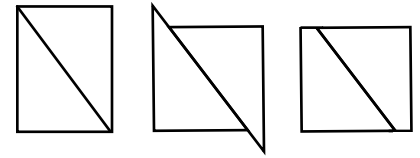


Calculating Yardage for Diagonally Pieced Quilt Back

Here's a neat, fabric-efficient technique to use when making a quilt backing that is 1½ times wider (or less) than your backing fabric. (That would be a maximum of about 62" wide, based on fabric that is 42" wide.)

The technique is simple: cut the fabric corner to corner; slide one piece down until the combined width is your desired width (+1" for seam allowances). Stitch that diagonal seam and trim off the excess triangles at the top and bottom.



Cut, slide, sew & trim.

The math is a bit tricky so we have created this handy worksheet. In Adobe Reader, fill in the first three colored boxes, and the form will do the math for you! Or, print the sheet out and follow the instructions below.

1. Fill in the three boxes below. (Quilt back length & width is not the finished quilt size, but the length/width required before quilting.) Transfer those numbers to the same colored boxes where they appear elsewhere on the sheet.

Desired Quilt Back Width + 1"

Desired Quilt Back Length

Usable Fabric Width

2. Complete the math to fill in the boxes below. Transfer the number from the last box as indicated.

$$\text{Desired Quilt Back Width + 1"} - \text{Usable Fabric Width} = \text{Box 1}$$

↓

$$\text{Box 1} \times \text{Desired Quilt Back Length} = \text{Box 2}$$

3. Complete the math to fill in the boxes below. Transfer the figure from the colored box as indicated.

$$2 \times \text{Usable Fabric Width} = \text{Box 3}$$

↓

$$\text{Box 3} - \text{Desired Quilt Back Width + 1"} = \text{Box 4}$$

4. Complete the math to fill in the boxes below. Round up the backing fabric yardage required to the nearest ¼ yard.

$$\text{Box 2} \div \text{Box 4} = \text{Box 5} + \text{Box 6} = \text{Box 7}$$

inches

↓

Backing Fabric Yardage Required

yards

Created for Jinny Beyer based on a formula originally shared by John Flynn (www.flynnquilt.com).