

9" Round Trivet or Pot Holder



Materials & Tools

2 - 11" squares or circles of cotton fabric. *These pieces may be a single piece of fabric, or a string, crazy, or pieced block of your choice.*

1 - 11" square or circle of cotton batting

1 - 11" square or circle of Insul-Brite, or 1 -2 additional layers of cotton batting

1 - 33" strip of 2 ½" wide BIAS cut cotton to be used as binding.

Washable School Glue

Removable fabric marker

505 glue or other method of basting

9" and 7 ½" circle templates or other round objects to draw around



Press and starch both top and bottom fabrics.

Using a removable marker, draw a circle approximately 9" in diameter on the right side of the top fabric. Draw a second circle about 7 ½" in diameter centered inside the first circle. This circle will be used as a guide for your quilting.



Layer backing fabric face down, then batting and Insul-Brite, followed by front fabric or block placed face up. Baste, pin or spray baste between all layers to hold "sandwich" in place.



Now for the fun part—"Quilt as Desired"!

Quilting on your trivet can be as ornate or as simple as you like, and can be done either with a walking foot or free motion quilting. Center your design the smaller marked circle. This is a great item to practice your FMQing skills on. I would recommend that you do not quilt too densely so that you maintain some puffiness for insulation.

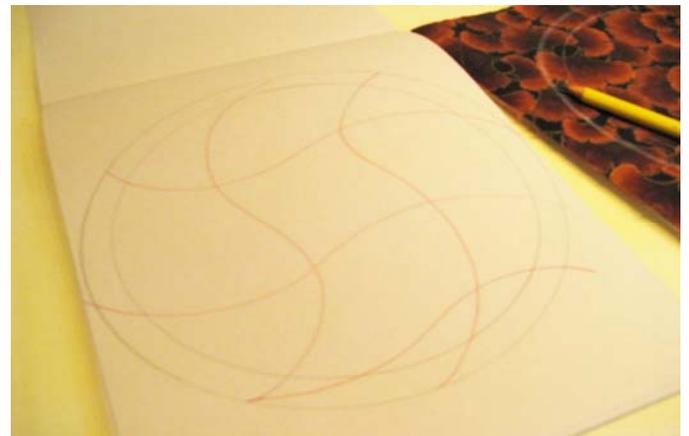
I'll show you how to place and stitch the swirled feather motif that I used as well as an edge-to-edge wavy lines grid that can be done with a walking foot.

I always sketch my FMQ designs before I attempt to stitch them. This helps me work with placement and sizing of the design as well as helping to develop some "muscle memory" of the design before I start stitching..



I even sketch out designs I use with a walking foot so that I can try out ideas and to decide on placement.

This is a wavy grid that would work well on these trivets.



My next step is to draw some guidelines on my quilt sandwich to give me a general idea of where to stitch the design. I don't worry about following my guidelines exactly, they are just there to help with placement. With feather motifs, I like to sketch out the spine. I'll also use the small circle as an outside guideline for the swirled feather just like I did on the sketchpad.



After some test stitching on a practice sandwich to be sure my tension is adjusted the way I want it, and that the machine/thread/quilt combination "gets along", I stitch the design! *(If I feel like I need practice, I may stitch all or part of the design on a practice sandwich before I start.)*



When the quilting is done, it's time to trim the excess sandwich away to prepare the piece for binding.

Trim through all layers in a smooth curve along the 9" circle line.



Binding a Circular Trivet

I find that the following binding method works best for me when doing small projects. Essentially, I prepare and overlap the ends as I sew them on rather than joining the ends first. I've done my best to explain and illustrate the whole process, but PLEASE READ THROUGH ALL THE BINDING INSTRUCTIONS AND MAKE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS BEFORE BEGINNING.

When doing a curved binding we'll need to cut a BIAS binding strip. For this trivet, we'll want a strip $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide.

To find the length to cut, we can either do a little math:

The formula for the distance around the outside of any circle, "circumference", is " $d\pi$ ", where "d" is the diameter of the circle, and π can be rounded off to 3.14 for our purposes.

So let's make this easier! Measure the distance across the circle, in this case, 9 inches, and multiply that by 3.14:

$$9 \times 3.14 = 28.26"$$

and add 3 or 4 inches for overlap which gives us a strip length of about 32".

OR

We can just lay a strip around the outside of the circle, add a few inches and cut it off there.

The key to getting the binding to lay nicely is in the preparation.

Before cutting, starch and press the fabric.

Next, find the true bias by making a fold or cut at 45 degrees to the selvage edge of the fabric.

Cut a strip $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide and about 32" long. If you are using a fat quarter, you'll need to cut 2 strips and join them with a 45 degree seam.

Lay the bias strip face down on the ironing surface with the long end going off to the left.

Fold the strip at 45 degrees, as shown, and press.

Trim excess, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ " folded to the wrong side.



Fold bias strip in half as shown and press.



The next step is to glue-baste the binding to the front edge of the trivet.

Place a few small drops of washable school glue along the edge of the trivet.



Align the prepared end of the bias strip along the edge and press in place with a dry iron.



Stitch raw edge of binding in place, beginning about an inch past the prepared end, as shown.

Gently ease binding along edge of circle as you stitch.



Continue stitching all the way around until just before you reach the prepared end that is glue-basted in place.



Trim working end of binding long enough so that it is at least $\frac{1}{4}$ " past the farthest end of fold on prepared end.



Carefully tuck working end of binding inside prepared end, aligning raw edges along edge of trivet.



Continue stitching overlapped area until you reach the beginning stitching, and secure.

You should now have the unfinished end of the bias binding neatly laying inside the prepared end as shown.



Slipstitch prepared end of binding over end that is tucked in, continuing all the way around to the seamline on the front where the binding is attached to the trivet.



Fold binding in half, turning to the back and aligning edge with stitching on the back.

Steam-press in place and slipstitch binding edge to back of trivet, just as you would to the back of a quilt.

Optional: Add a fabric or cording loop for hanging if desired.



You're DONE!

If you have questions, please PM me, "azwendyg".