
How to Sew Mitered Corners with Ashley Nickels

Chapter 1 - Mitered Corners

How to Sew Mitered Corners

(upbeat music) - Hi, I'm Ashley Nickels and I'm a modern quilter and a sewing and quilting instructor. I'm gonna show you a really simple technique on how to miter the corners on a single cloth piece of fabric. You're gonna need a square piece of fabric. I have mine cut at 18 inch square. A long ruler with a 45 degree angle on it. A pencil, some pins, a pair of scissors, an iron, and an ironing surface, and you'll need a sewing machine with a quarter inch foot. The first step is to draw a one inch line from the edge of the cloth. I'm gonna take my ruler. It doesn't need it be a very dark line. It's really just so you can be consistent with your ironing. I'm gonna do the same thing on all of the edges. You can see my line's right there. The next step is I'm going to press about a quarter inch down from the raw edge on all sides. Follow that line that we just drew from the top, and fold again, trying to respect that one inch line. You're gonna press all four sides down. Again this line is just to help you be as consistent and even as possible. The next thing I'm gonna do is unfold what I just pressed and I'm gonna fold a corner together, lining up the raw edge, making sure my corner is creased nicely. That looks about right. We're gonna follow again this one inch line which has also been creased now by the pressing. Taking my ruler I'm going to line up my 45 degree line with that crease line which is actually the one inch line that you've already drawn. I'm gonna line it up right at the edge, and I'm gonna draw a line. Before I sew along this line that I just drew, I'm gonna fold back my little quarter inch just like that. Bring it to the machine, and I'm gonna sew along this line. And that's it. So that the corner doesn't bunch, first trim this at a 45 degree angle, and then I'm gonna give it a quarter inch straight. Now's your big payoff moment when you flip this around. I'm gonna use my thumb to flatten the seam open, and then we're gonna flip it, and sometimes it will be helpful to have your pencil handy because you might need to push this corner out a little. And there you have your corner. When you're doing mitered corners on a single cloth piece of fabric, you are going to finish all of your corners first, and then you're going to top stitch all the way around. I have here an example of a napkin that I used this technique on. You can see that I've done all of my corners, and I have a top stitch all around this edge. Now you see how easy it is to miter corners, so now get out there. Use up your stash. Start making some napkins. (upbeat music)