

Chequerboard Tablemat



Slide 2: Make patchwork tablemat using leftover jelly roll strips, layer cake squares or other fabrics in your stash. Finished size 44cm x 44cm.



Slide 3:

Materials needed:

- **EITHER** TWO jelly roll strips **OR** TWO 10" (25cm) squares (e.g. from a Layer Cake) **OR** TWO strips of fabric cut at 2.5" wide x 42" long (6cm x 100cm)
- For the centre square – a 5" x 5" square of fabric (12.5cm x 12.5cm)
- For the border – TWO strips of fabric 2.5" x 13" (6cm x 33cm) AND TWO strips of fabric 2.5" x 17" (6cm x 42cm)
- For the back – this shows around the edge of the front, too – 22" x 22" (54cm x 54cm) – but cut to actual size once your front is finished so it's the correct size!
- Wadding – approx. 18" x 18" (44cm x 44cm) – it does work without wadding if you don't have any but I think it looks better with it.

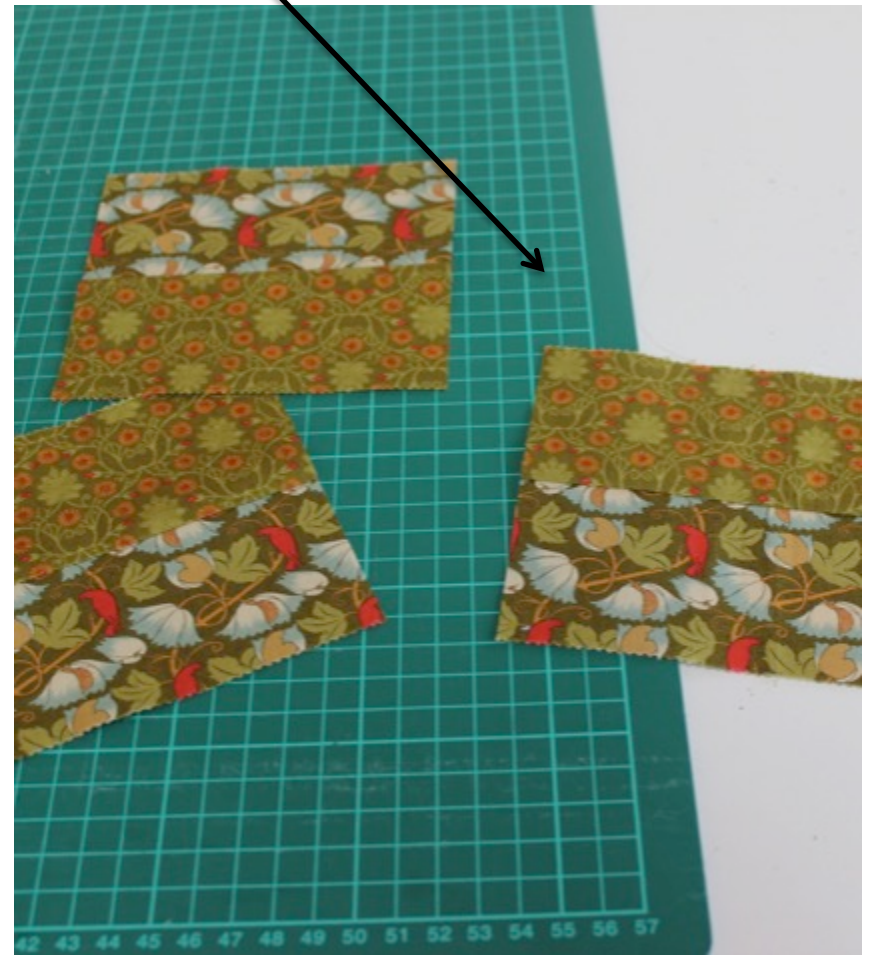
Slide 4: Instructions for using Jelly Roll strips or two pieces of fabric cut to at 2.5" wide x 42" long (6cm x 100cm) - if you are using two layer cake squares please see slide 37. Join the two strips together with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



Slide 5: Press from the Wrong Side (W.S.) to set the seam then press again from the Right Side (R.S), pressing the seam allowance to one side.



Slide 6: Cut into EIGHT 2.5" long sections and FOUR 5" long sections.



Slide 7: Join the EIGHT 2.5" pieces together in pairs, with matching fabrics opposite each other. (1/4" seam allowance). Press to set the seams then press the seam allowance to one side.



Slide 8: So you have FOUR pieces looking like this.



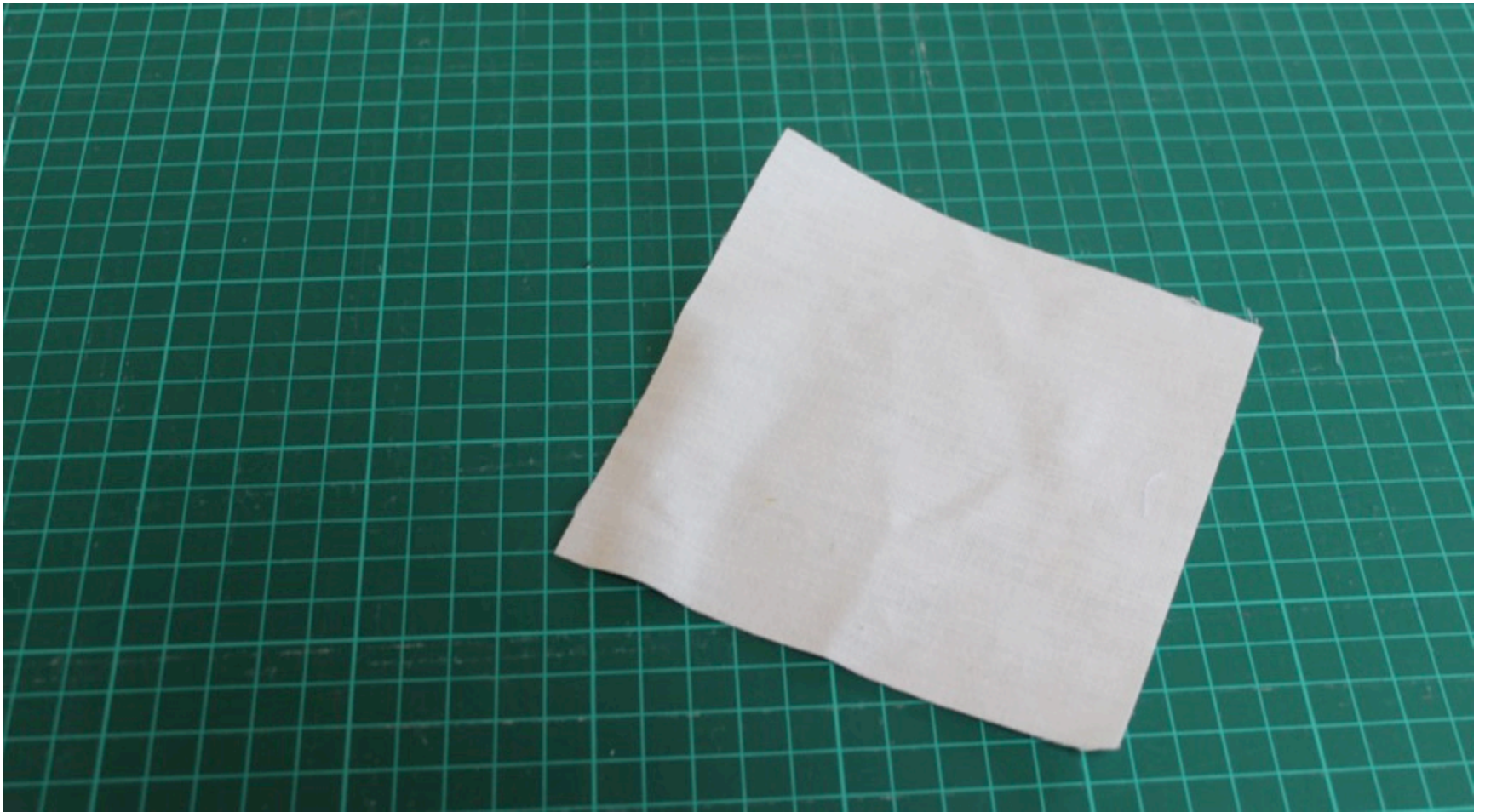
Slide 9: Stitch one of these square pieces to each end of TWO of the 5" pieces – use a ¼" seam allowance again. Make sure the patterns lie in a chequer board fashion.



Slide 10: Press to set the stitches then press the seam allowances outwards, away from the centre 5" pieces.



Slide 11: Take your central square...



Slide 12: ...and pin a 5" strip on two opposite sides – pin R.S. together and make sure the SAME PATTERN faces inwards, to the central square. Stitch.



Slide 13: Press to set the the stitches, then press the seam allowances outwards.



Slide 14: Now take the remaining two prepared pieces and pin them on the remaining two sides of the central square, checking that the SAME PATTERN as before is in the middle. Match all the seam lines carefully and then stitch.



Slide 15: Press to set the seams then press again fro the R.S., pressing the seam allowances outwards.



Slide 16: Pin the two border pieces on this central piece R.S. together like this – on opposite sides. (It doesn't matter which two sides, as long as they're opposite each other). Stitch in place with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



Slide 17: Press to set the stitches then press the seam allowances outwards. Trim off any excess fabric length.



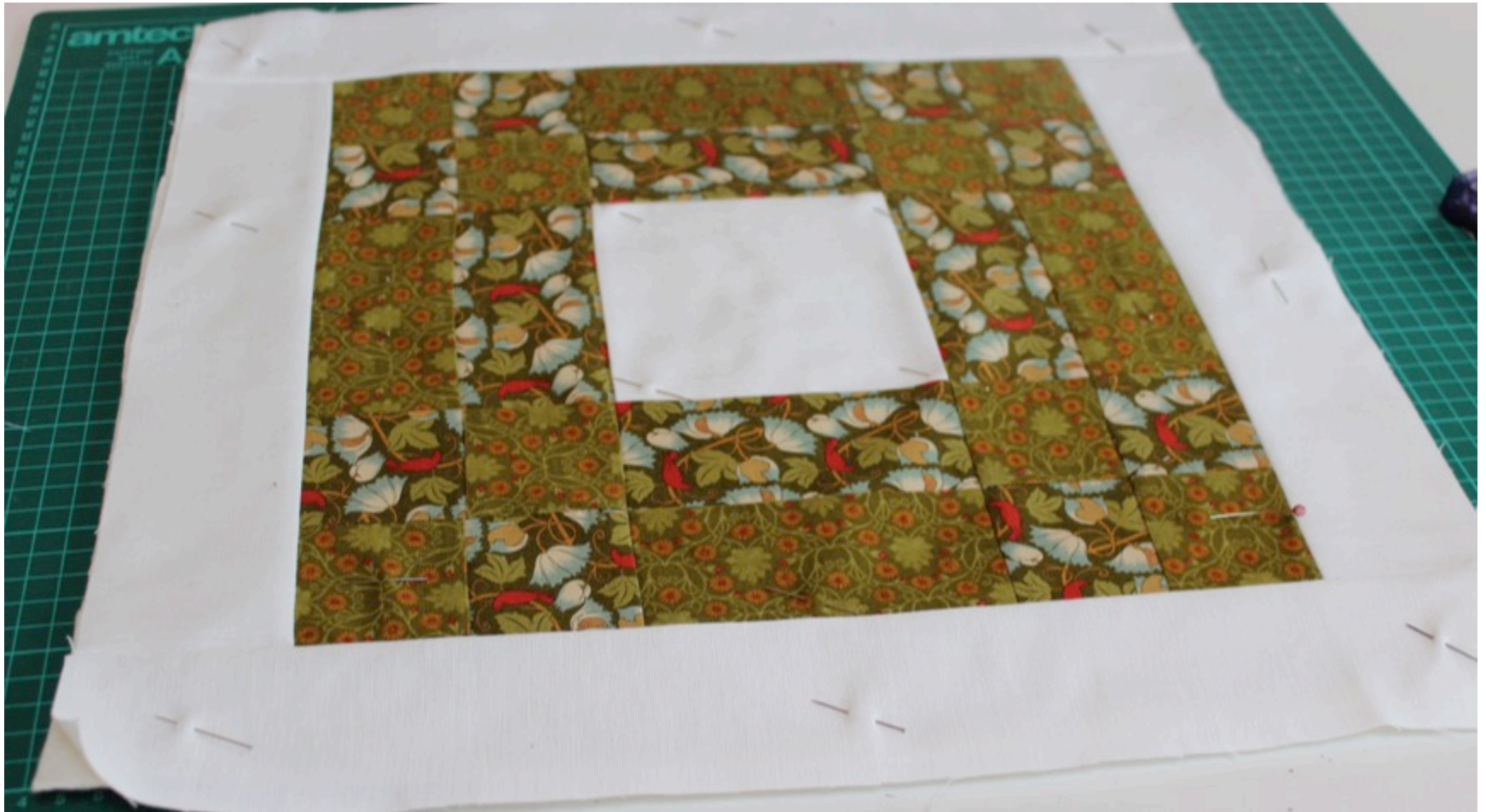
Slide 18: Now pin the two longer border pieces on the two remaining sides.



Slide 19: Stitch, then press the seam allowance outwards. Again, trim off any remaining excess length. Give the finished top layer a good press.



Slide 20: Lay it onto your wadding and pin carefully in place, pinning from the centre and smoothing it out as you go. Don't skimp on pins!



Slide 21: Quilt the two layers together – you can do this by hand, but I used the sewing machine. If you do that, you can “stitch-in-the-ditch” if you know how to do that, or stitch just to the side like I’ve done on mine. Note the standard presser foot is attached. >>>



Slide 22: I stitched all round on each green border and on the outer cream border too.



Slide 23: I also did some machine quilting in the centre square. I just stitched random wavy lines in one direction as shown below. This isn't essential, but I thought it added some extra texture. You could embroider, or decorate it in some other way.



Slide 24: Lay your completed front on top of your backing fabric, W.S. of the backing fabric facing upwards making sure there is 4cm sticking out evenly all round. Pin in place starting at the centre and smoothing the fabrics out as you go.



Slide 25: Start by folding the raw edge inwards like this, so the raw edge of the backing fabric meets the raw edge of your patchwork. The next slides show how to finish off the border – they show different fabrics but the process is the same.



Slide 26: Now fold this over to “bind” the edge of the quilt – it should be around 2cm wide (just less than 1”). You can adjust this according to the appearance you want and to hide any discrepancies regarding the size of the outer blocks. Pin in place with pins at right angles to the edge.



Slide 27: Do this just in the centre of each side but not the corners.



Slide 28: **The corners**

Lift up your tablemat in one corner, then fold in the corner of the backing fabric like this



Slide 29: Tuck it flat under so it just goes past the corner like in the LEFT hand photo. Create a double fold – as you get to this corner, just like you've done on the 4 sides – and >>>



Slide 30:creating a 45 degree angle like this. It might take 2-3 attempts to fold it neatly. Pin the folded fabric in place >>>



Slide 31: ... like this. Repeat with the other 3 corners. Thread your machine – spool and bobbin – with a matching thread, then carefully sew in place, starting at a corner and stitching approx. 2mm from the inner fold. See >>>



Slide 32:



Slide 33: **Remove ALL pins and press.** Hand sewing the corners to finish. Take a needle and thread – single thread, no longer than the distance from your wrist to your shoulder, no knot. Slide the needle into the fabric here and draw all but the last 2cm through the fabric.



Slide 34: Now form 2-3 stitches on the spot to secure. Then oversew down to the point – **stitching from one side to the other** with tiny stitches, pulling the edges together as you go to close the gap.



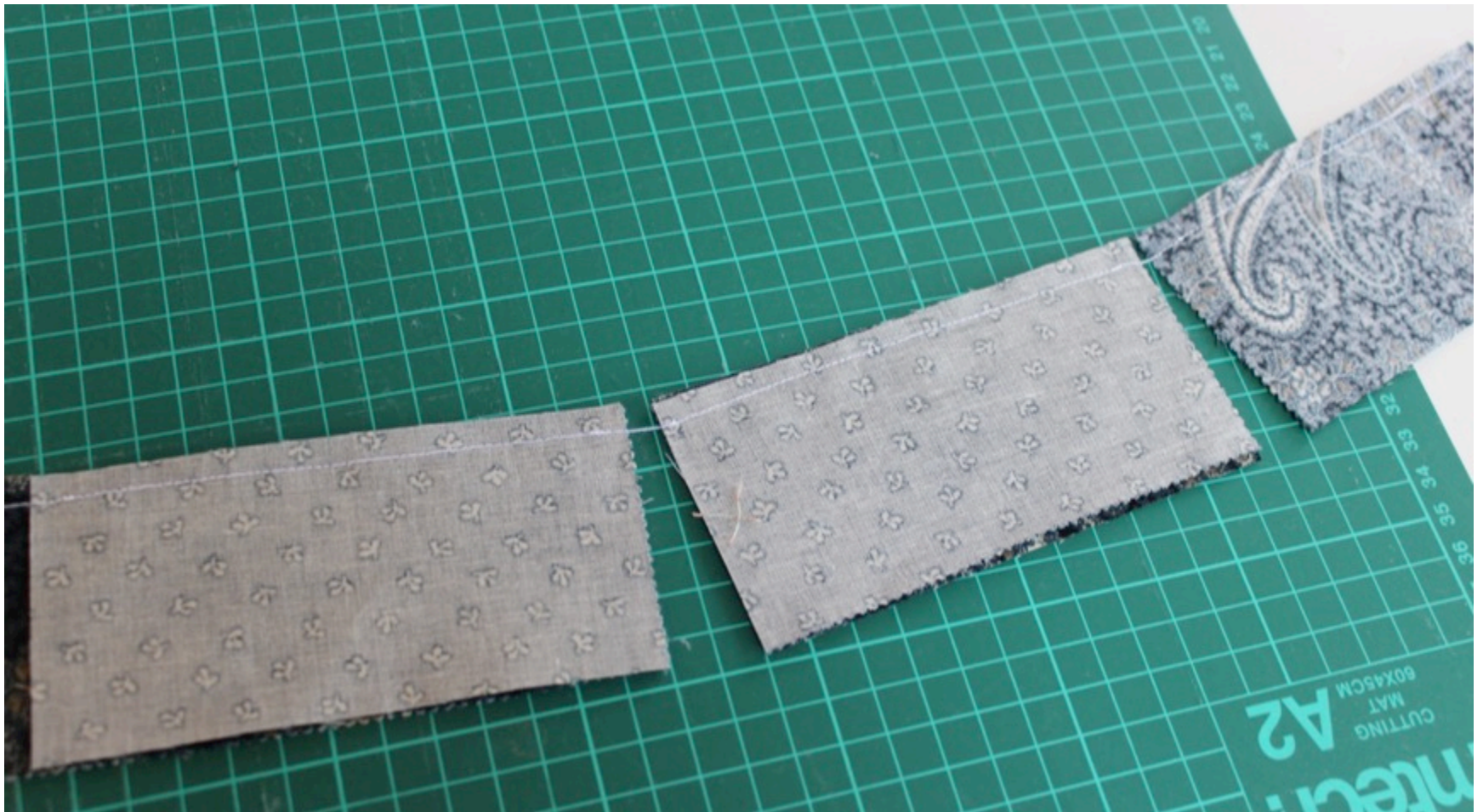
Slide 35: Turn, and go back towards the tablemat with a few more stitches. Then sew a couple of stitches on the spot again to secure. Cut, close to the fabric, and also cut off the 2cm you left at the start.



Slide 36: Give your finished tablemat a final press, and **check for any remaining pins.**



Slide 37: If you are making the tablemat with two 10"/25cm squares or squares from a Layer Cake, start by cutting each square into EIGHT pieces each one 5" x 2.5" (12.5cm x 6cm). Then machine stitch them together in pairs, attaching the two different fabrics together. ¼" seam allowance.



Slide 38: Press, pressing the seam allowance to one side, so you have 8 pieces looking like this.



Slide 39: Leave 4 strips as they are and cut the other 4 in half, so you have EIGHT pieces 2.5" (6cm) wide.



Slide 40: Continue from slide 7.

I didn't use wadding in this version – it still works fine although I do prefer it with the wadding – it just lies a little better. That said, my backing fabric was viscose – a slightly more sturdy, less drape-y fabric would be better if you are not using wadding.

