

Citrus Holiday: Easy Napkins with Festive Trim

Editor: Liz Johnson

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Adding a simple fabric border kicks this napkin up a notch. Napkins are a great beginning project and a great way to practice hemming. We made all our napkins match for our Citrus Holiday table, but it would also be snazzy to do a different, coordinating trim on each person's napkin. Not only would it be a great way to use up fabric scraps, you could also keep track of which napkin belongs to which guest.

Our Citrus Holiday projects were made using Heather Bailey's delightful Pop Garden & Bijoux Collection. To learn more about how we created this non-traditional holiday palette, read our article: [Citrus Holiday: Christmas Dining Room](#).

Sewing Tools You Need

- Any Sewing Machine (we recommend the [Janome 3128](#))

Fabric and Other Supplies

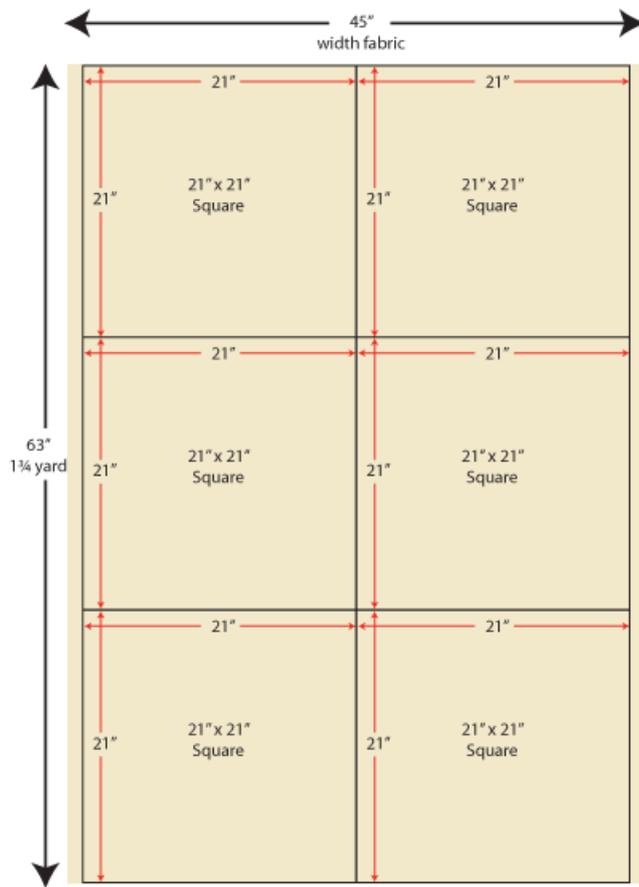


- Fabric for SIX napkins: 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards of 45" wide fabric: *we used a cream colored cotton sateen fabric*
- Fabric for SIX napkin trim pieces: $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of 45" wide fabric: *we used Heather Bailey's Bijoux in Tiled Primrose Pink*
Note: you could squeak by with $\frac{1}{4}$ yard, but you'd have to cut very carefully. Having a $\frac{1}{2}$ yard gives you a little breathing room; plus, many online fabric sources have a $\frac{1}{2}$ yard minimum cut.
- All purpose thread
- Contrasting color thread for topstitching, slightly darker than napkin color
- See-through ruler
- Fabric pencil
- Iron and ironing board
- Hand sewing needle
- Scissors or rotary cutter and mat
- Straight pins

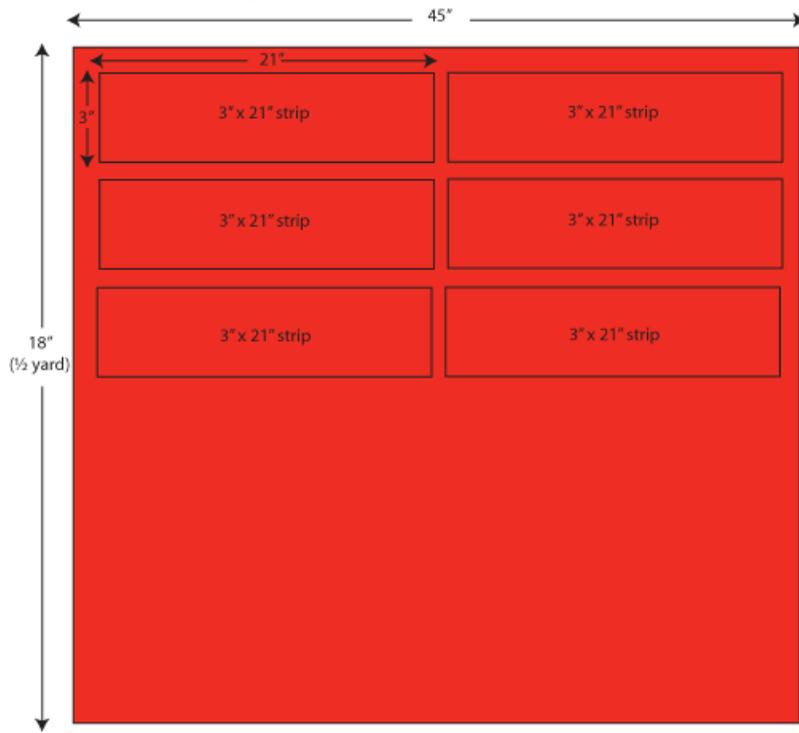
Getting Started

1. Use your see-through ruler and pencil to draw six 21" x 21" squares onto the fabric you are using for the napkin. Cut along drawn lines.

Cut 6 napkins that are 21" high by 21" wide



2. Use your see-through ruler and pencil to draw six rectangles 21" long and 3" wide onto the fabric you are using for the napkin trim. Cut along drawn lines.



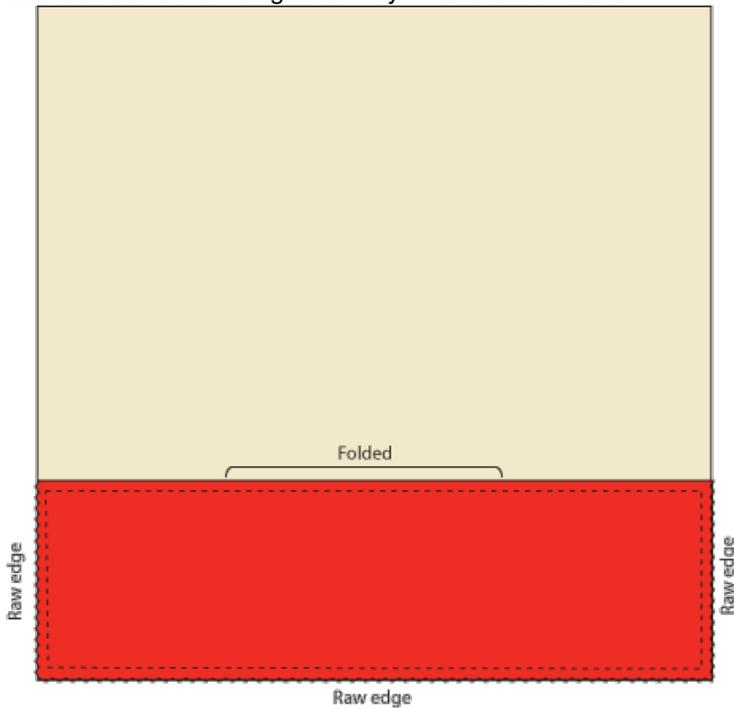
At Your Sewing Machine & Ironing Board

1. Along ONE of the 21" lengthwise edges on EACH of the six napkin trim pieces, fold under 1/2" and press.



Fold and press 1/2" on one of the 21" lengthwise edges on the napkin trims for all 6 napkins

2. Pin this trim piece to the bottom of the napkin, so the side and bottom raw edges line up, and the folded-in edge lays across the face of the napkin.
3. Edgestitch around all 4 edges of the rectangular trim piece. This adheres the finished folded edge to the napkin's face and secures the raw edges so they will be easier to hem.



4. Create a hem around all four edges of the napkin by folding the right side of the fabric under 1/4" along all four sides, pressing, and then folding under another 1/4" along all 4 sides and pressing again. This makes a clean, 'double-turn' edge all around. For more information on hemming, read our tutorial: [How to Make a Simple Hem](#).
5. Change your thread to the contrasting color and topstitch around all four sides. Stay just under 1/4" from your folded edge. Sew slowly, making sure you catch the folded hem on the back. To keep your corners sharp, work with your needle in the down position and pivot. When you get to a corner and are about to turn to topstitch the next edge, stop with the needle down through the fabric, lift the presser foot, and turn the napkin to line up the next edge, using the needle as a pivot point.



6. You can make a simple square corner or for a cleaner finish, read our tutorial:

7. Finished napkin will be 20" x 20" square.

Contributors

Project Design: Alicia Thommas

Sample Creation & Instructions: Gregory Dickson

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