

Simple Patchwork Potholders

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For the 8 1/2" x 8 1/2" Potholder:

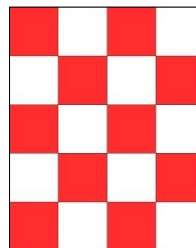
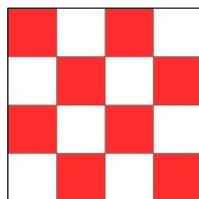
16 squares 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"
10" x 10" Potholder back fabric
10" x 10" Cotton batting
10" x 10" Insul-Bright®
2 1/4" x width of fabric for binding

For the 8 1/2" x 10 1/2" Potholder:

20 squares 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"
10" x 12" Potholder back fabric
10" x 12" Cotton batting
10" x 12" Insul-Bright®
2 1/4" x width of fabric for binding

A Few Notes about Supplies:

- Potholder top fabric and potholder back fabric can be the same or different. You can use left-over quilt blocks for these as well. You can piece your potholder top using a favorite quilt block pattern or simply use a solid fabric.
- Insul-Bright® insulating material. This is a specially made fabric which reflects hot and cold energy back to itself. This material needs to be used with at least one layer of cotton batting in order to absorb condensation. There is no right or wrong side to this material.
- Cotton Batting. Cut one piece of cotton batting the same size as your Insul-Bright and backing fabric.
- Fabric for binding. Cut a 2 1/4" x width of fabric strip to use for binding. You can also use a ready-made bias tape for your potholder binding. A double fold bias tape works best.
- Remember that you'll need to use bias binding if you round the edges of your potholders.



Potholder Assembly

1. For small patchwork potholder sew squares together in four rows of four squares each. Sew rows together. For larger patchwork potholder you will sew together five rows of four squares each.
2. Begin by layering your pieces in the following order: potholder back (wrong side up), Insul Bright® (there is no right or wrong side to this fabric according to product instructions), cotton batting, and potholder top (right side up).
3. Pin layers to secure while machine quilting. The potholder won't need a lot of quilting—it just needs a small amount to hold everything together. Basting spray can be used in place of pins.
4. Machine quilt through all layers. Tip: After quilting you may want to baste around all edges 1/8" from the edge to make sure none of the layers shift while you are binding your potholder. Using a walking foot makes quilting and edge-basting much easier.
5. Bind your potholder using prepared binding or purchased ready-made binding. Bind the potholder just as you would a quilt.

Notes on Finishing:

- Some people like to use an additional layer of cotton batting in their potholders. If you do this, sandwich the Insul-Bright between the two layers of cotton batting.
- To round the edges of your potholder, use a small glass or round object and trace a curve at each corner. Cut carefully on your drawn line with scissors. If you round the edges you will need to use bias binding to go around the curves.
- If you want to include a hanging tab, cut a scrap fabric 2 1/2" x 5". Press in half lengthwise then open up. Fold each long edge into the pressed center line then fold in half. Stitch 1/8" from the edge to secure. Fold in half and baste to top center back before binding.



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