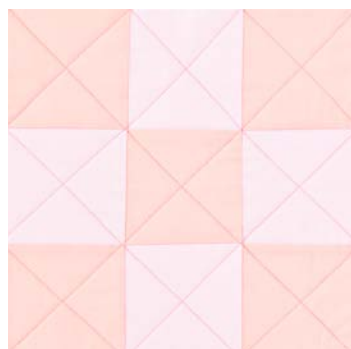


## Project: Straight-Line Quilting Design

If the term “quilt as desired” has you guessing, here are some tips to help you mark the quilt top, prepare the layers, and finish a Nine-Patch quilt.



### STRAIGHT-LINE QUILTING DESIGN

Diagonal lines that intersect across a quilt block or top are often referred to as a crosshatch design.

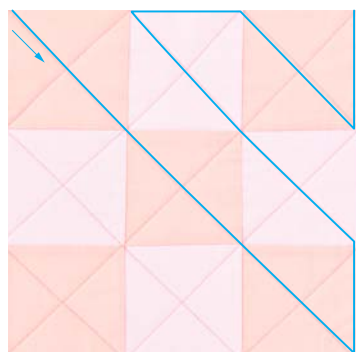


DIAGRAM 1

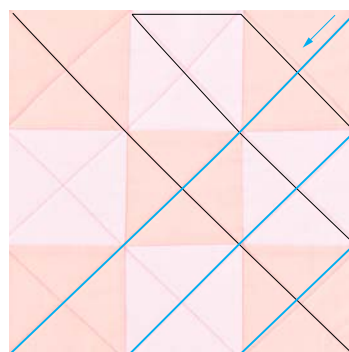


DIAGRAM 2

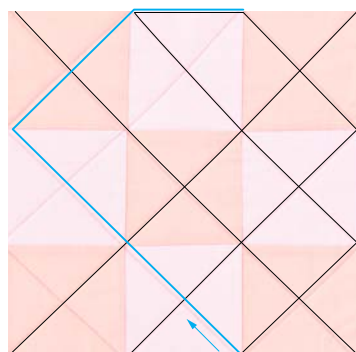


DIAGRAM 3

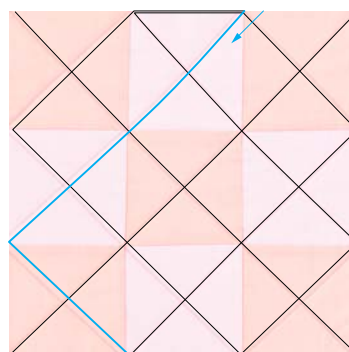


DIAGRAM 4

### MARK QUILT TOP

Using a water-soluble marker or chalk, mark diagonal lines across quilt block. (Marked lines give you confidence as you begin to stitch.) Use a 4×8" ruler when marking the lines; lining up just a few seam intersections at a time gives you “fudge room” if the blocks aren’t perfectly square.

Although a single Nine-Patch block is shown, *left*, you could use the same stitching paths for an entire quilt top assembled from Nine-Patch blocks. To mark, join the lines from one edge of the quilt top to the other.

### ASSEMBLE QUILT LAYERS

Cut and piece the backing fabric to measure at least 4" bigger on all sides than the quilt top. Press seams open. Place the quilt backing wrong side up on a large, flat surface. Center and smooth the batting atop the backing. Center the quilt right side up on top of the batting and smooth out any wrinkles. Use safety pins or long hand stitches to baste all the layers together.

### SET UP MACHINE

Remove presser foot and install a walking foot. Add a new machine needle, and thread the machine and bobbin with 50-weight, 100% cotton thread. Use a quilt-sandwich swatch to test thread/needle/tension combination and stitch length.

### BEGIN QUILTING

- 1) Begin stitching with the longest diagonal line on the quilt top, usually at the quilt center. Follow the blue arrow and line in each step.
- 2) Stitch along the marked line, pivoting as shown, until reaching the upper right-hand corner (Diagram 1).
- 3) Pivot 45°. Stitch as before until reaching the lower right-hand corner of the quilt top (Diagram 2).
- 4) Pivot 90°. Stitch as before until reaching the upper right-hand corner of the quilt top (Diagram 3).
- 5) Pivot 45°. Stitch as before to complete straight-line, diagonal crosshatch quilting (Diagram 4). Baste any remaining unstitched edges.