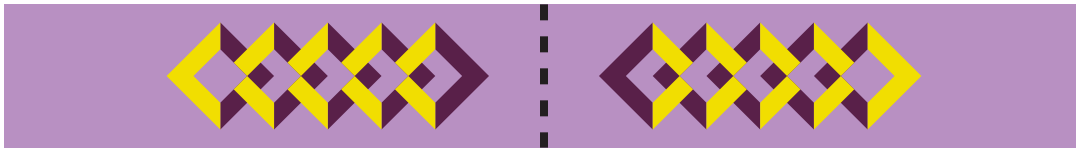


# Directions for Symmetrically Placing Two Sets Of Double Diamonds on a Quilt Border



## “Winging It”

**If you want to “wing it”** you can simply cut your border strip several inches longer than required. (For 1½” wide diamonds, add at least 4”. For 3½” wide diamonds, add at least 6”.) Remember that there cannot be seams on the Main (Border) fabric or the Contrast fabric where the diamonds are to be placed, so plan accordingly when you originally cut and sew your border strips.

Find the midway point by folding the border strip in half. Mark it with a chalk line. Determine the gap you want between the sets of diamonds and mark the beginning spots for each. (They should be equidistant from the midway point.) Follow the directions for making Double Diamonds to cut as many diamonds as you like. Repeat on the other side by making the same number of diamonds. (Turn your Double Diamond Ruler™ around so that the diamonds are pointing the other direction.) Once again, fold the border strip in half at the midway line. Both of the end diamonds should match up when they’re folded together. Trim so that the borders are the length called for in your pattern. Match the midway point of the border strip to the quilt’s midway point. Pin at the center and at both ends. Ease the border to the quilt and pin. Sew as usual.

## “Planning It”

**To plan the placement** of your diamonds in a more structured way, follow these directions:

### **First, make some decisions about your Double Diamonds:**

Let’s assume that both sets of diamonds will be the same length and will be symmetrically placed on either side of the midway point. Find the midway point of the border strip by folding it in half. Press in a good crease or mark it with a chalk line.

Decide how wide of a gap you want between the sets of diamonds. Chalk a mark where you want your diamonds to begin on both sides of the midway point. The marks should be equidistant from the midway point.

Decide how long you want your sets of diamonds to stretch from tip to tip. If you’re not real worried about the exact ending point, simply chalk a mark near where you want your last diamond to end. If you need to be more specific, use the [Double Diamond Length Chart](#) to determine how many diamonds you must make to cover that distance.

When putting Double Diamonds on quilt borders, the border fabric is considered the Main Fabric. The fabric you fuse to the back of the border fabric is the Contrast Fabric. You will place a third fabric, the Background Fabric, underneath the diamonds. **Remember that there cannot be seams on the Main (Border) fabric or the Contrast fabric where the diamonds are to be placed, so plan accordingly when you originally cut and sew your border strips.**

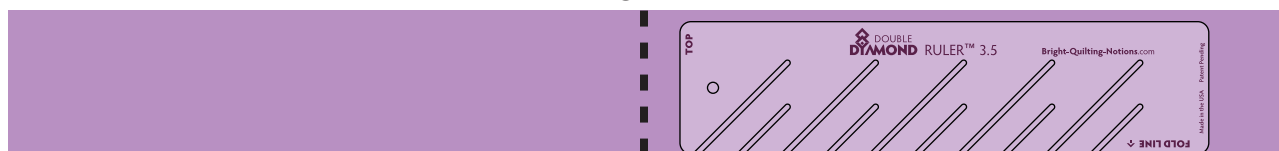
## **Step #1: Prepare the Fabric**

- Prepare the Main (Border) Fabric:  
You should already have cut your border fabric to the proper length plus a few inches for wiggle room. (For 1½" wide diamonds, add at least 4". For 3½" wide diamonds, add at least 6".) You may also choose to cut your border fabric slightly wider than called for in your pattern and trim later as in Step #4.  
  
Fold your border fabric in half lengthwise. Press with steam to make a good crease. Now find the midway point of that piece of fabric by simply folding it half the width wise. Either press a nice crease there or mark that midway point with a chalk line or pin. You'll be referring to this midway point often.
- Cut your Contrast & Background Fabrics:  
Width of Contrast & Background fabric:  
If you are making 1½" wide diamonds, cut your Contrast & Background Fabrics 2½" wide. If you are making 3½" wide diamonds, cut your Contrast & Background Fabrics 4½" wide.  
  
Length of Contrast & Background fabric:  
Decide how long you want your diamonds to stretch from tip to tip. You will cut your Contrast & Background Fabrics slightly longer than that length. If you are making 1½" wide diamonds, add 3". If you are making 3½" wide diamonds, add 5" to the length. Remember that you will be making two sets of diamonds.
- Cut two sets of fusible web the same size as the Contrast Fabric strips. This can be several smaller pieces butted up next to each other. It's better to overlap the web than have gaps of fabric without fusing. Iron the fusible web to the Contrast Fabric following manufacturer's directions. Remove the paper.
- Place the Contrast strip on the back of the Main (Border) fabric between the beginning and ending marks that you previously identified and chalked. Carefully center the Contrast strip and fuse it to the Main (Border) fabric. Repeat for the other set of diamonds.
- Fold this "fused piece" in half lengthwise once again with the Main (border) fabric on the outside. Press with steam to make a good crease. If necessary, mark the midway point once again with a chalk line.

## **Step #2: Cut Slits in Fabric**

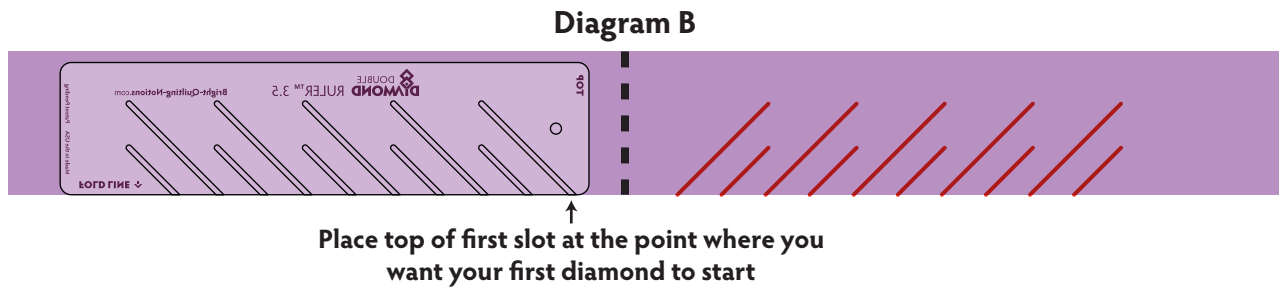
- Following the manufacturer's directions, cut slits for the diamonds placed to the right of the midway point. Be sure that you put the top of the ruler close to the midway point so that your diamonds open up the correct way. Place the first slot on the ruler at the chalked mark where you want your first diamond to begin. (See Diagram A.) Cut until you come close to the chalked mark where you want your diamonds to end. You may need to fold back the last diamond that you cut to see where the tip of the diamond will fall. Cut more slits if necessary.

**Diagram A**



↑  
Place top of first slot at the point where you want your first diamond to start

- Once you have cut all the slits to the right of the midway point then you will cut the diamonds to the left of the midway point. Turn the fused piece over and put the top of the ruler close to the midway point. Once again, place the first slot on the ruler at the chalked mark where you want your first diamond to begin. (See Diagram B.) Make the same number of slits that you made on the lower half of the border. Make sure the top of the ruler is towards the midway point so that the diamonds point in the opposite direction. You may want to turn the fabric onto the other side to do this.



### Step #3: Finish Making the Diamonds

- Fold back and tuck the diamonds following manufacturer's directions. (For further instructions about folding and tucking, use the directions on the inside of your Double Diamond Ruler™ package or on the downloadable tutorial "[How to Make Double Diamonds](#)" starting on Step #3.) Remember to use fabric glue to temporarily tack the diamonds down.
- Place fabric glue liberally on the contrast fabric, which is on the back of the fused double diamond piece. Center your Background fabric and place it underneath the double diamonds so that the right side of the Background fabric shows through the Double Diamonds when viewed from the top of the piece. Do this for both sets of diamonds.
- You can secure the three layers of fabric now or during the quilting process. If desired, sew a straight stitch down the center of the Double Diamonds. Make sure that the flaps are properly tucked under the diamonds below them before sewing.

### Step #4: Finish your Double Diamond Border

- Remember that you cut your border at least 4" longer than required so it will need to be trimmed. Fold the piece at the midway point once again. Divide the correct unfinished length called for in the instructions in half. Measure that distance from the midway point out. Trim. (Example: If the correct length of your border should be 50", measure 25" from the midway point and cut.)
- If you cut your border a little wider than called for, trim it to the proper width. Fold the fabric in half length wise. The crease should go right through the center of the Double Diamonds. Divide the correct unfinished width of the border in half. Measure that distance from the center crease. Trim and repeat on the other side of the center crease. (Example: If the correct width of your border should be 6", measure 3" from center of the diamonds and cut.)
- When you attach the border to your quilt top, align the midway points of each. Pin at both ends. Ease the border to the quilt and pin. Sew as usual.