



Make a Pot Holder

This is an easy project if you would like to learn basic patchwork skills, and makes a useful item. Use scraps of fabric from your stash, or pick up remnants from a craft store or op shop.

Materials and equipment

You will need:

- Fabric (100% cotton or a cotton mix)
- Heat resistant Batting (optional)
- Old tea towel or towel (this provides additional heat protection)
- Bias binding, or strip of fabric 2" wide and at least 50" long
- Thread – an all-purpose polyester thread is suitable.
- Sewing machine, scissors, tape measure, pins, needle.

Make sure the fabric has been pre-washed.

Making the Pot Holder

1. Cut a piece of fabric for the back 11.5" square, also cut a piece of batting, and a piece of old tea towel or towel, both 11.5" square. If you cannot get batting, use two extra layers of old tea towel or towel.
2. The top can be any design you wish: below is a log cabin option. For other options, just search for "patchwork square" or "quilt block" patterns, and you will find hundreds of options. If not using a patchwork top, cut a piece of fabric for the top 11.5" square as well.





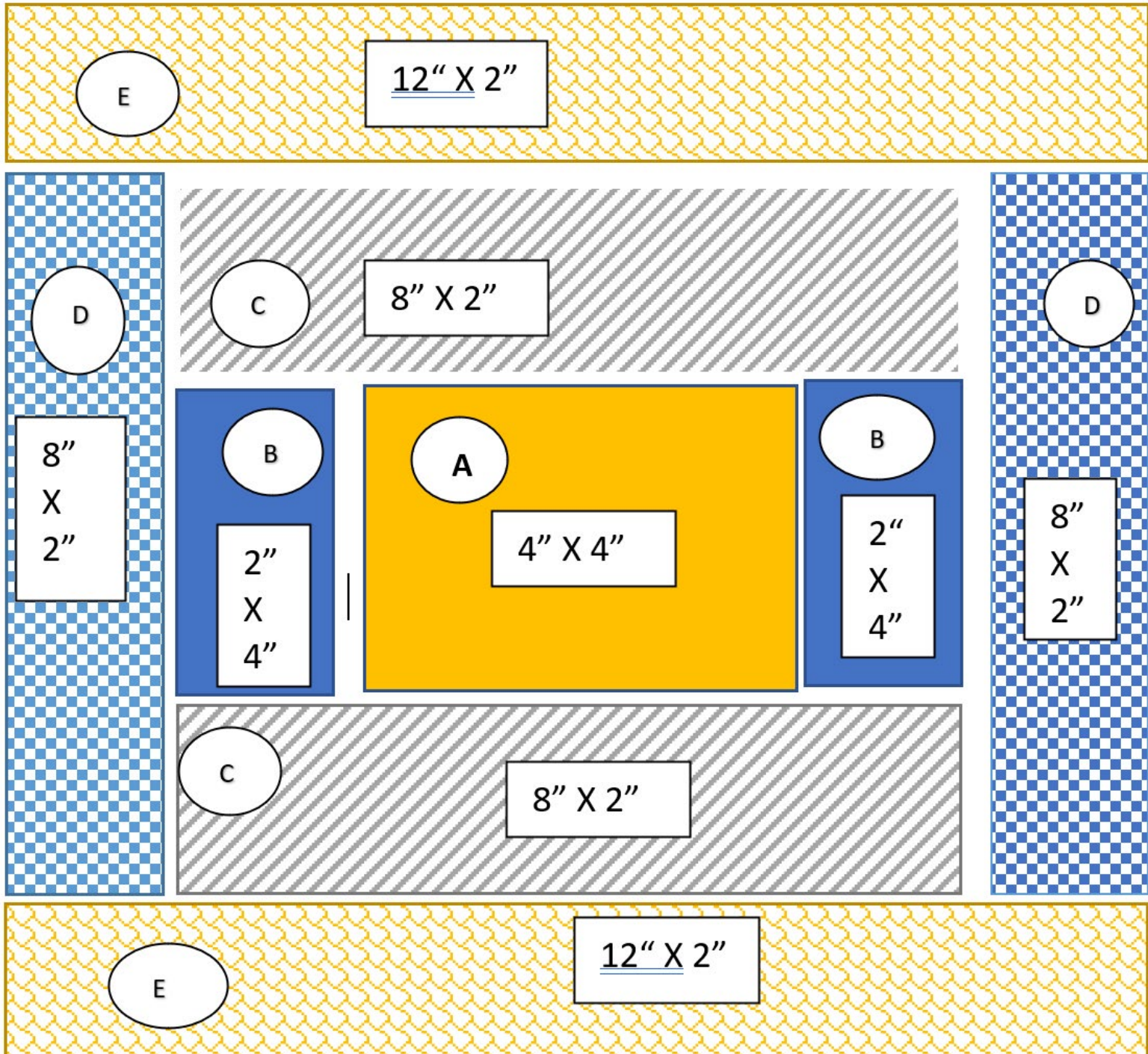
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Log Cabin Patchwork Pattern:

3. Making the Log Cabin Square:

- Sew from the inside square out. Use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " Seam allowance - attach B piece to each side of piece A. Working with the right sides together stitch B to A.
- Continue working with the right sides together, stitch C to the other sides of A & B
- Sew D with right sides together to B & C
- Sew E with right sides together to C & D





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4. Next, line up the four layers and pin together - right sides will be facing out

- Bottom layer - backing
- Third Layer - tea towel
- Second layer - batting (or two extra layers of tea towel)
- Top layer - Log Cabin square or your design

Now you can quilt - if using a log cabin I tend to quilt straight lines around the joints on the square, i.e. put the machine foot on the seam and then follow it around. Start in the middle. Or just quilt straight using the edge of the foot as a guide.

After all four layers are quilted together, trim the edges.

5. Next is to seam bind around the edge. You can make the bias binding or it can be purchased readymade. For this project, a straight strip of fabric 2" wide and at least 50" long can be used: as there are no curves, you do not need the stretch of true bias tape. If you would like to learn how to make your own bias tape, there are easy to follow instructions at <https://so-sew-easy.com/making-continuous-bias-binding-tape/>

- On the top - start by attaching the binding to the edge about half-way along one side of the pot holder. The folded edge of the binding is toward the left. [Binding Picture 1]



- Sew 1/2" from the edge. Stop when you are 1cm away from the corner and remove from the sewing machine.
- Fold the binding at 45 degree angle outwards from the pot holder. [Binding Picture 2]





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- Then fold back on top of itself [Binding Picture 3] If you need extra help with sewing the mitred corners of the binding, try this Youtube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zIDQVCCOqU8>
- Continue sewing around the edge. Repeat at all corners.

After attaching to the front, fold the binding, flip to the back side and secure with pins. The binding should completely cover your first line of stitching from securing the binding to the front. Sew all along the back side of the pot holder to attach. You can hand-sew for a virtually invisible finish or you can machine with a straight stitch sewing close to the folded edge or zigzag with the centre of the foot over the ditch. [Binding Picture 4]

With thanks to
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