch. Repeat on the opposite side.
4. Using the clear ruler and heat erasing pen, mark a diagonal line on the right section of mat. This line is your guideline for the presser foot. Stitch several rows of straight stitching. Mark 3 more lines around placemat and repeat the process. Press to remove any visible drawn lines. (Refer to video for visual.)

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5. Square and trim placemat top to size. Position the backer fabric to right sides together with the front. Stitch along all 4 sides leaving an opening approximately 7" wide for turning.



6. Clip corners to trim away bulk, turn right side out and press seams for a smooth outlook. Tuck in seam allowance along opening and press. Cut Steam a Seam 2 to size of opening; following manufacturers instructions on package, remove paper, insert inside opening and press seam closed.
7. Add a 1/4" topstitching all around to unite all layers together.

### Additional Tips:

1. Lay out herringbone strips in color order pile for quick and easy piecwork.
2. Be sure to press the herringbone piecwork after each step and avoid ironing. Ironing may cause stretching.
3. Use a point turner tool to achieve crisp and pointed corners.



Heather Valentine is the creative genius behind the screen at [The Sewing Loft](#). Join her on-line community filled with sewing enthusiasts of all levels for weekly sewing tips, easy to sew patterns and scrap busting projects. Her main goal is to promote awareness, provide education and above all keep your needle moving!