



## Halloween Placemats

It's Halloween time, and **superbuzzy** and *ever kelly* have teamed up again to bring you another fun project. This time we're making a cute placemat with a felt cat applique.

**superbuzzy** has a great selection of Halloween fabrics including the fun Matryoshka print we used here. These placemats would look great in lots of fabric combinations. We hope you'll have fun experimenting!

The cat applique is soft, all wool American Country Felt by Sun Felt, and has been die cut with an Accu-Quilt die cutter. If you'd like to make one at home, you can order a pre-cut cat from **superbuzzy**. Prefer to use felt already in your stash? No problem. We have included a template for a similar design at the end of this tutorial.

This project uses bias tape made from a coordinating fabric. While you could use ready made bias tape (or double-folded seam tape), we'll show you how to make and attach your own. Wishing you a safe and happy Halloween!





## Halloween Placemats

### Finished Dimensions:

Choose a size.

Snack Size (pictured): 10" x 14"

Dinner Size: 14" x 16"

### Supplies:

Fabric for Front/Back

Packaged Bias Tape (1" wide) **OR** the following:

Fabric to make your own bias tape (instructions pg. 4)

Clover Fusible Bias Tape Maker - 1"

Fabric Marker or Tailor's Chalk

Ruler

Wool Felt (Pumpkin or Black)

Wonder Tape (optional)

Freezer Paper (optional)

Scissors & Sewing Machine

Sewing thread (to attach bias tape)

Embroidery thread (orange or black)



### **SUPERBUZZY TIP**

One yard of fabric will make 2 dinner size placemats or 4 snack size placemats. Don't forget fabric for your binding!



### Cutting:

1. Cut out your fabric for the FRONT and BACK of your placemat. For the dinner size placemat, cut two rectangles that are 14" x 16". For the snack size placemat, cut two small rectangles that are 10" x 14".



2. Prepare your felt cat applique. If you are cutting out your own applique (instead of using a pre-cut cat from [superbuzzy](#)), the best method is to trace the applique on page 8 onto freezer paper. Iron the freezer paper onto your wool felt with the shiny side facing down. Cut out your cat, cutting through the felt and freezer paper at the same time.

## Steps:

1. Pin your cat applique in position on the lower right-hand corner of your placemat (or use Wonder Tape as described in the box below).



Optional: Wonder Tape is a nice alternative to pins, and will keep your cat in place while you stitch. Unlike some applique glues or fusible webbing, the Wonder Tape does not require heat, and will not leave behind any marks or or extra stiffness in your project.



2. Using a satin stitch and your embroidery thread, carefully sew around the edges of your cat. A satin stitch is your machine's zig-zag stitch with a very short stitch length; the stitch width can be adjusted according to



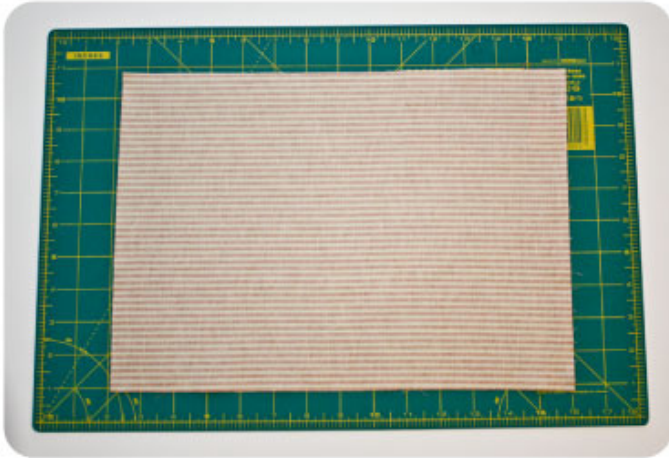
your own preference. We recommend a few test runs to get the look you want. For best results, start your stitching along one of the straight edges of the design (like half-way down the cat's tail). If your machine does not have a satin stitch, you could use a blanket or straight stitch instead.





## How to Make Your Own Continuous Bias Tape:

1. Begin with a rectangular piece of fabric. Not sure how much fabric you need? Check out the formula in the tip box.

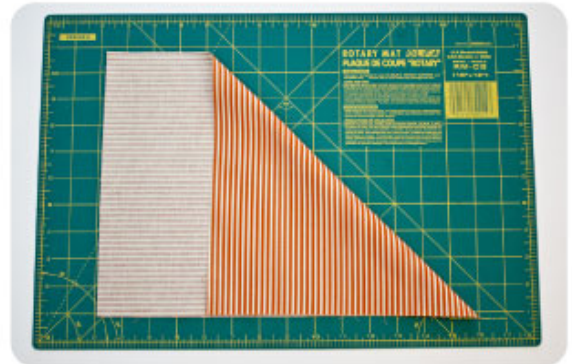


### SUPERBUZZY TIP

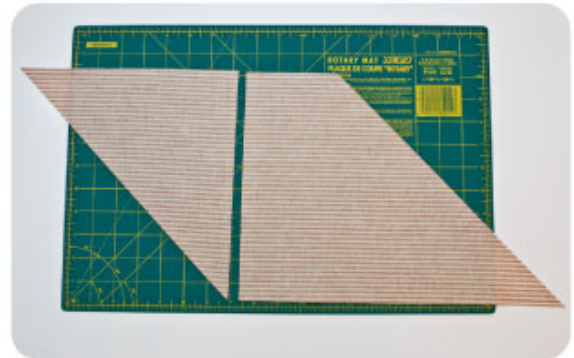
Here's the formula:

+ Add the perimeter of your placemat + 12"  
÷ Divide by the width of the fabric you are using for the bias tape (typically 42")  
x Multiply by the width of your bias tape strips including seam allowances (2" or your preferred binding width)  
= Equals the length of the rectangle needed to make your continuous bias tape strip

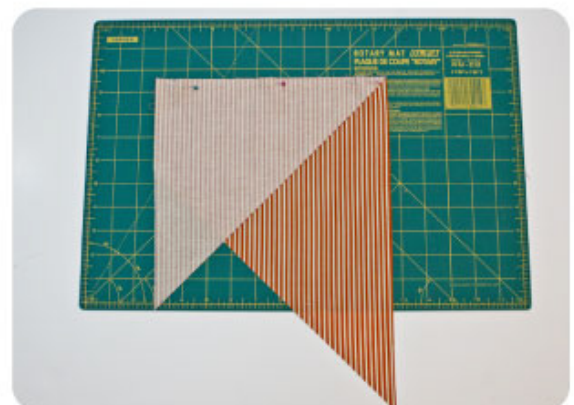
2. Fold down the right-hand corner of your fabric to create a right triangle. Cut along the fold line.



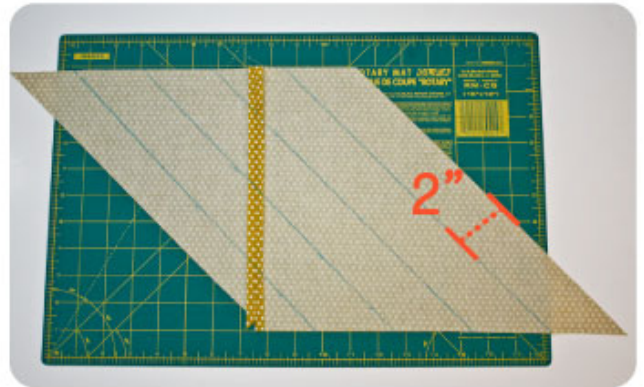
3. Take the fabric triangle you just cut and align it with your fabric as seen in the picture. If you are using a striped fabric, make sure your stripes are properly aligned.



4. With right-sides together, stitch the two pieces of fabric using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press open seam.



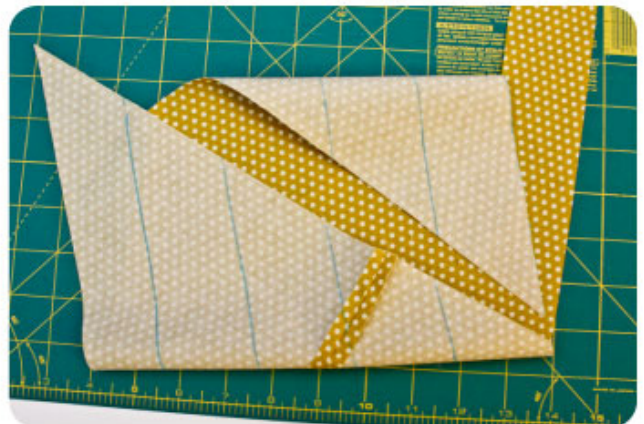
5. Using your ruler and fabric marker or tailor's chalk, measure parallel lines the width of your bias tape strips including seam allowances (2").



6. Make a cut approximately 6" deep along the first of your marked lines.



7. Fold the top and bottom edges of your fabric into a tube aligning the bottom corner with the top. Use the stars in the photo for step 6 as a guide to align the corners of your fabric tube. The portion that you cut in step 6 will be loose.



8. Align your markings so that when you stitch a 1/4" seam, your markings will match up. Pin and stitch in place.



9. Cut open your strip along the markings continuing where you started in step 6. Press open seams.



10. Grab your 1" bias tape maker. (The measurement indicates the size the tape will be when it comes out of the bias tape maker and before your fold it in half.) In this case, your bias tape will be 1/2" wide on the front of your placemat.



11. Feed your fabric strip through the bias tape maker and pin in place on your ironing board. Iron the fabric as you feed it through. For best results, try to make one side of the folded fabric wider than the other as seen in the photo.

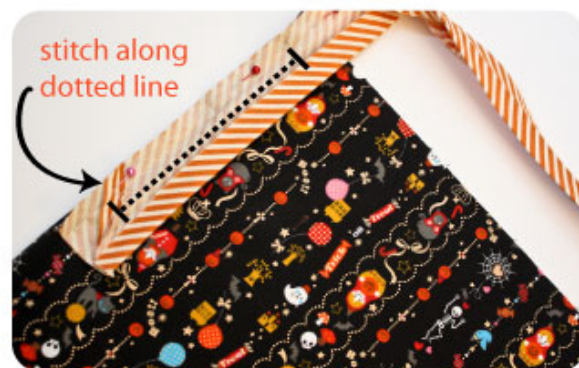


12. Fold your bias tape in half and press. Because one side is wider than the others, you should have a narrow overlap as seen in this photo.



## How to Attach Your Double Folded Bias Tape:

1. Now, we will attach the bias tape to the front of your placemat. Unfold the bias tape and pin the NARROW side along the edge. Start your pinning on the bottom or left-hand side of your placemat several inches from the corner.



2. Begin stitching 2" away from the start of your bias tape and sew close to the center fold line. When you get 1/4" away from the corner edge, back stitch and stop. Remove your fabric from the sewing machine and trim threads.



3. At the corner, fold your bias tape straight up. Your goal is to align that far right-hand edge of the bias tape with the edge of your placemat and create a crisp 90 degree angle at the corner.



4. Fold your fabric straight back down keeping your folded edge aligned with the top edge of your placemat. Pin in place. Begin sewing right at the folded edge and continue until you reach the next corner where you will stop 1/4" from the edge and repeat.



5. Continue sewing, treating each corner as described in steps 1-4. When you reach the beginning, stop about two inches away from where you started. Align the edges of the bias tape and trim a narrow 1/4" seam allowance. Stitch ends together. Press seam to one side, and finish your stitching line around the edge of the placemat.



6. Now your bias tape is attached to the front. Layer your Front and Back pieces together (right sides facing out), and pin the bias tape in place folding each corner as shown here. With the front side of your placemat facing you, machine stitch 1/8" away from the inside edge. The bias tape is wider on the back, so your stitches should catch both sides neatly.

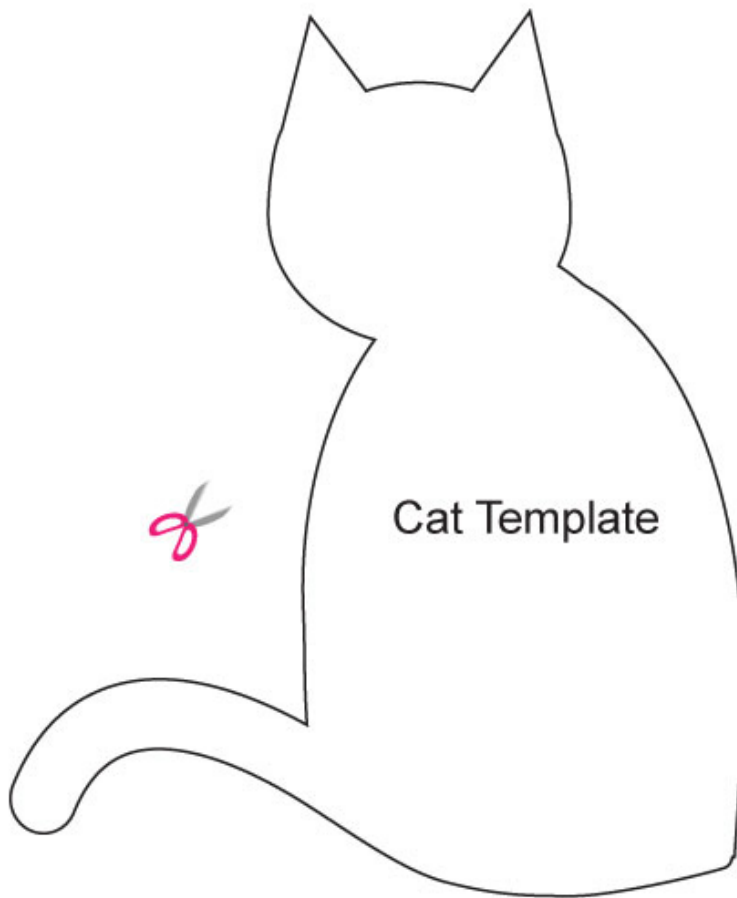


7. If you prefer, instead of machine stitching your bias tape in step 6, you can also hand stitch the bias tape to the back of the placemat using an invisible ladder stitch. This method produces a nice, clean finish.



## Congratulations!

We hope you love your new placemats. As always, feel free to contact us if you have any questions or comments!



Print at 100%

Follow instructions  
on page 3 to  
prepare felt.