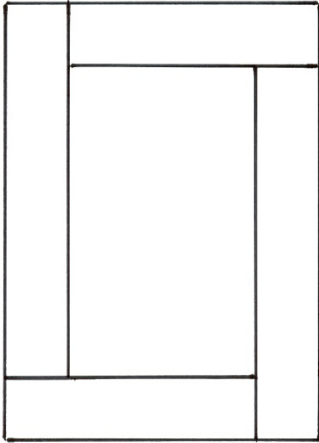


Staggered Borders (Partial Seaming)

By Linda French of [Longarm Finishing Touches LLC](http://LongarmFinishingTouchesLLC.com)



When adding fabric borders (not pieced), most quilters add the strip to the top and bottom of the quilt top, then to both sides. This creates two long seams that can draw the attention of the viewer to the edges of the quilt, instead of the main body. In addition, if you are a little short in yardage, this method saves a few inches of fabric on each side.

Step 1: Measure the quilt through the middle vertically and horizontally. I also measure all 4 sides to see how close these are to the center measurement. This helps me to know how much adjustment may be necessary to apply the border.

Step 2: determine width of border (width of strip).

Step 3: Take your quilt measurement plus the border width measurement and add an inch for seam allowance and trimming. I mark on the border strip approx $\frac{1}{4}$ in from one edge with chalk, then mark the quilt measurement (where the quilt ends), and then add the width of the border. I will also mark at the midpoint and quarter points of the strip to assist in pinning to the quilt to evenly distribute the fabric.



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Step 4: Pin to the quilt, matching marked lines to edge of the quilt. Put an extra pin a couple inches from the edge with the extra border width to prevent you from sewing past this point.



Step 5: Sew from the double pin to the edge of the quilt.



Step 6: Pres seam, pin extra out of your way, and trim straight edge. (do not trim edge with the extra border width)



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Step 7: To mark the next strip, take the measurement of the current side and add border width subtracting 1/2 inch (you have already sewn one seam)



Step 8: Pin and sew to quilt.



Step 9: Press and trim edge.



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Step 10: For third and fourth side of quilt, repeat the directions for the second side.

After all four sides are attached. Unpin strip on first row. Your mark will be $\frac{1}{4}$ inch off (for the seam allowance you already sewed). Either mark or judge and pin remainder to edge of quilt to finish the seam.

