

Prairie Points
part 2

Table of Contents

Piped Page 2

Reversible Page 5

Bi-Color

 Strips Page 7

 Half-square Page 9

Alternative Finishes - Beyond Basic Binding




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Prairie Points

Piped, page 1

Piped prairie points are wonderful way to introduce and tie-in more of the fabrics used in the top to the edging treatment.

	<p>1. Cut two strips of fabric, here shown as a solid and a print, each $\frac{1}{2}$" wider than the finished height of the prairie point by WOF. These will get trimmed to actual size later on.</p> <p>Example: if you want your prairie points to be 2" high, cut two fabric strips each 2-$\frac{1}{2}$" wide by WOF.</p> <p>Cut a contrasting fabric for the piping/accent. I wouldn't use a filler cord in the piping fabric, as it will be too bulky. A 1" by WOF strip will yield a $\frac{1}{4}$" exposed accent. A $\frac{3}{4}$" by WOF will yield a $\frac{1}{8}$" exposed accent. Fold the piping strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. Press.</p>
	<p>2. Sandwich the piping strip between the right sides of the two prairie point fabrics, all the raw edges even. Sew with a $\frac{1}{4}$" seam allowance.</p>
	<p>3. Turn right side out and press.</p>

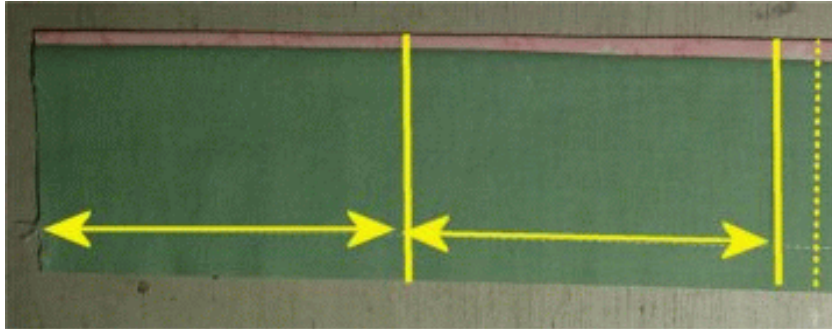
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Prairie Points

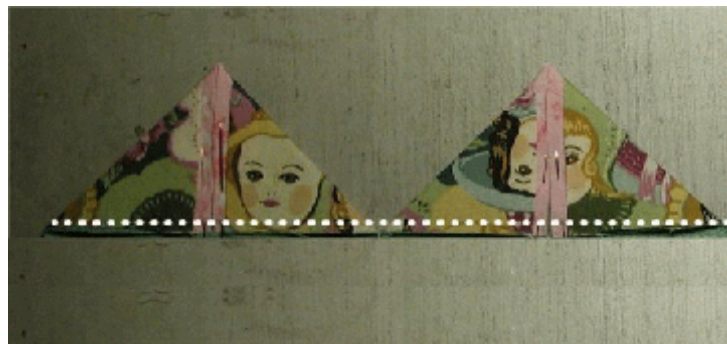
Piped, page 2



4. Measure the distance from the top of the accent fabric to the raw edge of the fabric, shown by the dotted yellow lines. Double that amount. Mark vertical lines (as shown by the solid yellow lines) that distance apart from the accent edge to the basting line. Cut the strips on the solid lines

The double headed arrow is twice the distance of the dotted yellow line.

Example: if the distance from the top of the accent fabric to the raw edge is 2", then double that amount is 4". Mark vertical lines from the accent edge to the basting line every 4". Cut on those vertical lines.



5. Make a center fold prairie point: fold down the outer corners of each segment diagonally to center of the bottom. Baste near the raw edge of the folded prairie points, as shown by the dotted line

6. If two different fabrics were used to create these prairie points, varying arrangements can be done for different effects.

prairie points, piped. Arrangement 1.



prairie points, piped. Arrangement 2.



prairie points, piped. Arrangement 3.



prairie points, piped. Arrangement 4.



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Prairie Points

Reversible



Reversible prairie points give you prairie points with a different fabric on each side. This technique enables you to custom color coordinate your prairie points if your backing is drastically different from the top. Although they are created two at a time, they are individual prairie points. The only option you have for positioning the reversible prairie points is to overlap them in either 1 or 2 layers. You can not nest them.



1. To determine the size of the fabric squares, decide how tall you want the prairie points to be. Add 2" to this figure.

For example, if you want prairie points 2" tall, add 2" yielding 4". Cut 2 fabric squares 4" x 4".

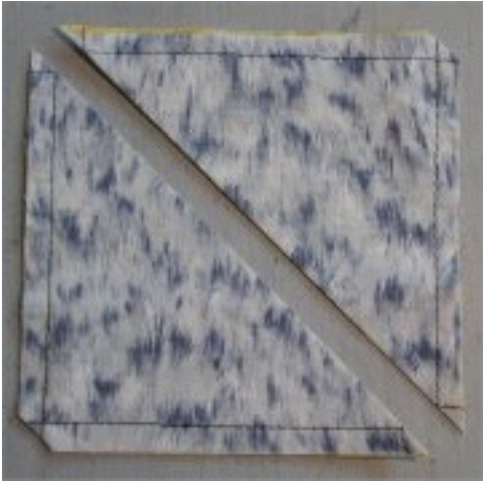
“Normal” prairie points have multiple layers of fabric that give it some body. These prairie points have only two layers. If you are concerned about the prairie points being too limp, you can iron lightweight fusible interfacing to the wrong side of one of the fabric squares.

Place right sides together and sew 1/4 seam allowance around all 4 sides. Yes, all four sides.

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2. Cut along one diagonal. Clip corners.



3. Turn both triangles right side out. CAREFULLY poke out the corner with a blunted tool. (I use a knitting needle). Press.

4. Baste along the raw edge. Use as discussed for individually folded prairie points.

The sample shown on page 5 uses the same color prairie points for one side of the quilt; the other side has two colors for the prairie points. The prairie points are butted and layered.

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Prairie Points

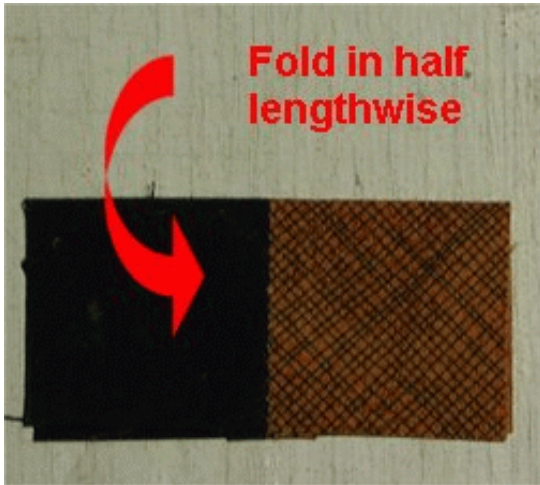
Bi-Color prairie points Strips, page 1

Two-color prairie points from fabric strips allow you to introduce a very strong graphic statement to your quilt and focus on your favorite fabrics. The basic procedure is to sew 2 strips of fabric together, subcut into squares and center fold them into prairie points.

	<p>1. To determine the width of each strip, take the finished width of the base of the prairie points (whatever you decide it to be), divide by 2 then add $\frac{1}{2}$".</p> <p>For example: let's say you want a prairie point with a 3" base (this happen to give you a height of 2"). Then you will divide $3"/2 = 1-1/2"$, then add $\frac{1}{2}$" for a strip width of 2". Cut each fabric strip 2" wide. Seam together along one long edge. Press seam allowance open.</p>
	<p>2. Measure the width of the strip. Subcut the strip into squares of that measurement.</p> <p>Turn each square sideways and wrong side up.</p>

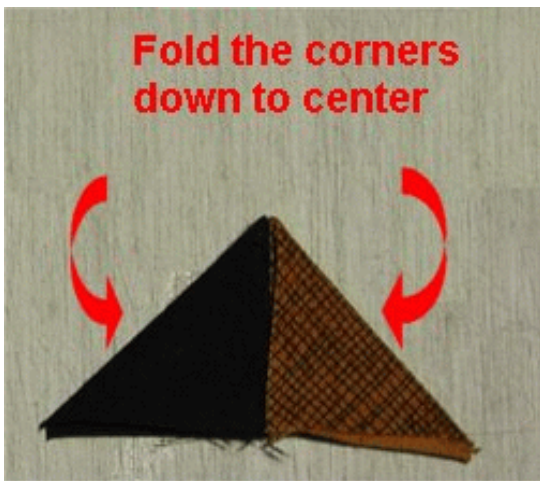
Prairie Points

two-color, page 2



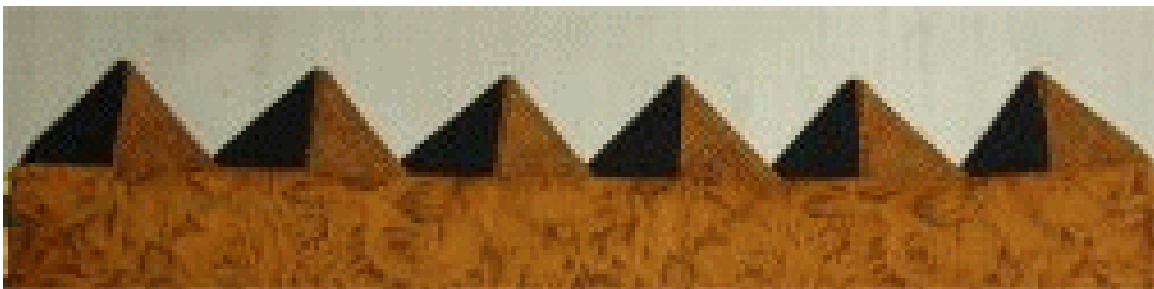
3. Make a center fold prairie point by

folding the fabric square in half lengthwise



then folding down each top corner to the center of the bottom edge. Press firmly.

Use as with any other individually made center fold prairie point.



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Prairie Points

Bi-Color prairie points Half-square triangles, page 1

This is another two color prairie point, folded as a center fold prairie point. One side of this prairie point looks exactly like the previous two-color prairie point, but the reverse side of this one is a solid fabric.

Make your half square triangles by your favorite method. Here are two techniques that don't involve sewing on the bias edge of a pre-cut triangle.

HALF SQUARE TRIANGLES: Method 1 - totally tubular!



1. Cut 2 strips of contrasting fabrics of equal widths. Put right sides together and sew a 1/4" seam along both long edges. You've just created a flat tube.



2. Slice the flat tube at 45° to the long edges. Many rulers have a 45° line to help you with accurately placing this cut.

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Prairie Points

Bi-Color prairie points
Half-square triangles, page 2



3. Remove the stitches from the small point of the triangle. Open up the half square triangles. Press the seam open.

Voila! Your half square triangles are now complete! Pretty painless, huh? :-)

HALF SQUARE TRIANGLES: Method 2 - It's Hip to be Square!



1. Cut 2 squares of contrasting fabric. Place them right sides together. Mark one diagonal by creasing, pressing or pencil line.

Sew 1/4" away on both sides of the diagonal mark/line.

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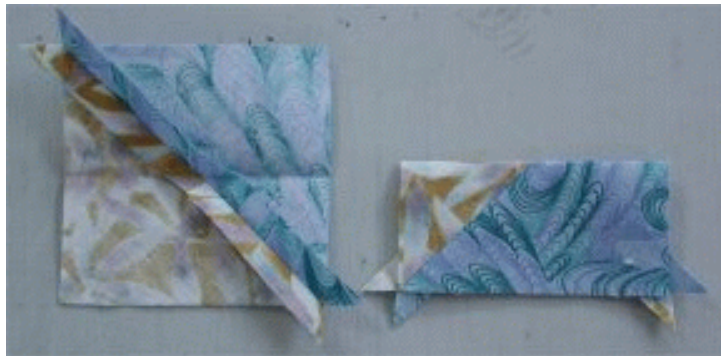
Bi-Color prairie points Half-square triangles, page 3



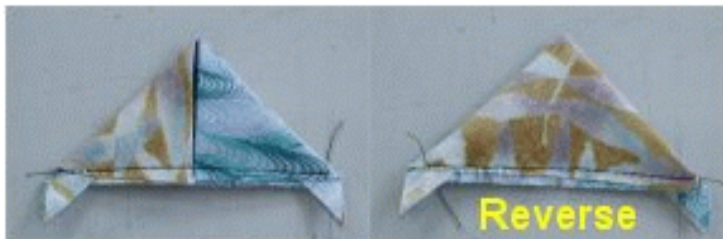
2. Cut on the diagonal. Open up the half square triangles and press the seam allowance open.

Voila ... a complete half square triangle.

Making the prairie point.



1. Using a half square triangle, place it wrong side up. Fold in half towards you, as shown.



2. Make a center fold prairie point, as previously described. One side will show both fabrics, the reverse side will show only one fabric.

Baste along bottom edge to hold flaps in place.