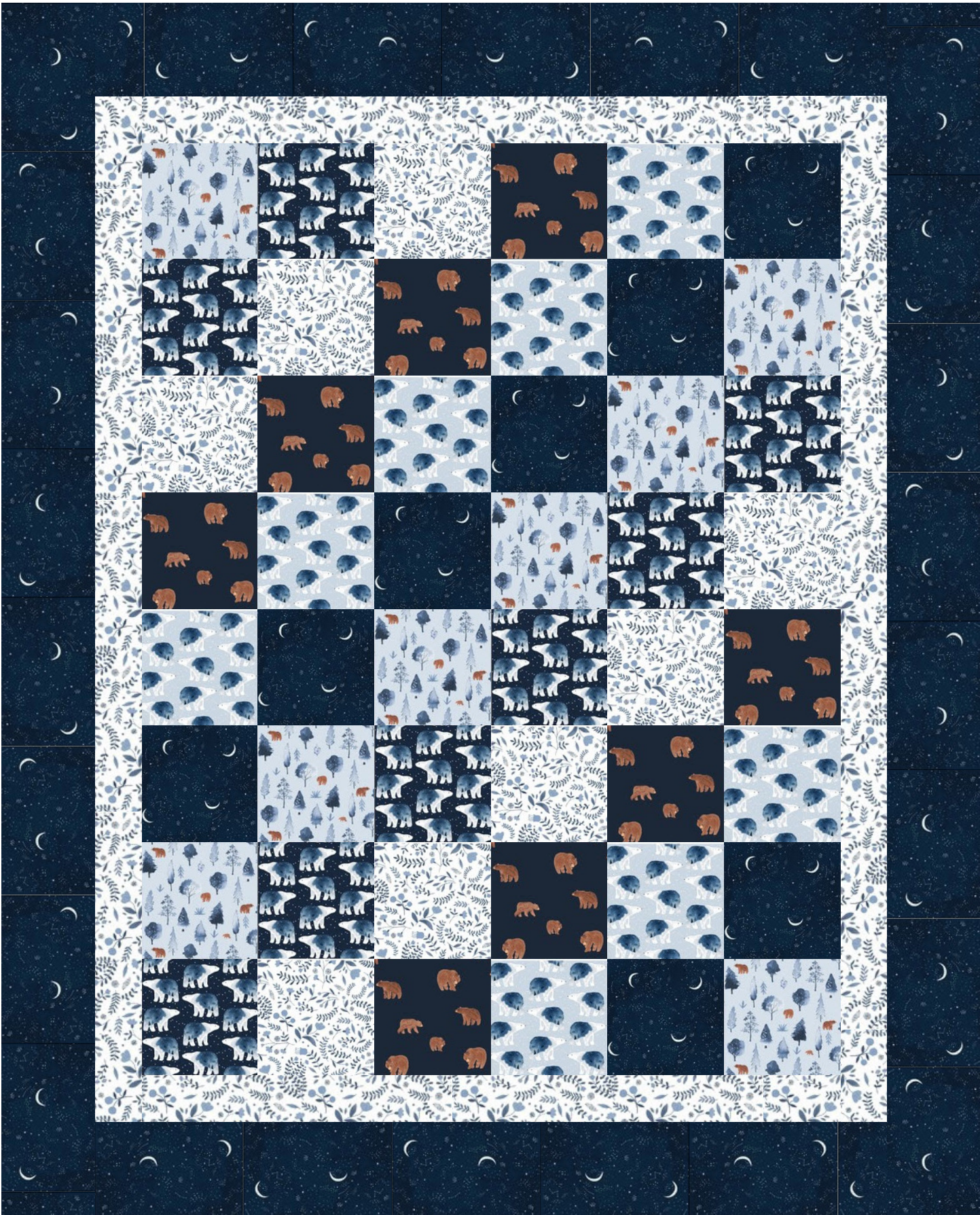




BABY BLOCKS

52 X 42 BABY QUILT





Supplies

6 Fat Quarters



Fabric A



Fabric B



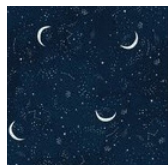
Fabric C



Fabric D



Fabric E

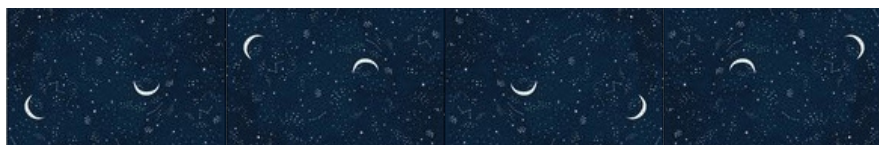


Fabric F

1/2 yard for inner border



1 yard for outer border



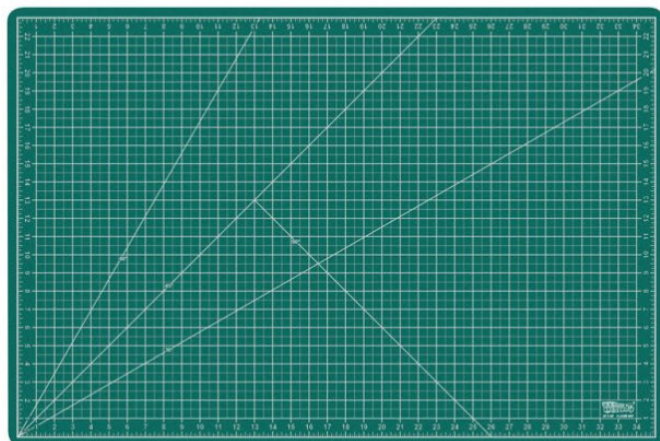
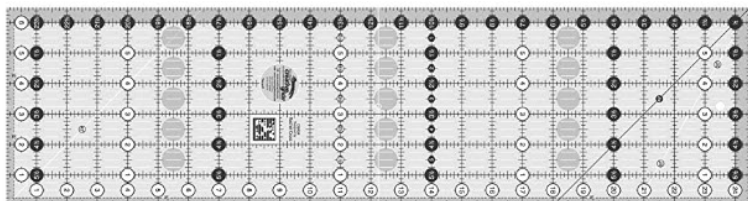
3 yards for quilt back



Quilting Batting at least 60x48. I recommend a cotton batting with low loft. This means a smaller thickness.

Other tools you will need:

- Sewing Machine
- Quilting Rulers (1 Large Square 10x10, 1 Long Rectangular 6x24)
- 12/80 or 14/90 Sewing Machine Needles
- Cutting Mat 45 mm
- Rotary Cutter
- Iron
- Ironing Board/Mat
- 50 WT cotton thread
- Large Curved Safety Pins
- Painters Tape



Directions

For all cutting instructions, make sure you have your fabric ironed flat. Using your longer size quilting ruler, rotary cutter, and cutting mat.

Follow the cutting directions by trying to match the dashed lines to your cut lines on your fabric. Always cut away from you.



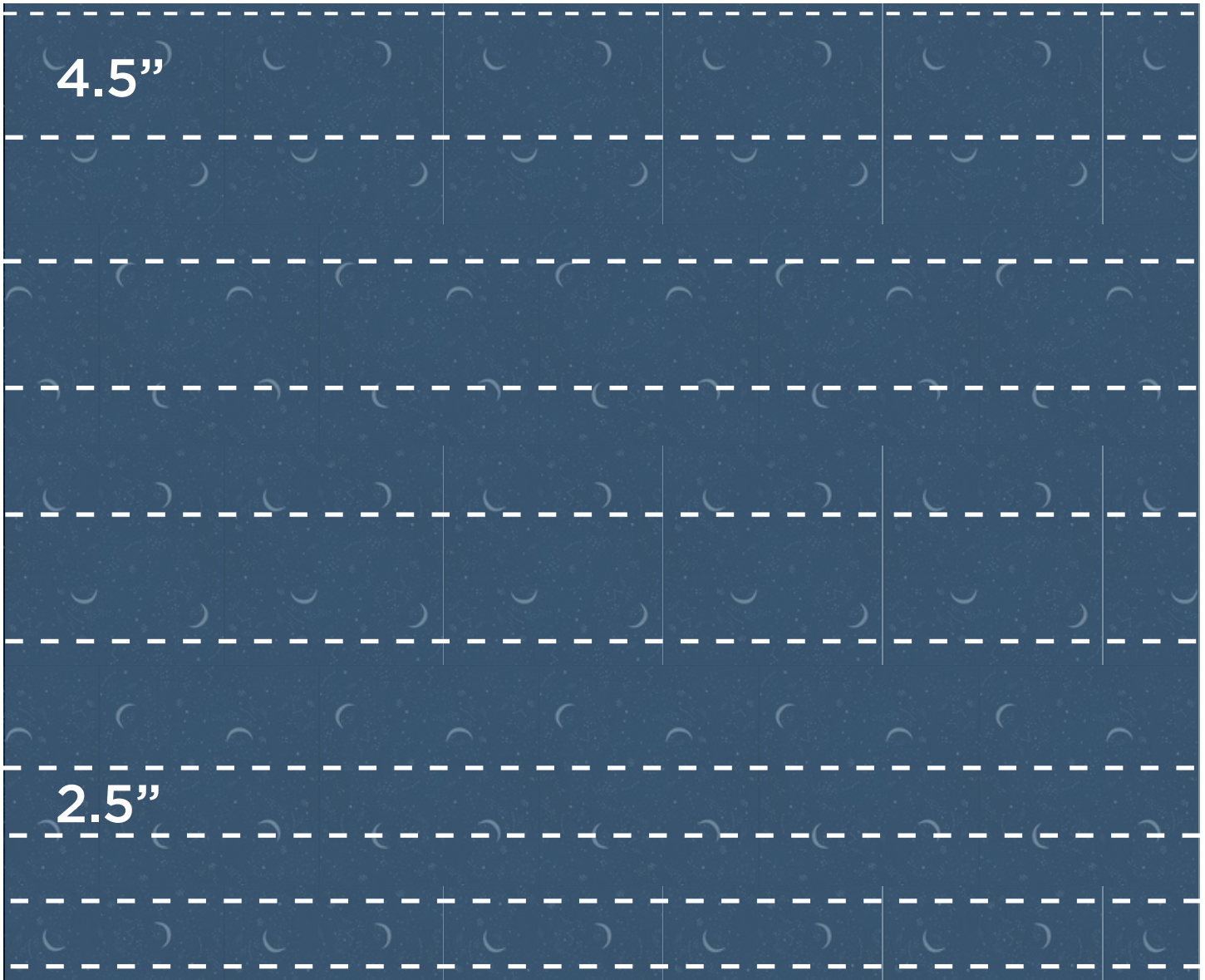
STEP 1: From each fat quarter cut 8 5.5" squares.

Cut the horizontal lines first, cutting across the length of the fabric. Then cut the vertical lines ending in your 5.5" squares.

STEP 2: From the fabric for the small border, cut 2.5" strips down the length of the fabric.



STEP 3: From the fabric for the large border, cut six 4.5” strips down the length of the fabric and three 2.5” strips.

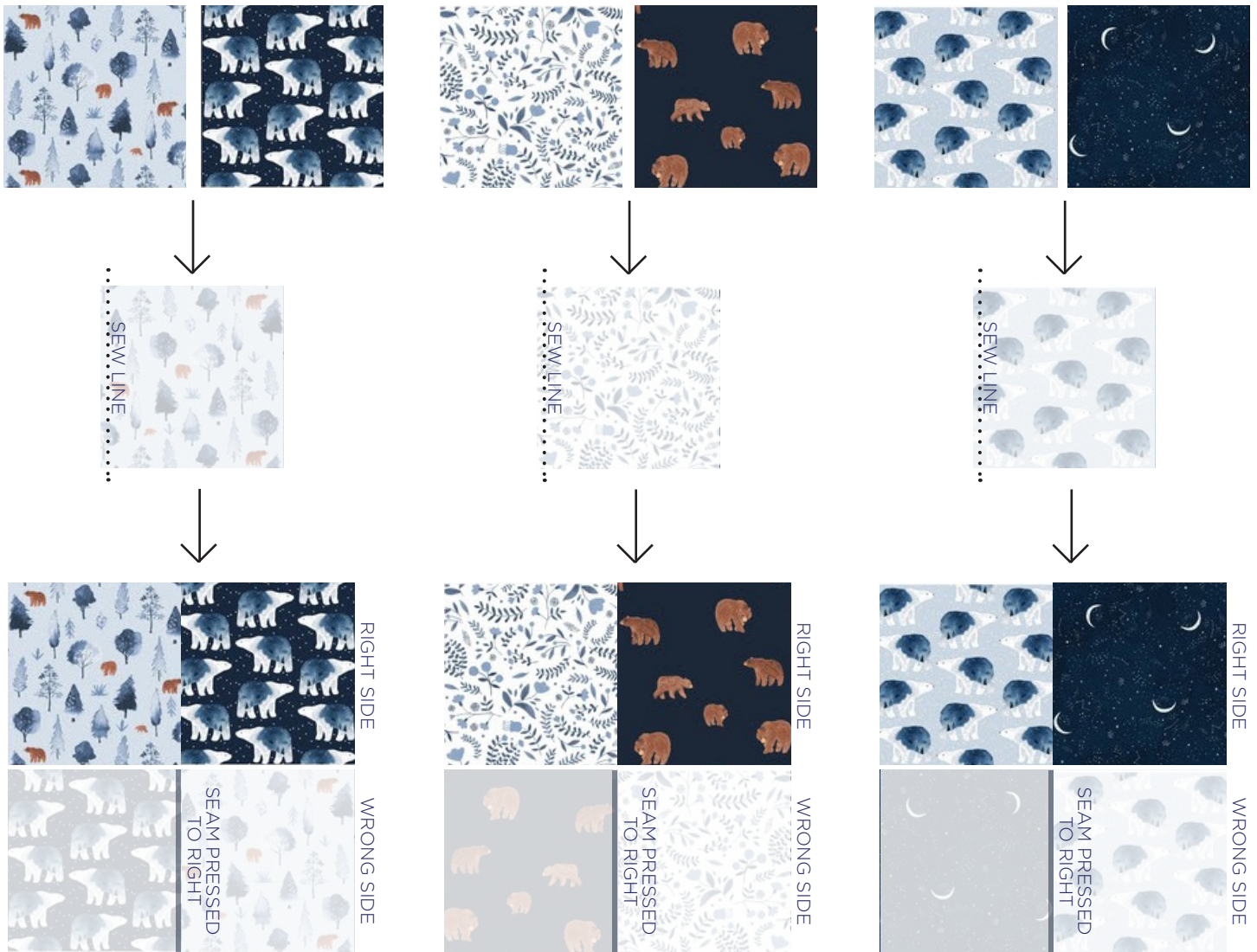


STEP 4: Lay out your first row of squares. There should be one of each pattern square. The pattern will stay the same throughout the quilt. Make sure you like the order.

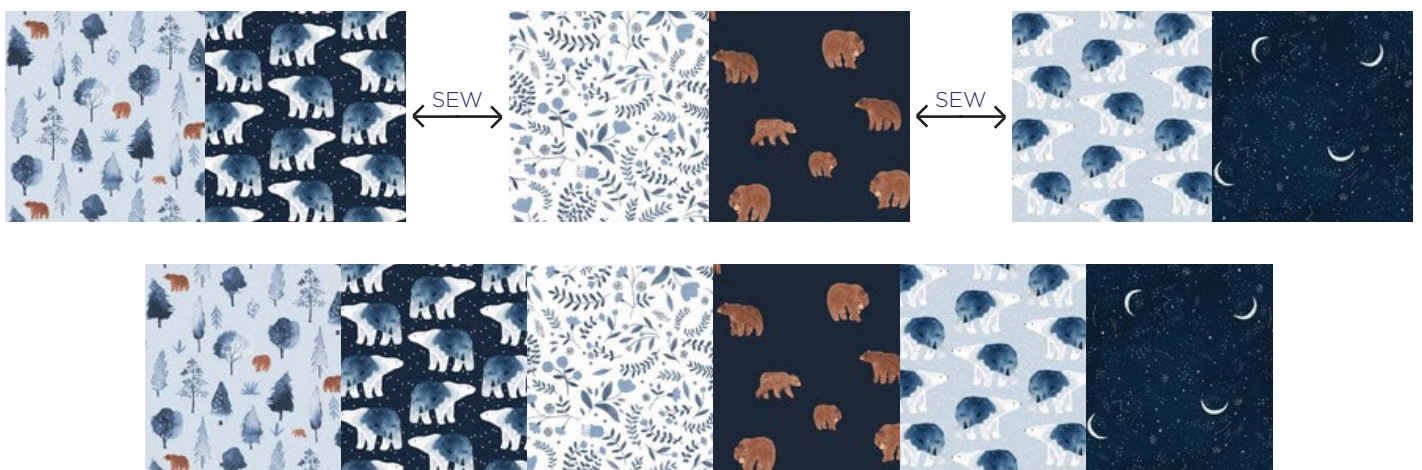


STEP 5: Sew the first 2 squares along the side they touch. Place the fabrics right sides together (RST), that means the finished side to finish side. Sew 1/4" seam along the shared side. Iron/press the seam to the right.

Next continue sewing the squares in groups of 2. You should then have 3 sets of squares sewn together.



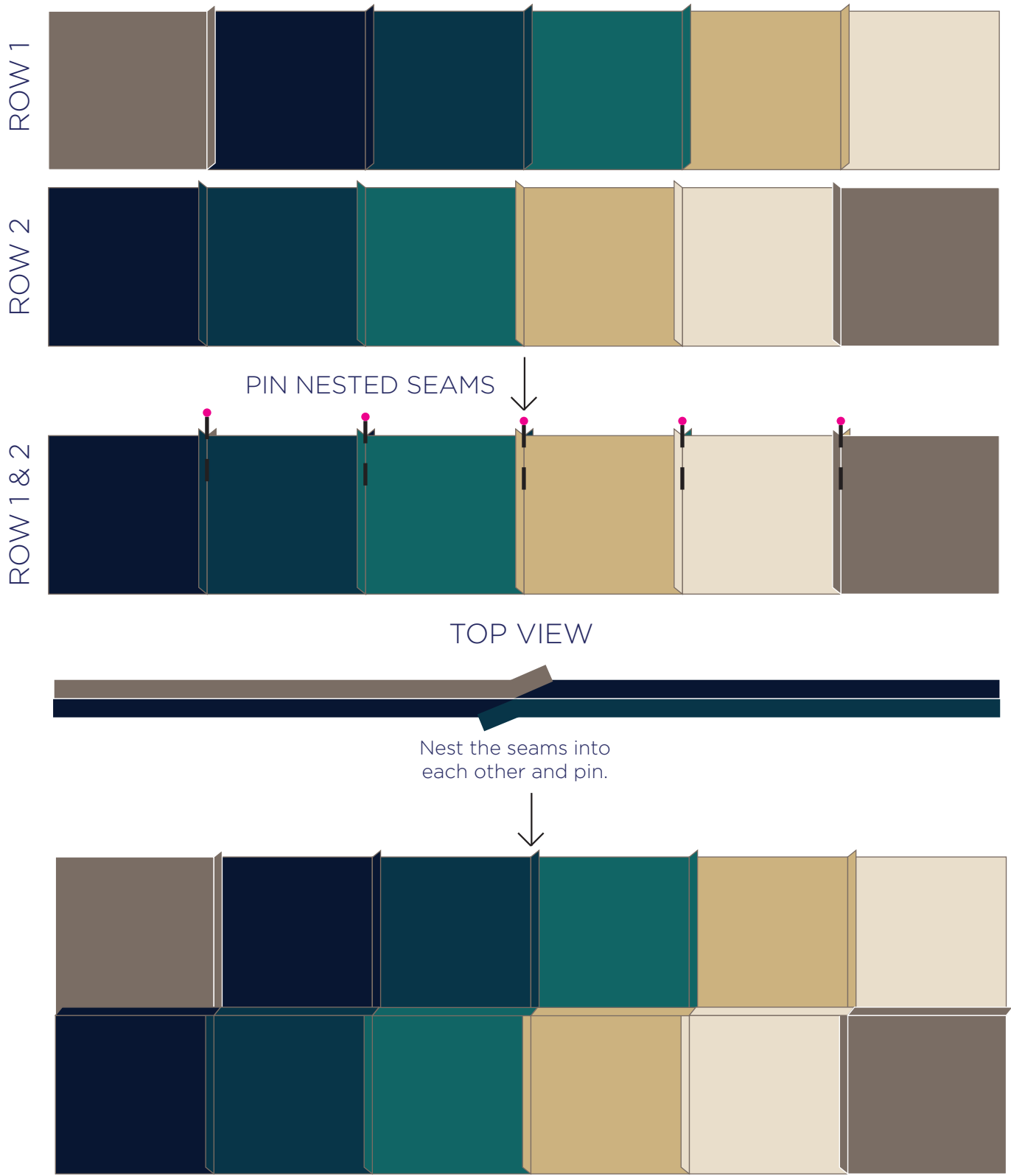
STEP 6: Now sew each set of 2 squares together to make your full row completely sewn. Make sure to press your seams in all the same direction.



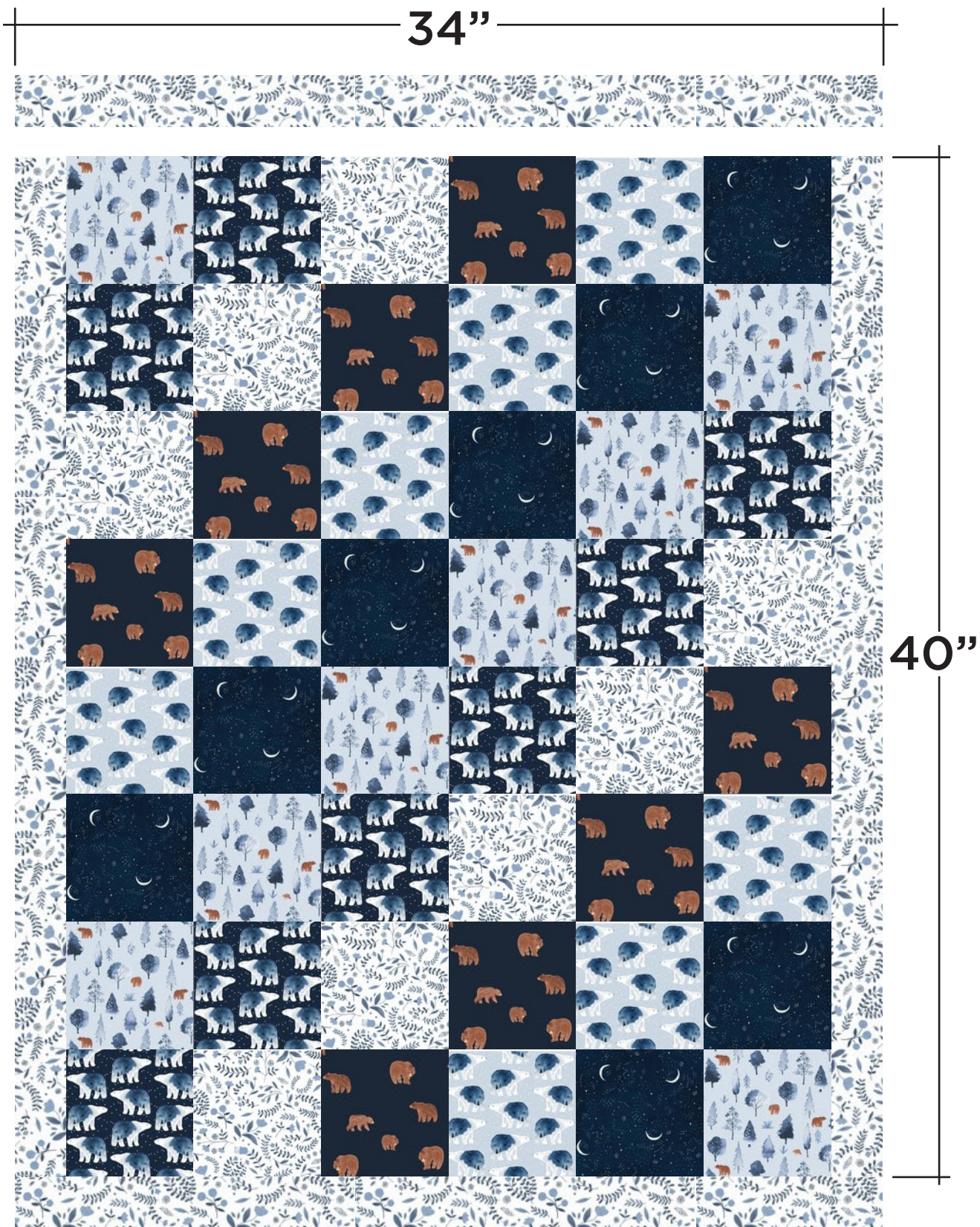
STEP 7: For each of the next rows of squares, the first square becomes the last square. So instead of being 1,2,3,4,5,6, the second row would be 2,3,4,5,6,1, followed by 3,4,5,6,1,2. Repeat **STEP 5 & 6** for each row. The only change is that each row will alternate which direction you iron all the seams towards.



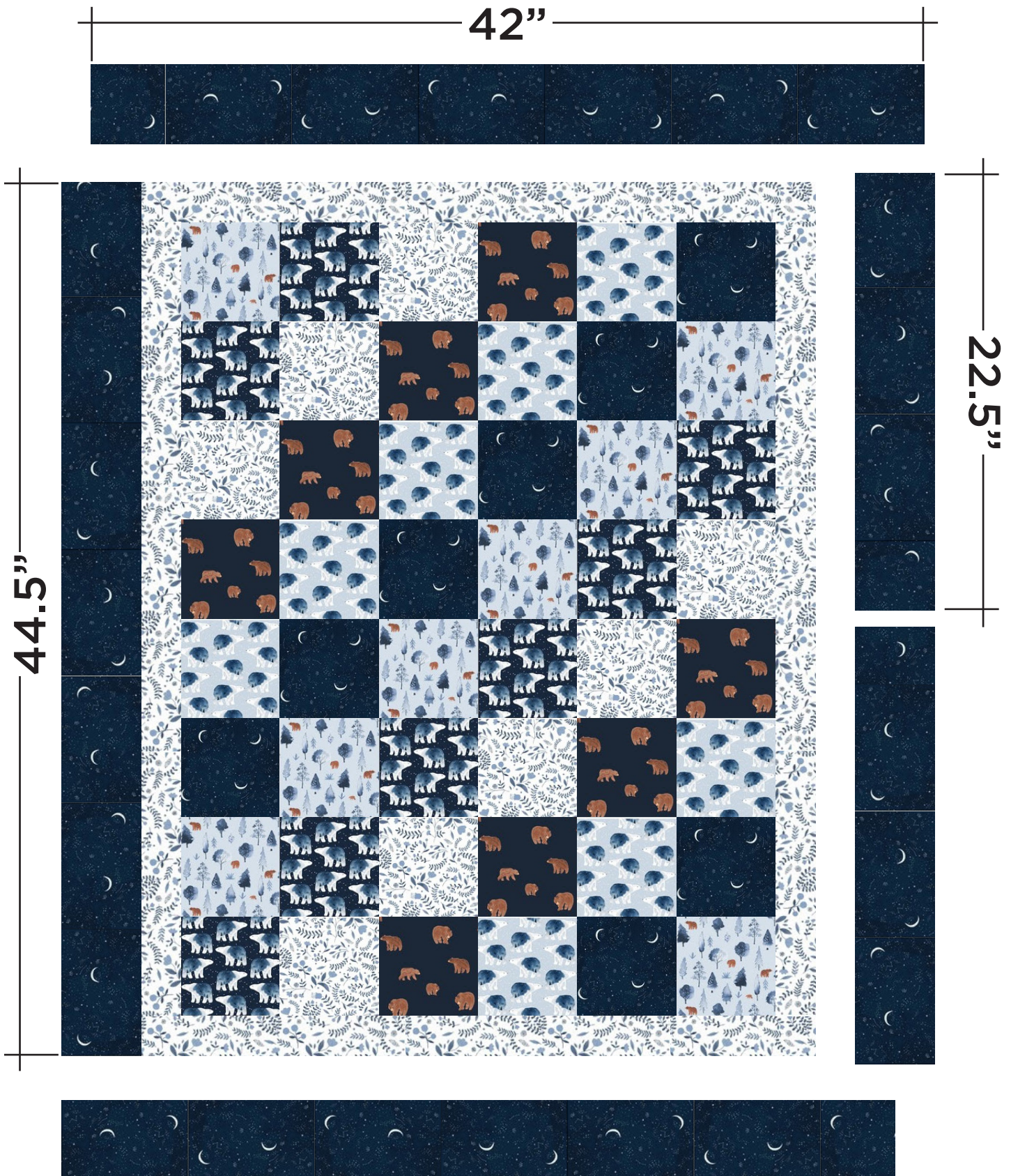
STEP 8: Now that all the rows are sewn, you will sew them together. Because we alternated the seam direction for each row, you can do what is called nesting the seams to ensure they line up visually once two rows are sewn together. When you place the rows RST take your pins or wonderclips, and press each of the already sewn seams into one another. Pin and sew one row at a time until all the rows are sewn together.



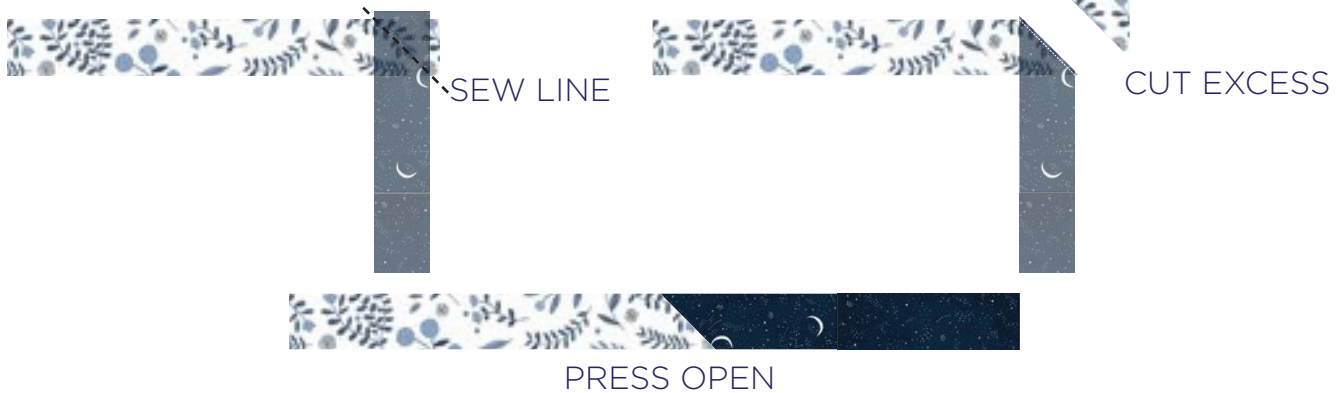
STEP 9: From the inner border strips, cut 2 of the strips to 40" and cut 2 of the strips to 34". Leave the 3 extra strips for the binding. Pin and sew the 40" strips on each side of the longest ends (left&right) of the quilt. Once sewn, press flat and pin the 34" strips to the shorter two sides (top&bottom). Sew and press.



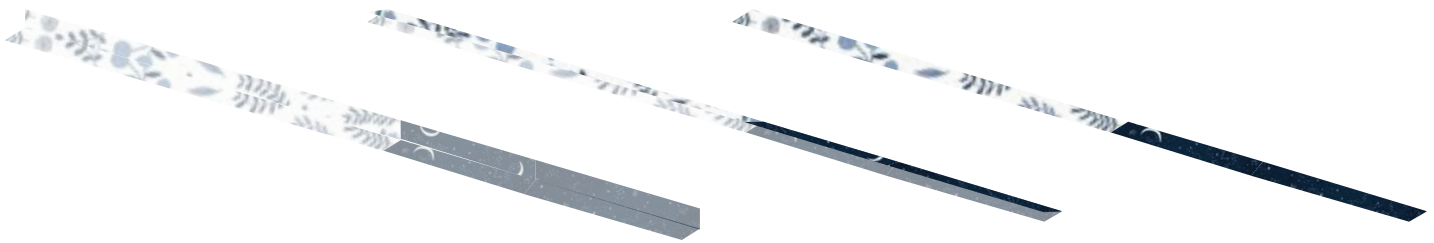
STEP 10: From the outer border strips, cut 4 of the strips to 22.5" and cut 2 of the strips to 42". Leave the 3 extra strips for the binding. Sew the 4 22.5" strips in two pairs to create 2 44.5" strips. Sew the 2 44.5" strips to the long length (left & right) of the fabric and press. Then sew the 42" strips to the 2 shorter lengths (top & bottom) and press.



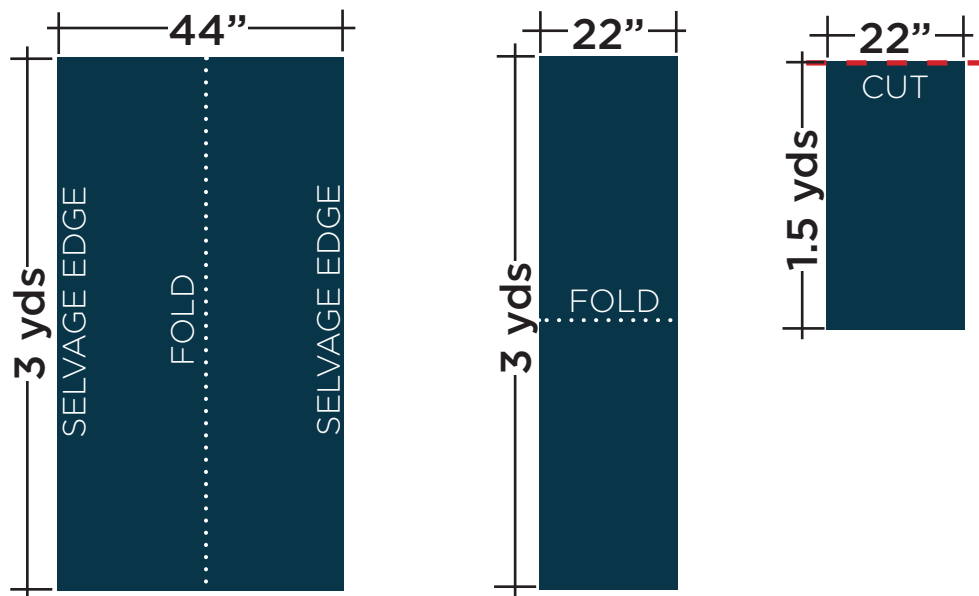
STEP 11: From the inner and outer border left over 2.5" strips, you will make the binding. Lay the fabric out as shown below RST and sew diagonally. Trim 1/4" away from the sew line. Press open and repeat to each end of the strips until you have one long strip of fabric made up of all 6 strips.



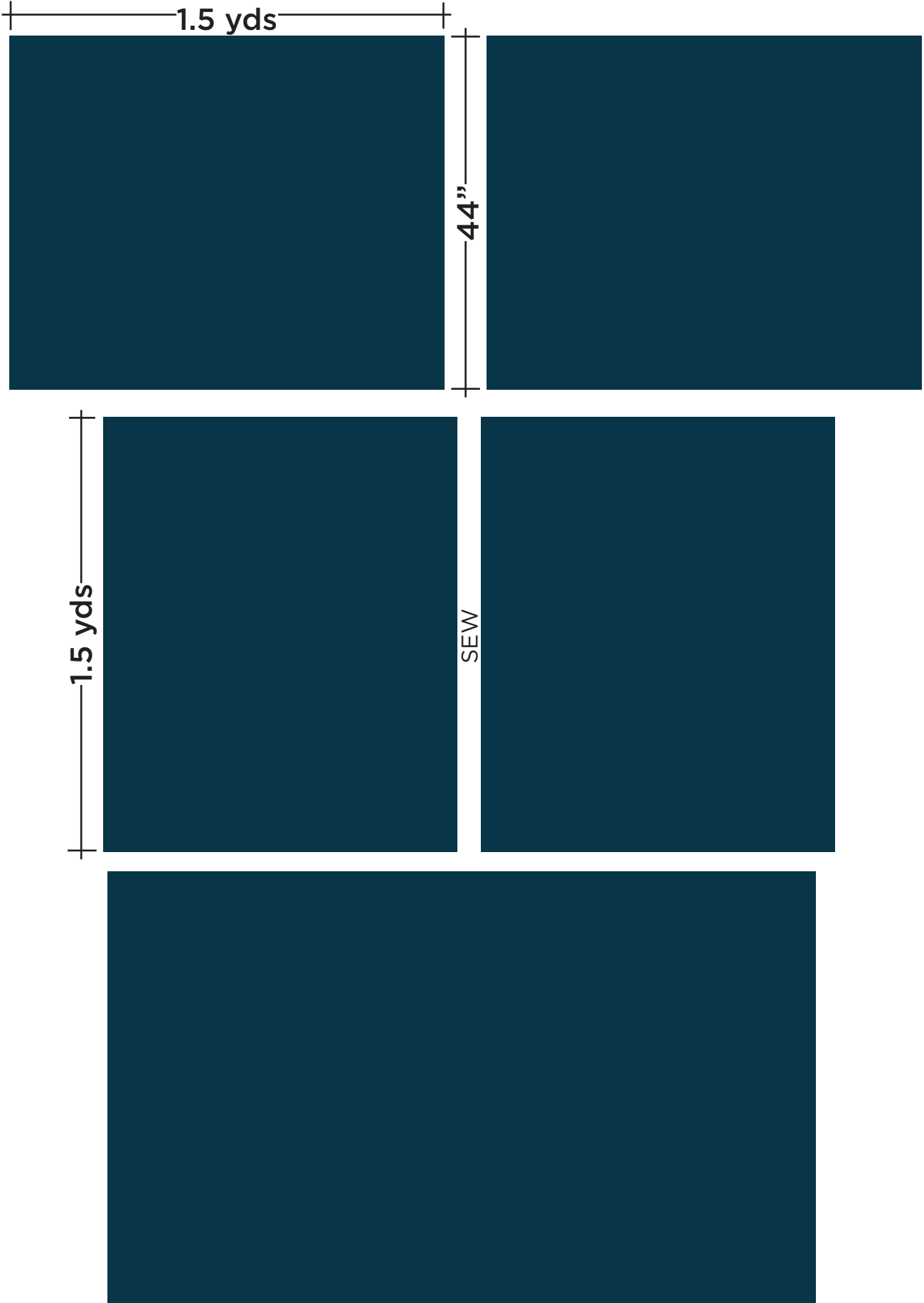
STEP 12: Iron the binding fabric in half WST (wrong sides together) so that only the right side is exposed. Do this down the entire length of the strip, about 128" worth.



STEP 13: Take the fabric you chose for the backing and fold it in half from selvage edge to selvage edge. A selvage edge is the manufactured finished edge of the fabric. It usually has manufacturer's information on it. Once folded you should have a piece of fabric that is 22" x 3 yds. Now fold this in half again the opposite way so that you have a piece of fabric that is 22" x 1.5 yds. With your scissors or rotary cutter, cut the last fold so that you end up with two pieces of fabric about 44" x 1.5 yds when opened up.



STEP 14: Unfold the 44x1.5 yard pieces and sew them together on their selvaged edge (the 1.5 yd length). This is now the piece for the quilt back.



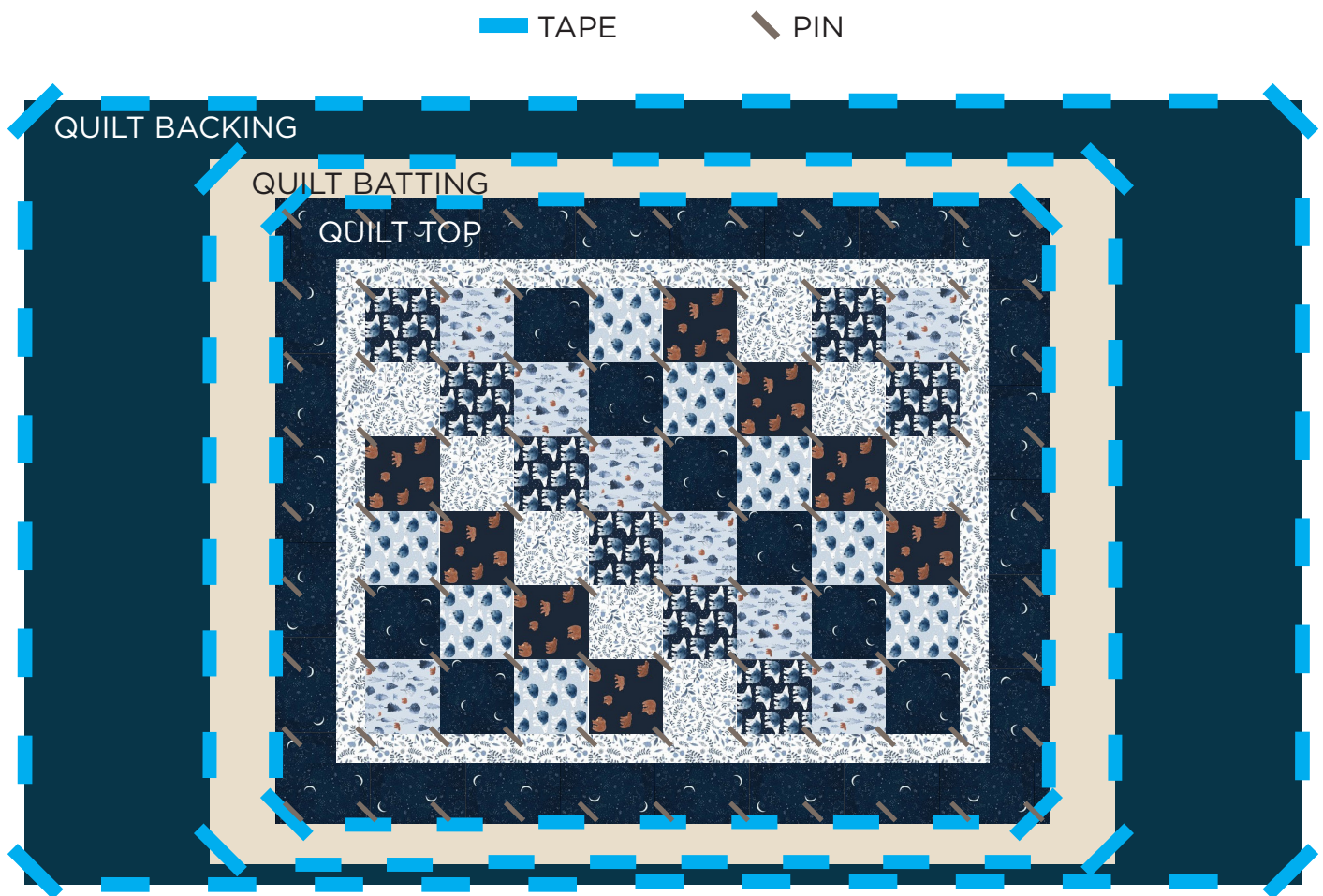
STEP 15: Now that we have the top and bottom of our quilts done, we will make a quilt sandwich so we can top stitch the quilt. Added supplies that will make this easier are **painters tape** and **large curved safety pins**. It is also easiest to use a large clean area of floor, or a large table. If you have wood floors or table, put the cutting mat underneath and move it as you go. You do not want the pins scraping the wood.

On the floor lay out your quilt back fabric flat so that the right side is down touching the floor. It is best to have this ironed flat already with no wrinkles or creases. Tape all around the edge to the floor so that it is secure and does not move. Feel free to cut around 30" off the length of the fabric of the backing so it isn't quite so large. You want to make sure your quilt backing is about 4"-5" wider on all sides than your quilt top.

Next lay the batting down centered on the quilt back. Iron flat, and tape the edges to the quilt back and floor if necessary.

Finally, lay your quilt top, finished/right side up centered and tape to the batting. You should have about 2" - 3" of batting around all sides of the quilt. Iron the quilt top flat, and make sure there are no wrinkles in any layers.

Now using the large curved safety pins, pin in a grid every 5" - 6" apart. Use the squares a guide as they are 5" wide when all sewn together. I recommend pinning each corner where the squares meet.



STEP 16: Now you can trim 5” around the edge of the quilt top. I recommend using FABRIC scissors. Fabric scissors are just regular large scissors that you ONLY CUT FABRIC with.



STEP 17: Your quilt is now ready for top stitching. That is the visible decorative stitch you see on quilts that give it that textured “quilty” appearance. Take the tape off all the different areas.

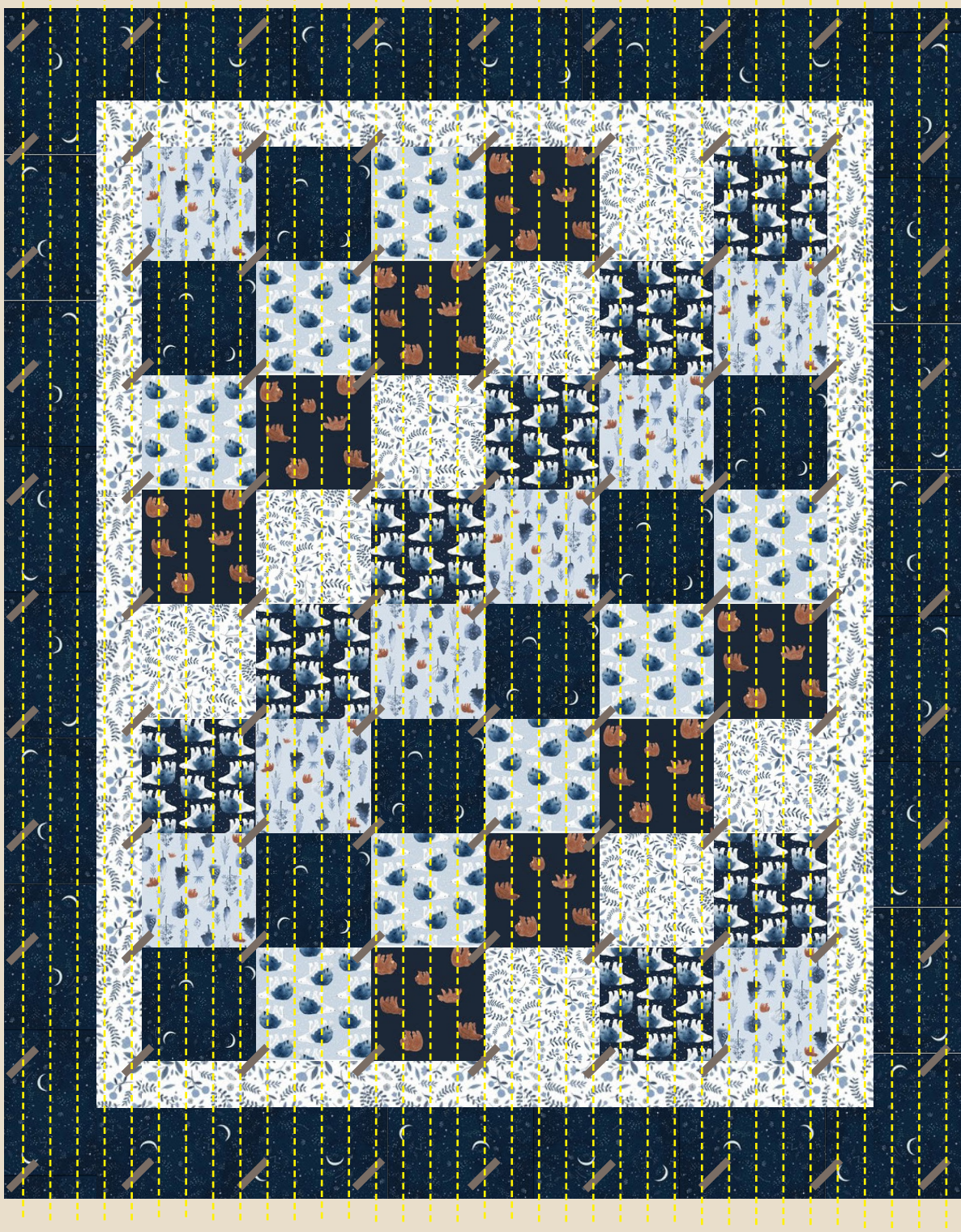
If you know how, set your stitch length to 3. I recommend for your first few times to just do what is called straight line stitching. Stitching horizontal or vertical (or both) the same distance apart down the length of your quilt. It is also common practice to use a thread color that will blend in with most of your quilt.

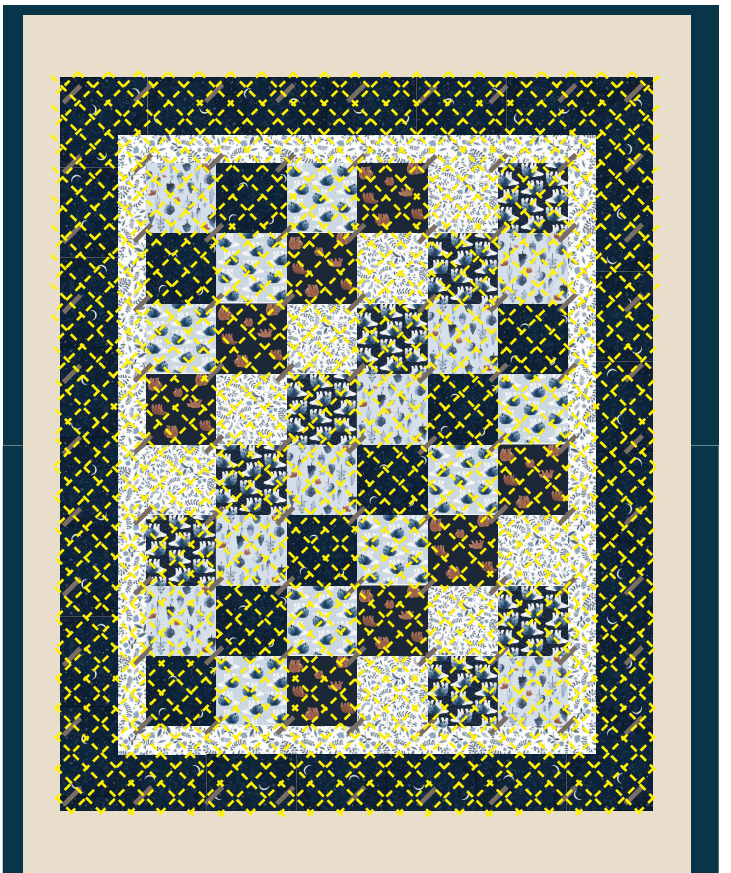
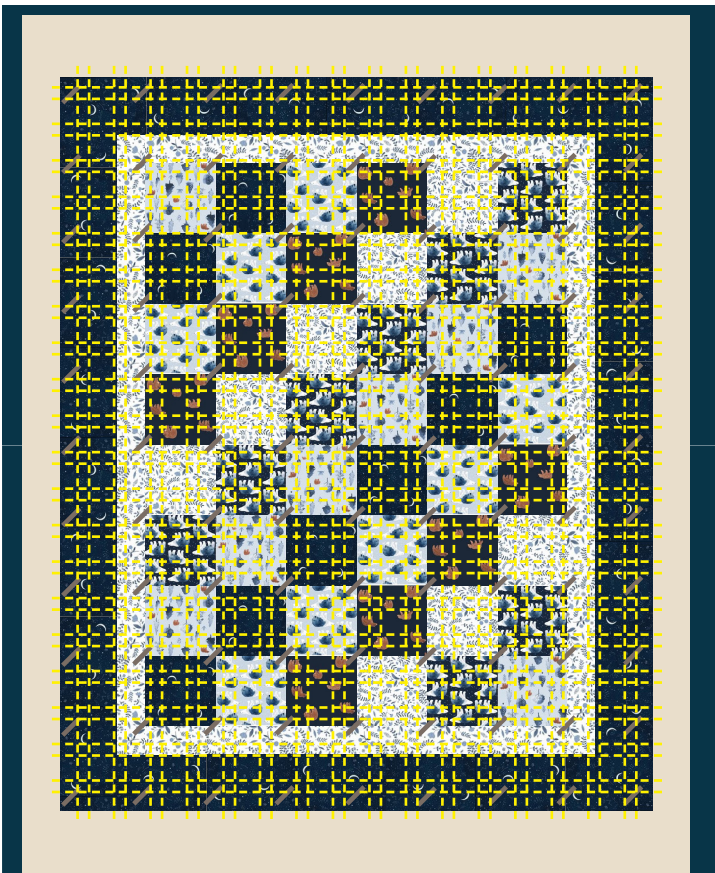
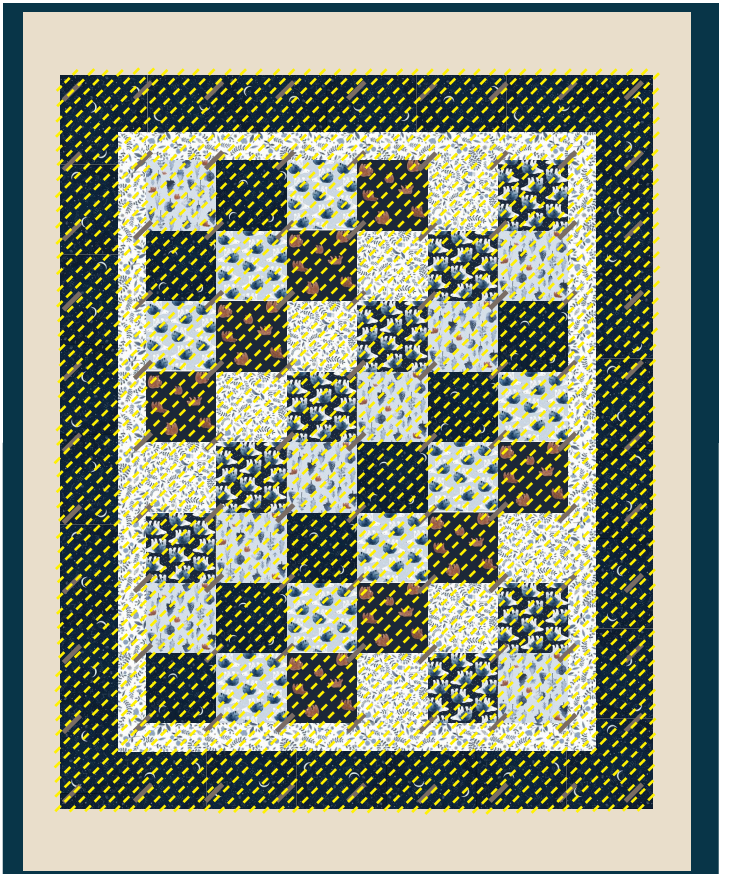
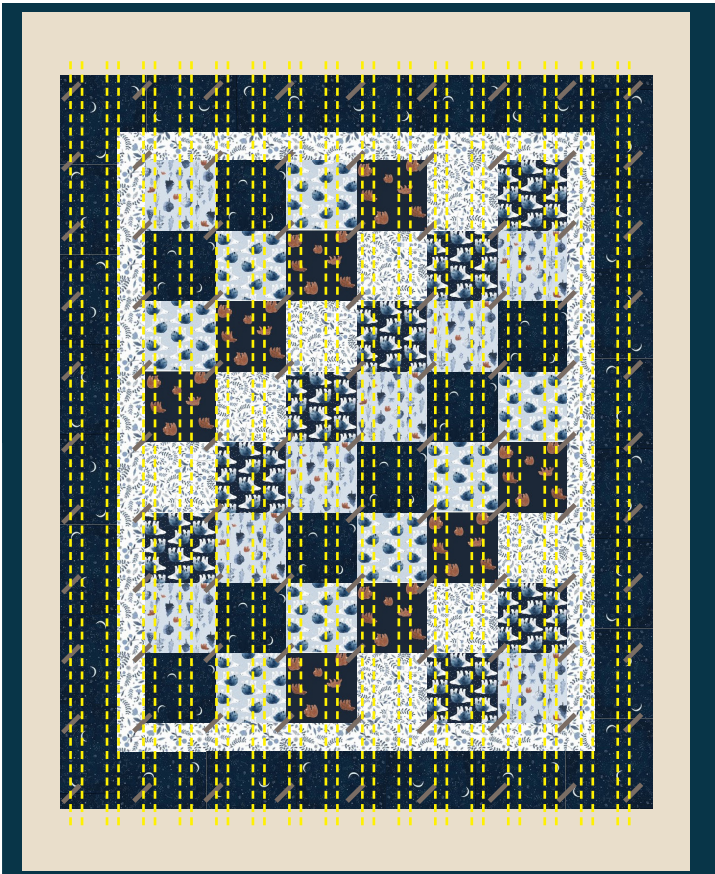
You’re going to want to set up a large area next to your machine that you can lay the quilt on while you are sewing. You want to support the weight of the quilt while top stitching so it does not pull on the needle as you sew.

Start in the middle of your quilt and try to sew a straight line all the way down. Following seams helps keep your lines straight. Try to keep the spacing between your lines the same. Try to keep your spacing no closer than 1” and no further than 2.5”. On the next page, the yellow lines represent your top stitching. Be sure to start just above the quilt top and stitching just past the bottom edge. As you sew, remove the safety pins.

On page 16 are other options for simple straight line top stitching. This is one of the hardest parts to making a quilt, so take your time.

START IN THE MIDDLE

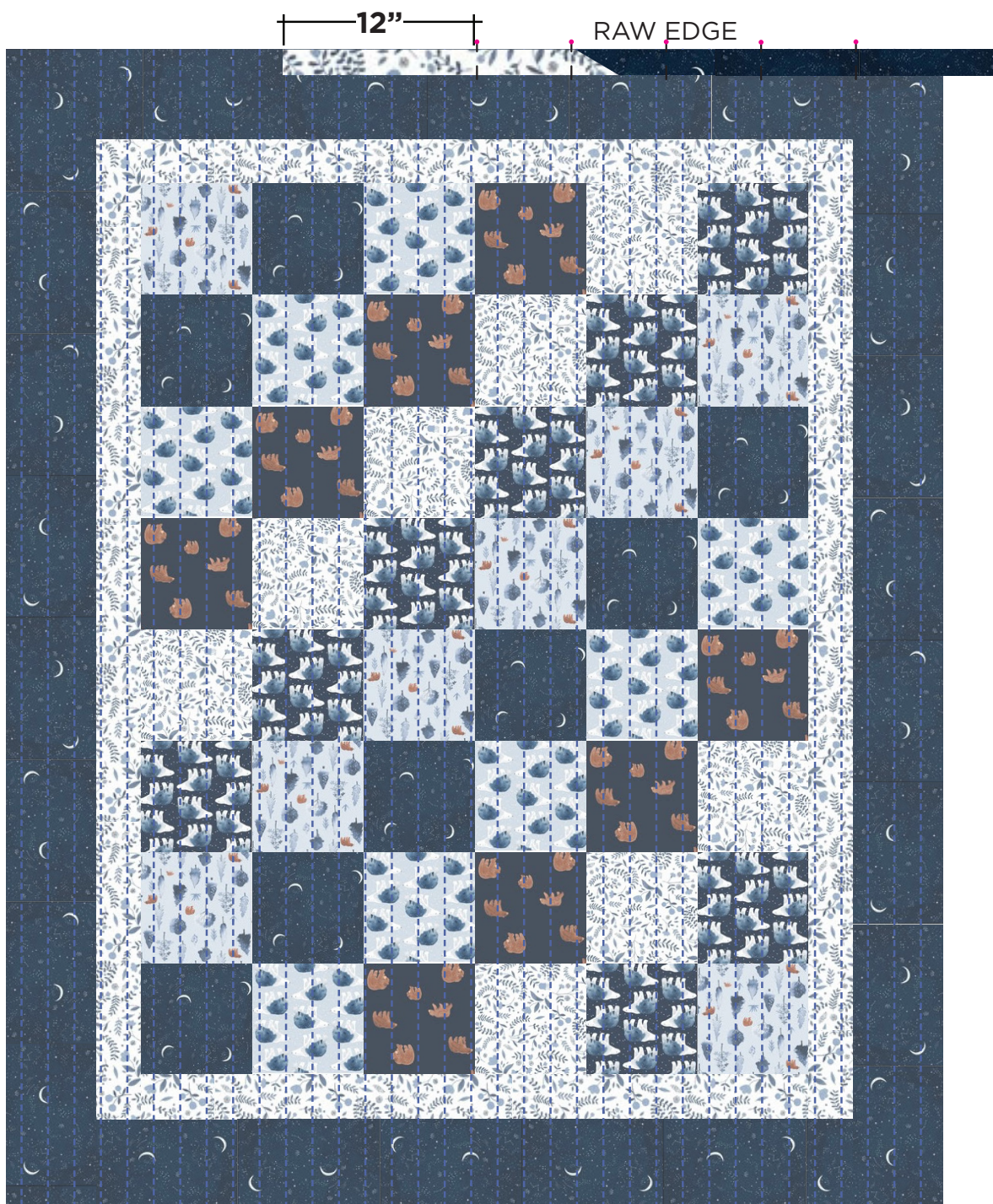




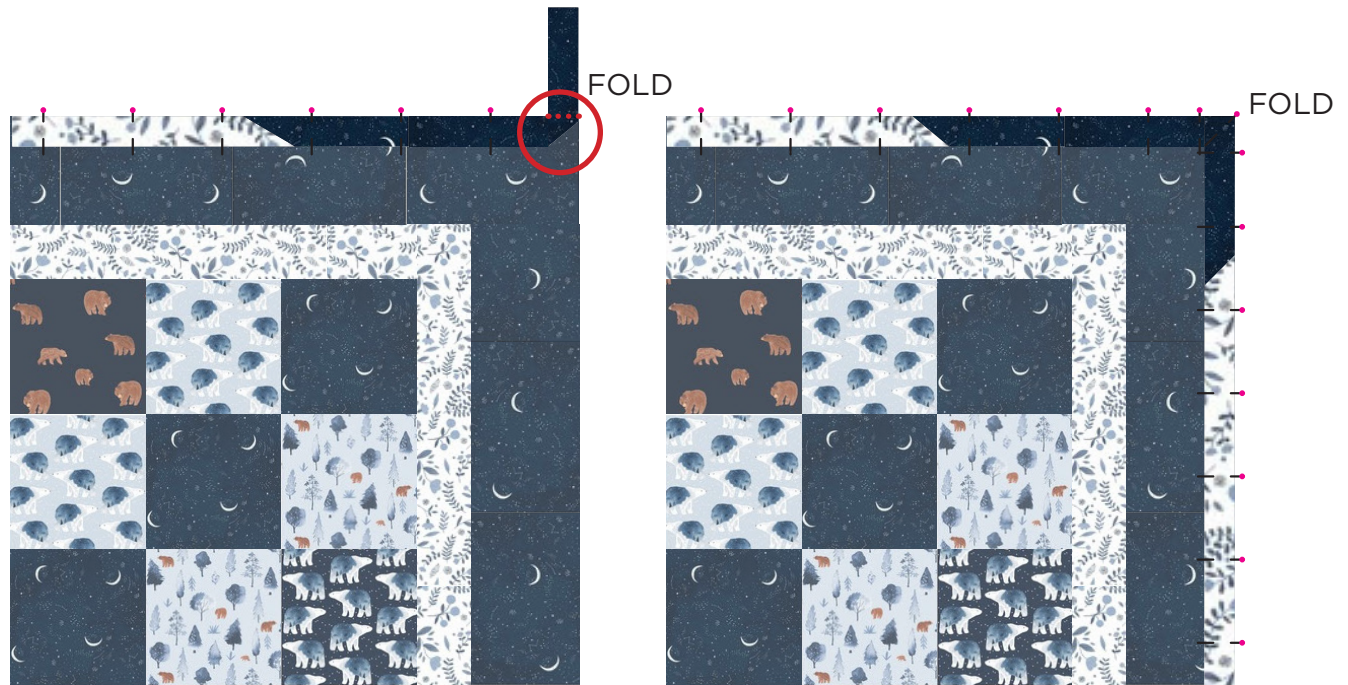
STEP 18: Trim the batting and backing fabric all the way around your quilt top edge once you are done top stitching. I recommend using scissors, or your rotary cutter on top of your cutting mat.



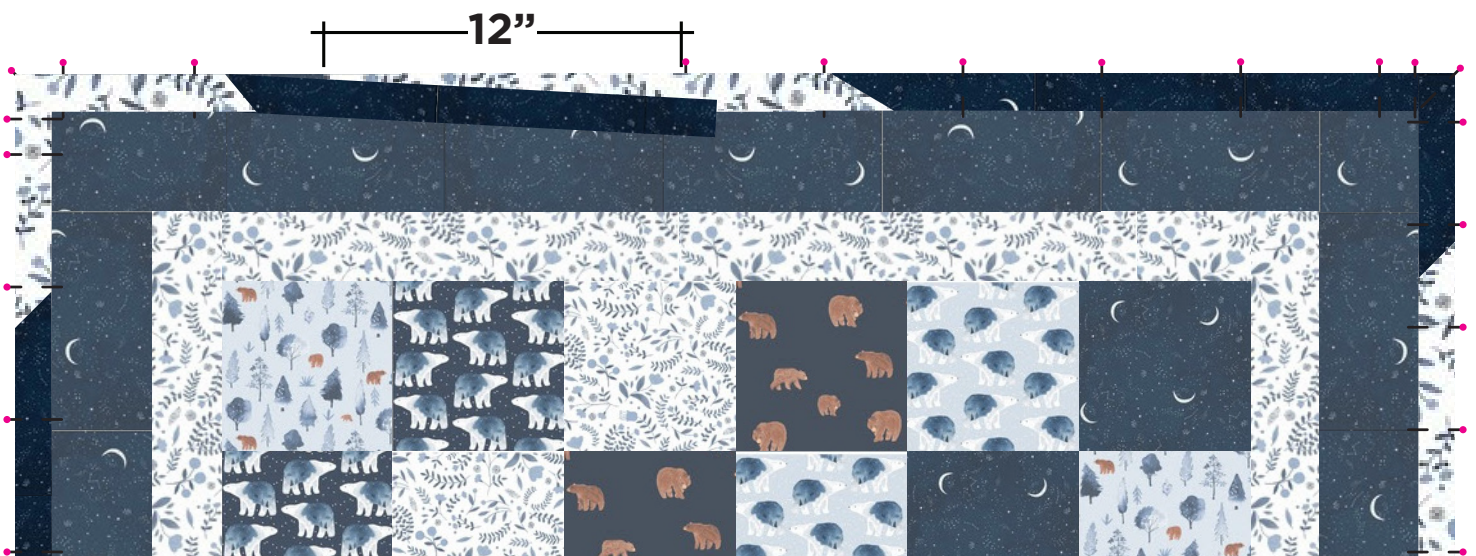
STEP 19: The final step to finishing your quilt, is to bind the edge all the way around the quilt. We will be using the binding strip made in **STEP 11&12**. You will also need either pins or wonderclips. For your first couple of times doing this, laying the quilt out flat somewhere will help you line up the binding and pin/clip. Start by finding the center of one of the sides of the quilt, it does not need to be exact. You're going to take the raw edge of the binding strip and line it up to the raw edge of the quilt. Take one of the ends of the binding give yourself a 12" tail and pin or clip the binding at the half way point you just found. Keep lining up the raw edges together all the way down the side of the quilt until you get to the corner. Pin every 5 inches or so.



STEP 19: To properly turn your binding around a corner is a 2 step process. First you want to make a perfect fold at the corner so that you fold the fabric the opposite way you want to go as shown in the first image. you should have a perfect diagonal line that is highlighted in the red circle. Try to make sure the diagonal point going towards the corner of the quilt perfectly ends at the corner. Next, as shown in the 1st image along the red dots, you want to fold the binding down so that it now follows the next edge of the quilt as shown in the second image. Pin right before the corner, directly in the center of the corner, and right after the corner. Continue pinning and follow the same process for every corner.

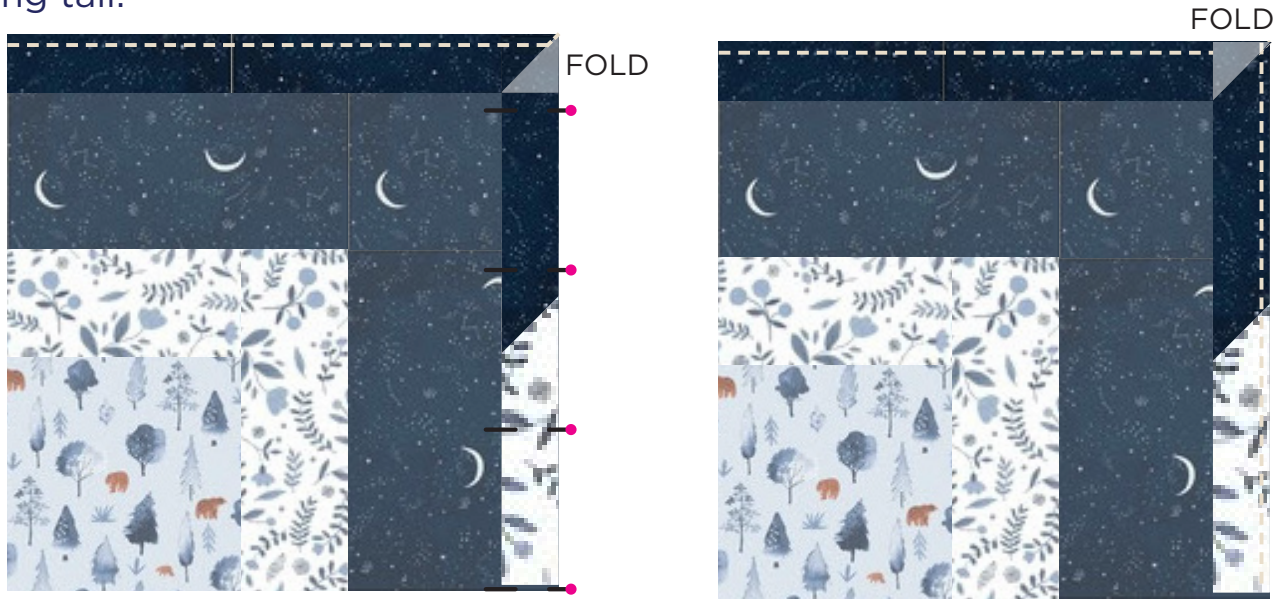


When you return to your starting position, leave about 12" unsewn and give yourself enough of a tail that you overlap the starting stitch by a few inches and cut the binding. You should have about 12" of fabric overlapping each other.

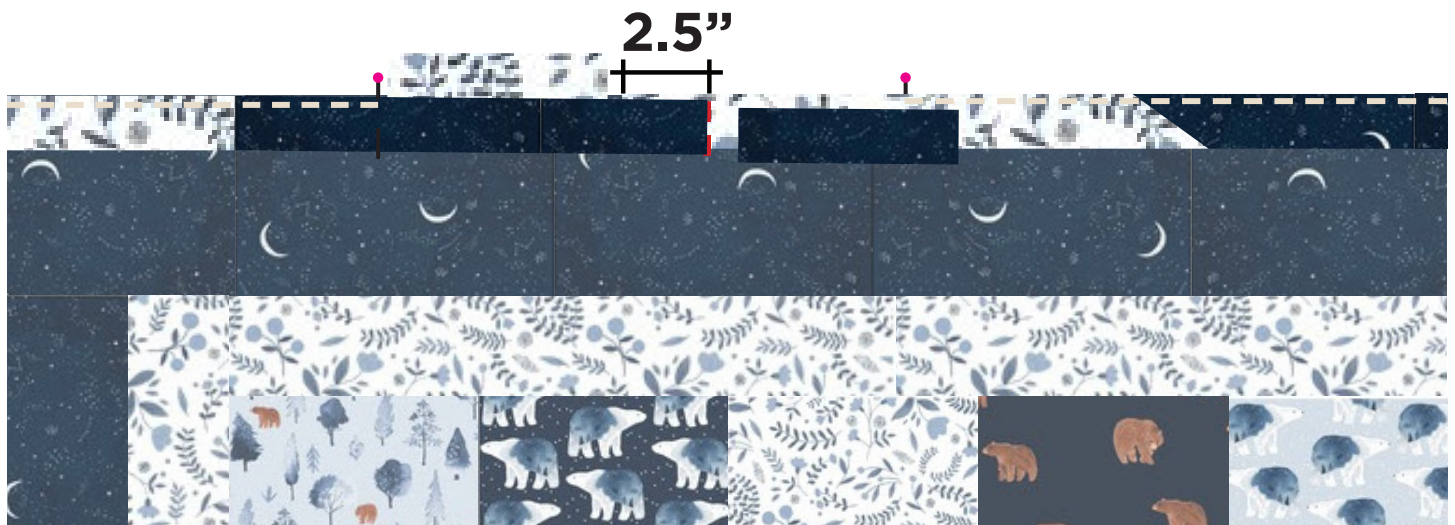


STEP 20: Now you will sew the binding to the quilt top. Start by sewing at the first pin/clip leaving the 12” tail untouched. Sew 1/4” seam from the raw edge of the quilt top.

When you get to your first corner, unpin the fabric. Fold back the top part of the binded corder, it should just be a little triangular section of fabric you can fold to the opposite side. Sew to the creased diagonal line, and then sew to the corner following the crease off the quilt. Fold the corner back over so that it covers the line of stitching you just did, and start sewing again from the edge you just sewed off of, down the next side of the quilt. Repeat until you have made it to the end of the binding where you left the last pin and ending tail.



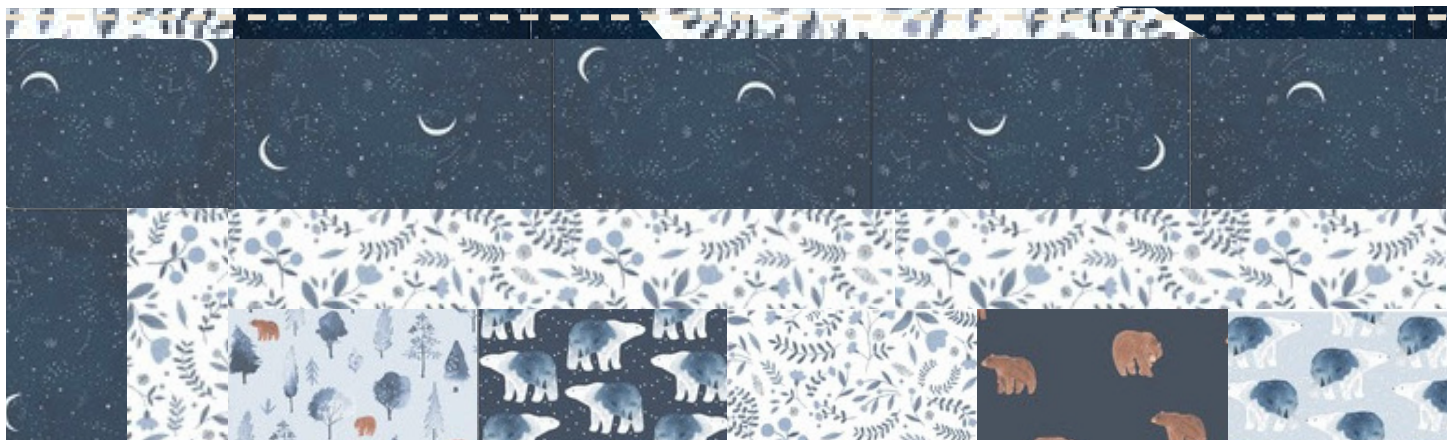
STEP 21: The next step is to join the 2 ends of the binding fabric. This can be very tricky, so take your time and measure. Where the fabrics overlap, you’re going to want to trim one of the ends close to the middle of the 12” that has not been sewn. Be sure to cut a straight line. Next you want to lay the opposite end over it and mark a line that measure 2.5” past the trimmed edge. Double check your measurement is correct and cut the marked line.



STEP 22: Now you will sew the two ends together exactly how you joined the other fabrics for the binding in **STEP 11**. Fold the quilt in half so it is easier for the two ends to come together. Unfold and lay the binding flat. Make sure that the fabrics are right sides together. Perfectly line up the edges. Sew a line as shown in the diagram below. Before cutting the excess 1/4" away from the sew line, lay the quilt flat and make sure the binding lays flat and there is no extra slack, or not too tight across the quilt top. Finish sewing the binding from the point at which you stopped, all the way to a few stitches passed the starting point.



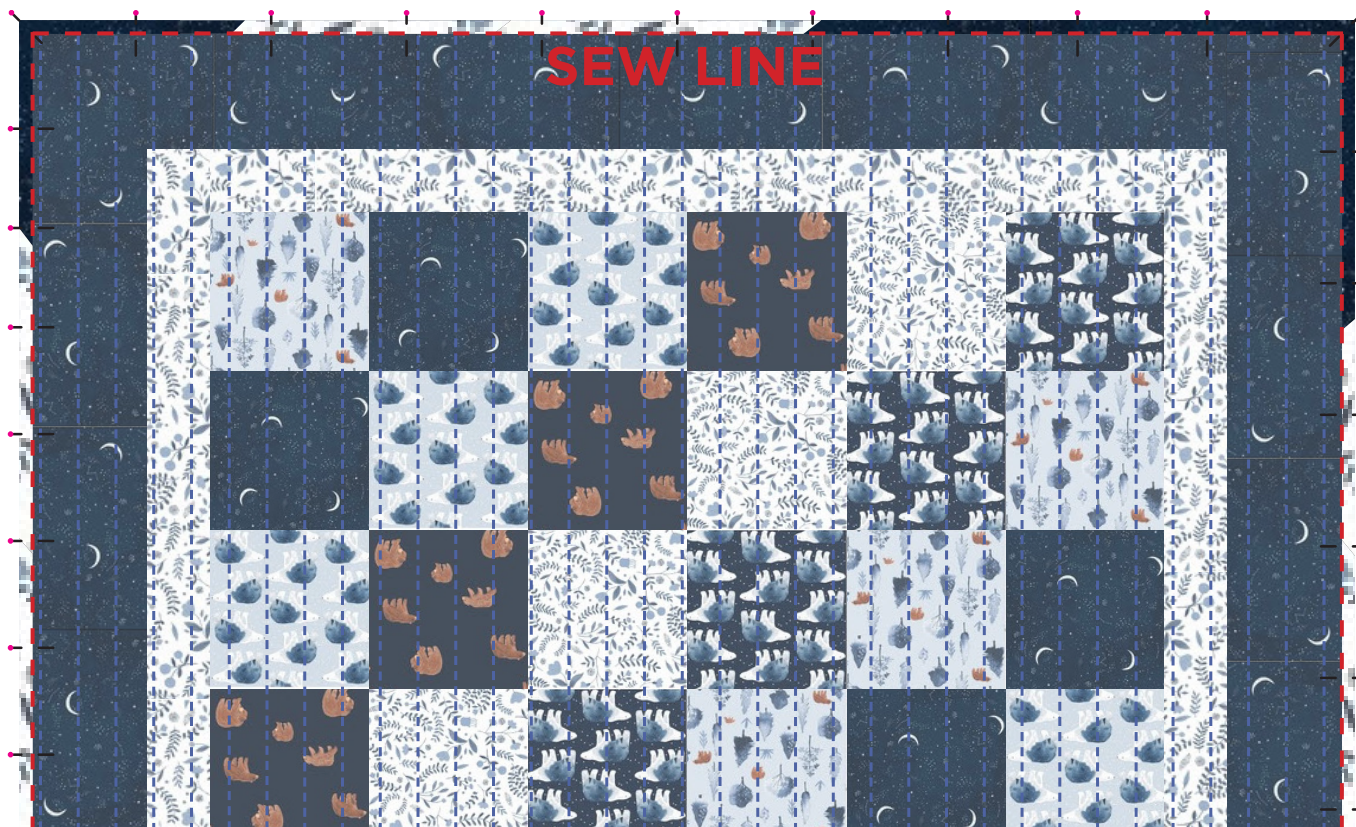
AFTER SEWN DOWN



STEP 23: Now the final step is to wrap the binding over the edge of the quilt so that the folded edge is on finishing the the back side's edge of the quilt. Use pins or clips to hold the binding in place. Pin from the front of the quilt. Pinning the corners, you will mimic the fold made when first pinning down the fabric. Line one edge of the corner up all the way to the opposite edge, then lay the fabric down in what will be a point/triangle to run across the next edge. Pin/clip down the center of the point.



STEP 24: Once the binding is pinned into place, you are going to sew on the face of the quilt on the edge of the binding where it meets the face of the quilt. Make sure the binding on the back of the quilt covers the stitching from first stitching the binding to the top of the quilt. Sew all the way around.



CONGRATULATIONS! You have now finished your first quilt! Love it, wash it, use it. Be proud of what you just made!

