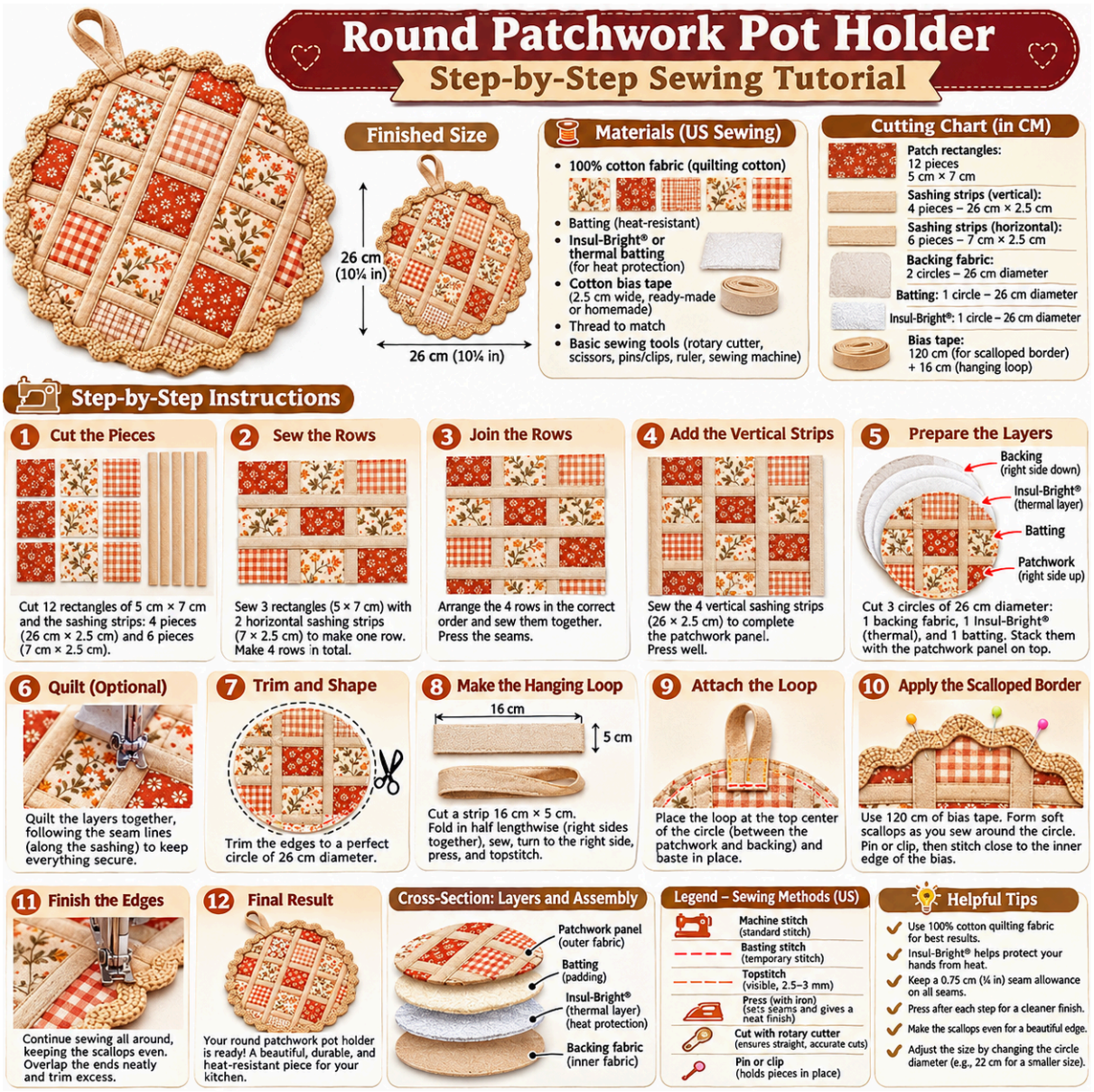
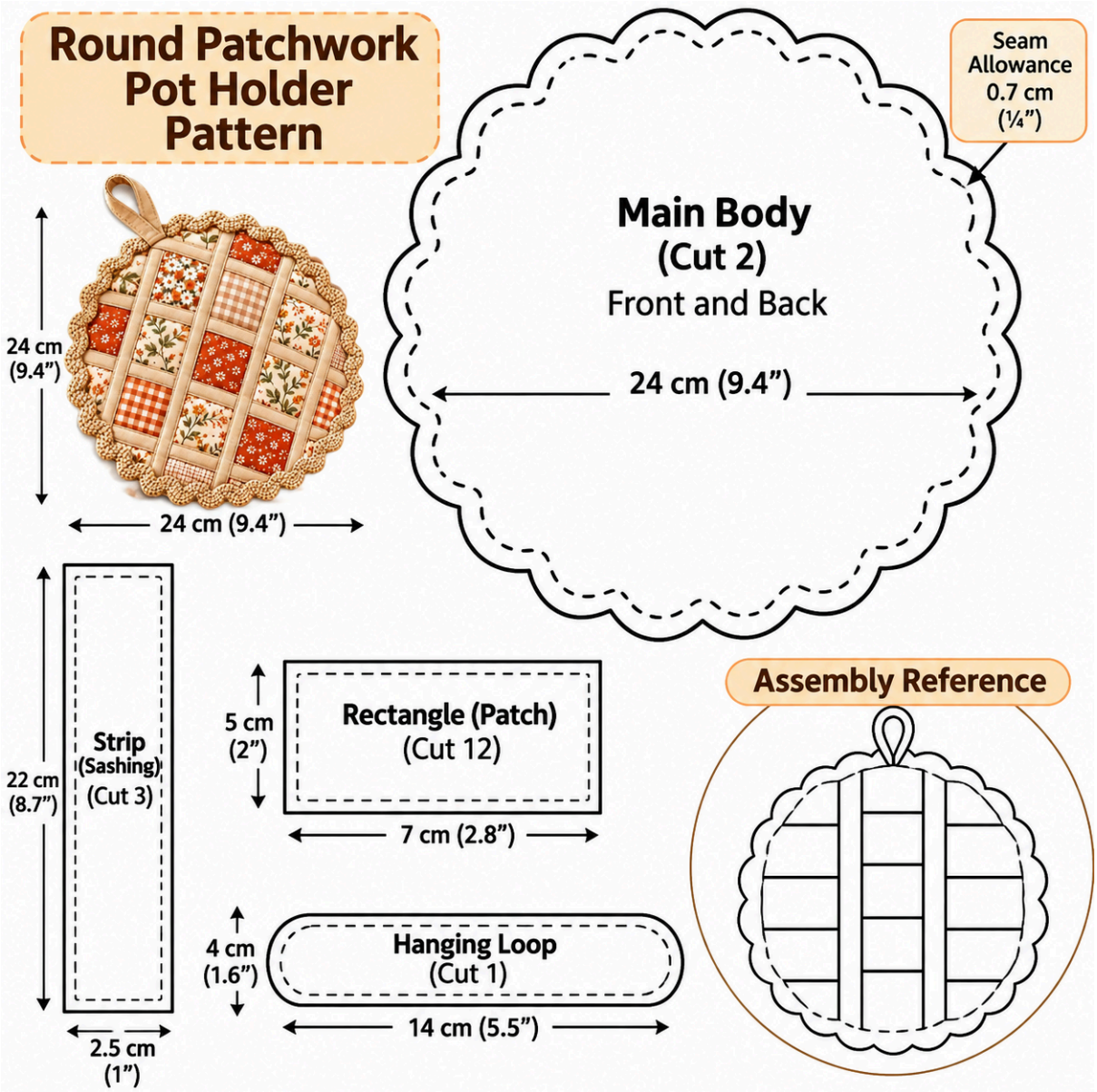
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Round Patchwork Pot Holder – Complete Step-by-Step Sewing Tutorial

Creating a Round Patchwork Pot Holder is a wonderful way to combine traditional quilting techniques with practical kitchen sewing. This charming project features colorful cotton fabric rectangles, decorative sashing strips, soft quilted layers, a scalloped fabric border, and a convenient hanging loop. The finished result is a beautiful, functional kitchen accessory that can also make a thoughtful handmade gift.

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This step-by-step sewing tutorial follows the design shown in the reference graphic, using US sewing terminology and measurements in centimeters (CM). Whether you are a beginner learning how to assemble patchwork or an experienced quilter looking for a small project, these instructions will guide you through cutting, piecing, layering, quilting, and finishing your pot holder.

The finished round patchwork pot holder measures approximately 26 cm (10¼ inches) in diameter, including its decorative edge. The design uses warm orange, cream, beige, floral, and gingham fabrics, but you can easily personalize it with different colors and prints.

Step 1: Gather Your Materials and Sewing Supplies 🧵

Before beginning your DIY patchwork pot holder, organize all the materials on a clean cutting surface. Preparing everything in advance makes the sewing process smoother and helps maintain accurate measurements.

Fabric and materials

You will need:

- **100% cotton quilting fabric: Several coordinating prints for the patchwork rectangles.**
- **Cotton fabric for sashing: A neutral beige, cream, or light-colored fabric.**
- **Backing fabric: One piece of 100% cotton fabric large enough for a 26 cm circle.**
- **Cotton batting: One 26 cm circle for padding.**
- **Heat-resistant insulating batting: One 26 cm circle of Insul-Bright® or another suitable thermal insulating material.**

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- **Cotton bias tape: Approximately 120 cm for the scalloped border.**
- **Additional cotton fabric: One strip measuring 16 cm × 5 cm for the hanging loop.**
- **Coordinating sewing thread: Cotton thread suitable for quilting and general construction.**

For a pot holder intended to handle hot cookware, use materials specifically rated for that purpose. Insul-Bright® is a reflective insulating batting, but its manufacturer recommends combining it with cotton batting for heat protection. The completed project should be tested carefully before practical use, and it should not be used to lift extremely hot cookware if heat can be felt through the layers.

Essential sewing tools

Prepare a sewing machine, rotary cutter, cutting mat, quilting ruler, fabric scissors, sewing pins or clips, hand-sewing needle, fabric marking pencil, iron, ironing board, and a circular template.

A walking foot is helpful when quilting multiple layers, although a standard presser foot can also work if the fabric is guided carefully.

Cutting chart

The following measurements reproduce the cutting dimensions shown in the tutorial graphic.

Fabric piece	Quantity	Measurement

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Patchwork rectangles	**12**	**5 × 7 cm**
Vertical sashing strips	**4**	**26 × 2.5 cm**
Horizontal sashing strips	**6**	**7 × 2.5 cm**
Backing fabric	**1**	**26 cm diameter**
Cotton batting	**1**	**26 cm diameter**
Thermal insulating batting	**1**	**26 cm diameter**
Bias tape	**1**	**120 cm long**
Hanging loop strip	**1**	**16 × 5 cm**

Important measurement note: The graphic uses a 0.75 cm seam allowance and illustrates a four-row patchwork layout. Its cutting chart, however, does not provide enough horizontal sashing pieces to construct every row exactly as pictured. The

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5 × 7 cm rectangles and the listed sashing lengths also require some adjustment during assembly. The instructions below explain how to test-fit the layout, cut additional sashing when needed, and trim the assembled panel to the correct circular shape.

For a practical, fully functional pot holder, it is also preferable to cut the batting and backing slightly larger than the finished circle and trim them after quilting. The listed 26 cm circles remain the target dimensions shown in the reference.

Step 2: Cut the Patchwork Rectangles and Sashing Strips ✂️

Start by washing and pressing your cotton fabrics if you normally prewash quilting materials. This helps reduce the possibility of uneven shrinkage after the finished project is cleaned.

Place your fabric on the cutting mat and straighten the edges with a quilting ruler.

Cut 12 rectangles measuring 5 cm × 7 cm. Choose a balanced selection of floral prints, gingham patterns, small flowers, and solid or textured fabrics.

For a design similar to the reference image, use four orange floral rectangles, four cream floral rectangles, and four orange-and-white gingham rectangles.

Arrange the rectangles in four rows of three pieces each. Alternate the patterns so that identical fabrics do not appear too close together.

Next, cut the sashing strips from your neutral cotton fabric.

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The reference chart specifies four vertical strips measuring 26 cm × 2.5 cm and six shorter horizontal strips measuring 7 cm × 2.5 cm.

Keep the longer strips separate from the shorter ones. You may need additional sashing pieces or adjusted lengths to reproduce the complete lattice pattern, so keep some extra neutral fabric available.

Press every piece before sewing. Accurate cutting and careful pressing are especially important when working with small patchwork rectangles.

Step 3: Sew the Four Patchwork Rows

Set your sewing machine to a standard straight stitch with a stitch length of approximately 2.5 mm.

Use a consistent 0.75 cm (approximately ¼-inch) seam allowance, as indicated in the graphic.

Begin with the first row of three rectangles.

Place the first two rectangles with their right sides together. Align their edges and secure them with sewing clips or pins.

Sew along the joining edge, maintaining the seam allowance.

Open the pieces and press the seam toward the darker fabric.

Repeat the process to attach the third rectangle.

The graphic also shows beige sashing between the patchwork sections. To reproduce this effect, insert narrow sashing strips between neighboring rectangles before joining them. Cut these strips to match the rectangle edges and trim any excess after sewing.

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Repeat the process until you have four completed patchwork rows.

Arrange the rows on your work surface and check that the patterns alternate attractively.

Press the rows carefully without stretching the fabric.

Helpful tip: Chain piecing can make this stage faster. Sew several pairs of rectangles consecutively without cutting the thread between them, then separate the units and press.

Step 4: Join the Rows With Horizontal Sashing

Place the four completed patchwork rows in their intended order.

The reference design features narrow beige horizontal sashing strips separating the rows.

To create this appearance, measure the width of each assembled row before cutting the joining strips. This is more reliable than assuming that the original 7 cm strips will span the entire row.

Cut three horizontal sashing strips long enough to extend across the complete patchwork panel, using the same 2.5 cm cutting width.

Place the first sashing strip against the lower edge of the first row, right sides together.

Pin carefully and sew using a 0.75 cm seam allowance.

Press the seam toward the sashing strip.

Attach the second patchwork row to the opposite side of the sashing.

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Continue joining the remaining rows, inserting horizontal sashing between each pair.

Once all four rows are connected, press the entire patchwork panel flat.

Check the alignment of the rectangles and make sure the horizontal strips remain straight.

The panel should now resemble a colorful rectangular patchwork grid with decorative beige lines running across it.

Step 5: Add the Vertical Sashing Strips

The next stage creates the distinctive lattice appearance visible on the finished round patchwork pot holder.

Lay the patchwork panel flat with the right side facing upward.

Take the four long sashing strips measuring 26 cm × 2.5 cm.

Position the strips vertically across the patchwork surface. Distribute them evenly to create a balanced woven-style appearance.

The reference image shows the vertical sashing crossing over the horizontal strips and patchwork rectangles.

Because the strips are applied over the completed panel, they can be treated as decorative fabric bands rather than additional pieced seams.

For a neat finish, fold the long edges of each strip toward the wrong side by approximately 0.5 cm and press. This will produce a narrower finished band.

Place the first strip over the panel and secure it with pins.

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Topstitch close to both folded edges, approximately 2–3 mm from each edge.

Repeat with the remaining three strips.

Keep all four strips parallel and evenly spaced.

Press the completed panel once more.

Important: The panel must be large enough to accommodate a 26 cm circle. With the small rectangles specified in the graphic, the assembled patchwork may be too narrow for that diameter. If necessary, add coordinating fabric borders around the patchwork before shaping the circle. This preserves the visual design while allowing you to reach the intended finished size.

Step 6: Prepare the Circular Layers

The graphic illustrates a four-layer construction consisting of the patchwork front, cotton batting, thermal insulating batting, and backing fabric.

These layers provide the structure and insulation needed for a practical pot holder.

Prepare the following pieces:

1. **Patchwork front: The completed patchwork panel, large enough for a 26 cm circle.**
2. **Cotton batting: One circular layer for padding.**
3. **Insul-Bright®: One circular layer for thermal insulation.**
4. **Backing fabric: One cotton circle for the reverse side.**

For easier assembly, cut the batting and backing to approximately 28 cm initially, then trim them to the 26 cm circle after quilting.

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Place the backing fabric on your work surface with its wrong side facing upward.

Position the thermal insulating batting over the backing.

Add the cotton batting above the thermal layer.

Finally, place the patchwork panel on top, with its right side facing upward.

This creates the layer arrangement shown in the cross-section illustration.

Smooth all the layers carefully, starting from the center and working toward the edges.

Secure the fabric sandwich with quilting safety pins or temporary basting stitches.

Make sure the layers remain flat and free from wrinkles.

Step 7: Quilt the Patchwork Layers Together 🪡

Quilting holds the fabric layers securely together and adds decorative texture.

The reference graphic recommends quilting along the existing seam lines, particularly around the beige sashing strips.

Attach a walking foot to your sewing machine if available.

Choose a straight stitch with a length of approximately 2.5–3 mm.

Begin quilting near the center of the patchwork panel.

Sew along one horizontal sashing line, guiding the fabric gently through the machine.

Continue quilting along the remaining horizontal seams.

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Next, quilt along the vertical sashing strips.

This creates a neat grid that follows the existing patchwork design.

You can also add stitching around individual rectangles if you prefer a more detailed finish.

Avoid pulling the fabric while sewing, as this can distort the circular shape.

After quilting, inspect both sides of the project to make sure no wrinkles or loose sections remain.

Remove all temporary pins or basting threads.

Press gently if the materials permit it, following the batting manufacturer's instructions.

Step 8: Trim the Pot Holder Into a Perfect Circle

Once the layers are securely quilted, it is time to shape the pot holder.

Create a circular template measuring 26 cm in diameter.

You can use a quilting circle ruler, a cardboard template, or a carefully drawn paper circle.

Place the template over the patchwork panel.

Adjust its position until the fabric pattern is centered and balanced.

Trace around the template using a removable fabric marker.

Secure the layers with clips or pins inside the cutting line.

Use sharp fabric scissors or a rotary cutter suitable for curved cutting to trim through all the layers.

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Work slowly to maintain a smooth circular edge.

Check that the backing, batting, thermal layer, and patchwork front are aligned.

The result should be a neatly quilted circle ready for the hanging loop and decorative border.

Note: The reference labels the circle as 26 cm across and also calls this the finished size. Because the scalloped binding extends beyond the circle, the completed outer diameter may be slightly larger than 26 cm.

Step 9: Make the Fabric Hanging Loop

The hanging loop allows you to display the finished pot holder on a kitchen hook.

Cut one cotton fabric strip measuring 16 cm × 5 cm.

Fold the strip in half lengthwise, with the right sides together.

Align the long edges and sew using a 0.75 cm seam allowance.

Turn the fabric tube right side out using a loop turner or safety pin.

Position the seam along the back or center of the strip.

Press the loop flat.

Topstitch along both long edges for a neat, professional appearance.

Fold the finished strip in half to create a loop.

Align the two raw ends.

The loop should now have a rounded top and two matching ends ready to attach to the pot holder.

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For extra durability, you can stitch across the raw ends to hold them together before attaching the loop to the circular body.

Step 10: Attach the Hanging Loop

Place the quilted circle on your work surface with the patchwork side facing upward.

Locate the top center of the circle.

Position the folded hanging loop at this point.

The loop should extend beyond the circular edge, while its raw ends overlap the edge area that will later be covered by the binding.

Secure the loop with pins or sewing clips.

Sew a short line of basting stitches across the loop ends to hold them in place.

Use a slightly shorter stitch length for additional security.

Make sure the loop is centered and straight.

The reference image shows a small beige hanging loop emerging from the upper edge of the pot holder.

Once the loop is attached, the project is ready for the scalloped border.

Step 11: Create and Attach the Scalloped Fabric Border

The scalloped fabric border is one of the most attractive details of this sewing project.

It creates a soft, decorative edge that resembles a series of small rounded waves around the circle.

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The reference graphic recommends approximately 120 cm of cotton bias tape.

Bias-cut fabric is particularly suitable for curved edges because it stretches slightly and can follow the circular shape without excessive puckering.

Preparing the bias tape

Choose a beige, cream, or gingham cotton fabric that coordinates with the patchwork.

Prepare enough bias tape to go around the entire circle and form the decorative scallops.

A 26 cm circle has a circumference of approximately 81.7 cm, so the suggested 120 cm provides additional length for shaping the waves.

Press the bias tape into its folded form before attaching it.

Forming the scallops

Begin at the top of the circle, near the hanging loop.

Arrange the bias tape around the outer edge, forming small, evenly spaced rounded waves.

Use sewing clips to hold each scallop in position.

The scallops should be similar in size and distributed evenly around the circumference.

For a more controlled result, mark equal intervals around the edge before shaping the border.

You may also prepare the scallops separately by stitching the folded tape into a gathered or wavy trim before attaching it.

Sewing the border

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Position the scalloped trim so that it covers the raw circular edge.

Make sure the front and back edges are enclosed securely.

Stitch close to the inner edge of the binding, following the circular shape.

Sew slowly around the curves.

Adjust the scallops as needed to prevent uneven folds.

When you reach the starting point, overlap the ends neatly, fold the exposed end under, and secure the join with stitching.

The finished border should look soft, full, and evenly scalloped, just like the example in the graphic.

Safety note: A decorative scalloped border made from ordinary cotton bias tape is not a substitute for thermal insulation. Keep the insulating layers continuous across the main gripping area, and avoid relying on the decorative edge alone when handling hot items.

Step 12: Finish the Edges and Secure the Border

After attaching the scalloped binding, inspect the entire circumference of the pot holder.

Check that every section of the binding is securely attached.

Look for loose stitches, exposed batting, or uneven scallops.

If necessary, sew a second line of stitching close to the inner edge of the bias tape.

This helps secure the decorative border and prevents the fabric from shifting during use.

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At the overlapping ends, fold the raw edge of the bias tape inward and stitch it neatly in place.

You can use a hand-sewing needle for small finishing adjustments.

Remove all pins and clips.

Trim loose threads with embroidery scissors.

Check the hanging loop to ensure it is securely fastened.

If the loop feels loose, reinforce its attachment with additional stitches.

Finally, smooth the finished pot holder with your hands and gently press the cotton areas where appropriate.

Avoid excessive heat directly on any insulating material unless the manufacturer's care instructions allow it.

Step 13: Understand the Sewing Techniques Used in This Project

The Round Patchwork Pot Holder Pattern combines several useful sewing techniques that can be applied to many other quilting projects.

Machine stitch: A standard straight stitch is used to join the fabric rectangles, attach sashing, and secure the binding. A stitch length of approximately 2.5 mm works well for general construction.

Basting stitch: Temporary stitches hold the fabric layers or hanging loop in position before permanent sewing. Basting can be done by hand or machine.

Topstitching: Visible stitching placed close to a fabric edge gives the project a neat appearance and reinforces the

decorative strips. The reference recommends approximately 2–3 mm from the edge.

Pressing: Pressing seams with an iron helps flatten the fabric and improves the accuracy of the patchwork assembly. Press rather than dragging the iron across the fabric.

Rotary cutting: A rotary cutter and quilting ruler allow you to create straight, accurate rectangles and sashing strips. Always use a protective cutting mat.

Pinning and clipping: Pins and sewing clips hold fabric pieces in place during assembly. Clips are particularly useful when working with thick batting layers and curved binding.

Learning these techniques will help you complete future quilting projects, fabric kitchen accessories, and handmade patchwork gifts with greater confidence.

Step 14: Helpful Tips for a Beautiful and Durable Pot Holder

Use 100% cotton quilting fabric for the main construction. Cotton is suitable for traditional quilting and is generally preferable to ordinary synthetic decorative fabrics for a project that may encounter heat.

Maintain the same 0.75 cm seam allowance throughout the patchwork assembly. Consistent seams help the rectangles align and prevent the finished design from becoming uneven.

Press after every major sewing stage. Flat seams make it easier to add sashing, quilt the layers, and attach the border.

Choose coordinating colors to create a harmonious design. Orange, cream, beige, floral prints, and gingham fabrics

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produce the warm country-style appearance shown in the graphic.

Use a walking foot when quilting thick layers. It helps feed the fabric sandwich more evenly through the sewing machine.

Keep the scalloped border uniform. Marking equal intervals around the circle can help you create evenly spaced decorative waves.

For a smaller version, the reference suggests adjusting the circle diameter to 22 cm. Remember to resize the patchwork panel and insulating layers accordingly.

Before using the pot holder with hot cookware, inspect it for exposed seams, gaps in insulation, and insufficient thickness. Never use a damp pot holder to handle hot items, since moisture can transmit heat and cause burns.

Step 15: Final Result – Your Handmade Round Patchwork Pot Holder 🌸

Your Round Patchwork Pot Holder is now complete!

The finished project combines a colorful patchwork center, decorative beige sashing, protective quilted layers, a charming scalloped border, and a practical hanging loop.

Its warm floral and gingham fabrics give it a traditional farmhouse appearance that works beautifully in country-style, vintage-inspired, or cozy kitchens.

You can use this same sewing method to create matching kitchen accessories, such as quilted trivets for decorative use, fabric wall decorations, and coordinated pot holder sets.

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For gift giving, consider making two or three pot holders in complementary colors and tying them together with a cotton ribbon.

The project is also a lovely way to use leftover quilting fabric from larger sewing projects.

With careful cutting, consistent stitching, and attention to the insulating layers, you can create a handmade accessory that is both attractive and practical.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Is this round patchwork pot holder suitable for beginners?

Yes. The project uses basic sewing techniques such as cutting rectangles, sewing straight seams, pressing, quilting, and attaching binding. The scalloped border requires additional patience, but beginners can complete it by working slowly.

2. What is the finished size of the pot holder?

The reference design uses a 26 cm diameter circle, approximately 10¼ inches. The decorative scalloped border may increase the overall finished diameter slightly.

3. Can I make this pot holder without a sewing machine?

Yes, although hand sewing will take considerably longer. Use small, secure stitches for the patchwork seams, quilting, hanging loop, and binding.

4. Why should I use Insul-Bright®?

Insul-Bright® contains a reflective insulating component designed for certain heat-related sewing projects. It should be used according to the manufacturer's instructions and combined with suitable batting and fabric layers.

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5. Can I use polyester batting instead of cotton batting?

For a pot holder intended to handle hot cookware, cotton batting is generally the better choice. Avoid substituting ordinary polyester batting unless the product is specifically rated for the intended heat exposure.

6. How much fabric do I need?

This project can be made from relatively small pieces of quilting cotton. Fat quarters and leftover fabric scraps are useful for the patchwork rectangles. You will also need enough coordinating fabric for the backing, sashing, hanging loop, and bias binding.

7. Can I wash the finished pot holder?

Usually, yes, provided all the fabrics and insulating materials are washable. Follow the care instructions for the specific batting and insulating products used. Air-drying is a gentle option that may help preserve the scalloped border.

8. How can I make the scalloped border more even?

Mark equal intervals around the circular edge and shape each scallop to a similar width and depth. Use plenty of sewing clips and adjust the fabric before stitching permanently.

9. Can I change the colors and fabric patterns?

Absolutely. You can create seasonal designs using Christmas prints, autumn colors, spring florals, or modern geometric fabrics. Keep the same basic construction method.

10. Can I use this pattern to make a matching set?

Yes. You can sew several pot holders using the same measurements and different fabric combinations. Matching

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sets make attractive handmade gifts for housewarmings, birthdays, and holidays.

Conclusion

The Round Patchwork Pot Holder – Step-by-Step Sewing Tutorial is a rewarding project that brings together traditional patchwork, decorative quilting, and practical sewing techniques.

By following the complete process—from cutting the 12 fabric rectangles and assembling the sashing to preparing the insulating layers, quilting the circle, making the hanging loop, and attaching the scalloped border—you can recreate the charming design featured in the reference graphic.

The key to a beautiful finished result is careful measurement, accurate seam allowances, regular pressing, and patient stitching around the curved edges.

With your favorite cotton fabrics and a little creativity, this handmade round patchwork pot holder can become a lovely addition to your kitchen or a thoughtful gift for someone who appreciates handmade sewing projects.