

Spiders in My Attic

This is the easiest attic windows quilt you will ever make! Each "window" is actually a half square triangle block with a three dimensional window inserted into the seam.

Why not put spiders in your windows for a cute 32" x 32" kid quilt? This top can be finished in three hours or less. Our sample uses fabric available at <http://hickoryhillquilts.com/very.htm>.



Cutting Instructions:

1 1/2 yd Light Brown Fabric

Cut (2) strips 6 1/2" wide by the WOF. Cut these strips into (8) 6 1/2" x 6 1/2" squares.

Cut these squares on the diagonal to make (16) triangles.

1 1/2 yd Dark Brown Fabric

Cut (2) strips 6 1/2" wide by the WOF. Cut these strips into (8) 6 1/2" x 6 1/2" squares.

Cut these squares on the diagonal to make (16) triangles.

1 1/2 yd Window Fabric. *Do not use obvious directional fabric.*

Cut (2) strips 9" wide by the WOF. Cut these strips into (8) 9" x 9" squares. Cut these squares on the diagonal to make (16) triangles.

1/4 yd Inner Border

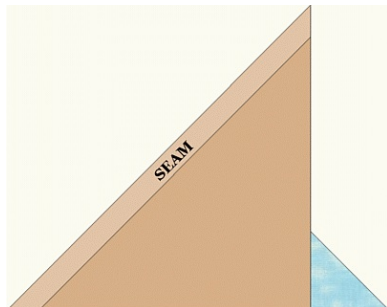
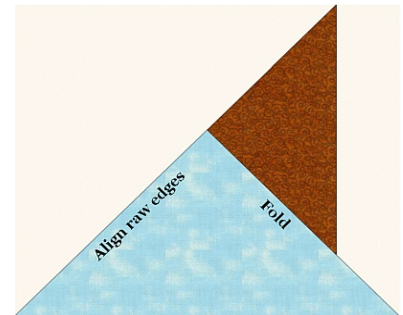
Cut (4) strips 2" wide by the width of fabric

1 1/2 yd Outer Border

Cut (4) strips 4" wide by the width of fabric

Stack your triangles into three sets, the dark brown set, the light brown set and the window set. Fold your window triangles in half to make smaller triangles and turn them so the raw edge is on the left side and the bottom.

Take one of these triangles and place it on top of the right side of one of the dark triangles, matching the raw edges with the bias cut and the straight cut of the triangle. The fold will go past the end of your half square triangle, like a tongue sticking out. It will look something like the picture to the right.

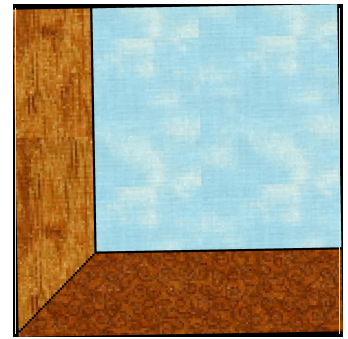


Now place a light triangle on top of the dark one, right sides together. You are making a triangle sandwich with the folded window triangle as the filling. Sew the left seam through all thicknesses. Press to the seam to the darker triangle.

When you open your sandwich, you will see that you have sewn a half square triangle block with the folded triangle inserted into the center seam. Take the point of this triangle (the tip of the tongue) and bring it to the middle, opening it up so it becomes a square.

You have made a three dimensional attic window block! Stay-stitch the three dimensional window 1/8" from the edge.

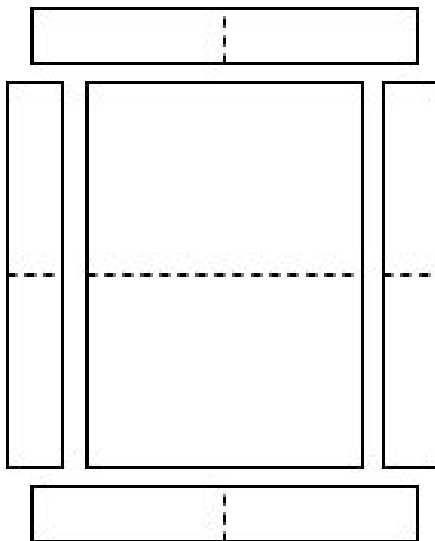
Make 15 more blocks like this one.



Please Note: you must *always* keep the dark triangle on the bottom of your sandwich when sewing the seam of the half square triangle. If you accidentally change sides, you will change the angle of the window.

Another Note: If you have used a directional fabric, half of your windows will have motifs that are turned in the opposite direction. You can either live with it or make two quilts.

Sew your blocks in rows of four, keeping the dark side of the attic window block on the right. Make four rows like this, then sew the rows into a top. Press the block seams at the row intersections in opposite directions. This will help your top lay flat.



Press and measure your new quilt top through the center both ways. Since this is a square top, the measurements should match. It should be about 23" but if not, average the two measurements. Cut two of the inner strips to this length.

Matching the center of the border strip with the center of the quilt top, sew a border strip to both sides. By measuring through the center first and sewing two identically cut strips to both sides, you are forcing your center to lay flat.

Press to the border and measure through the center again including the new border. It should be about 26", but use your personal measurement. Cut the top and bottom border to this length.

Matching the center of the border strip with the center of the quilt top, sew a border strip to the top and bottom. Ease to fit if necessary. Do not just sew on a strip and cut it off at the end! Your edges may distort slightly if you do and your quilt will not be square. Press to the border.

Repeat this process with the outer border.

You are done! Wasn't that easy? Pin your top to the wall for a day or two so you can enjoy it and your family can praise you. Decide on a quilting motif - and don't forget to add a label!