

## Project Design Boards

Small design boards are portable and great to take places:

- Fabric sticks to the batting
- Use them when creating blocks and auditioning fabric pieces in scrappy blocks.
- Keep near your machine and sew the blocks together when you have time.
- Stack a bunch of boards and wrap them with a rubber band to take to a retreat.
- Take block pieces from your machine to the ironing board on the design board. Pieces may get turned the wrong way with frequent handling, so this technique should reduce mistakes.



Supplies:

- Foam core board (sold at Dollar Tree, Dollar General, Hobby Lobby, Walmart \$ 0.88)
  - 20" x 30" or 22" x 28"
- Scraps of leftover batting (cut slightly larger than the size of your board)
- Hot Glue gun and hot glue sticks
- 2 ½" strip of fabric (1 WOF strip for 10" board, 2 WOF strips for larger boards)

Directions:

- ❖ **Cut your board** using an OLD rotary cutter blade (or utility knife) and acrylic ruler
  - Cut into different sizes (10", 14", 18", 20")
  - Edges don't have to be completely smooth, they will be covered with fabric.
- ❖ **Glue batting to the board**: Start with a line of hot glue along the outer edge of one side.



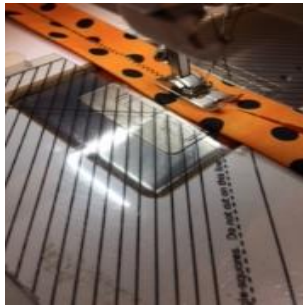
- Run a row of glue along the opposite edge of the board pulling on the batting so it is snug. Finish off the two other edges of the board (smoothing out the batting as you go).
- Take a scissors and trim batting even with the board (or use your rotary blade)
- ❖ **Prep the 2 ½" strip of fabric**:
  - press in half (wrong sides together) down the length of the strip to get a center marking.



- Open strip and bring raw edges to the center line and press.



- Using a zig zag stitch on your machine, sew down the middle of the strip (sewing over the raw edges).



- Cut off the salvage edge on one end of the strip.

- ❖ **Glue fabric strip to board:** Starting half-way down the outside edge of the board, run a line of hot glue along outer edge of the board. Apply the wrong side of the fabric strip to this glue line (with the zig zag stitch directly on top of the glue). The stitching helps you keep the fabric piece centered on the edge of the board.



- Continue to apply hot glue down each side and press the fabric strip on top of the glue.
- When you get to the end, overlap ½" of fabric. Fold it under and glue in place. Or use a pinking shears to cut the fabric end and glue in place (do not fold back).

- ❖ **Glue fabric strip to the board:** Start on the batting side of the board. Apply the glue directly to the fabric (or on the board) all the way to the corner. Press the fabric flat against the board with your fingers. Do the same to the next side of the board and it will create a mitered corner. Finish all 4 sides and turn over and repeat steps for the back of the board.
  - To keep from burning your fingers, use a paper creaser (scrapbooking tool), popsicle sticks, or cute, finger hot pads (blue rubber—found in the hot glue isle at craft store).
  - Let extra glue cool slightly and take a popsicle stick and swipe it away.
- ❖ Let cool completely. Enjoy your new design board!