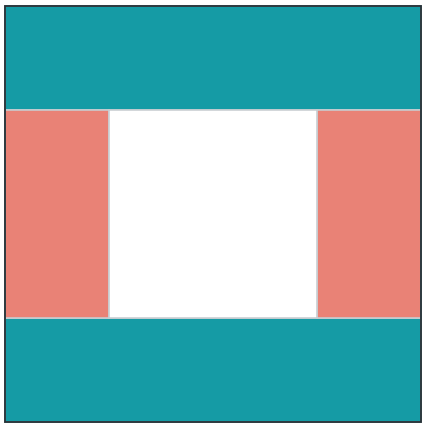
MY FIRST QUILT / BLOCK 03

Framed Square

12" finished • 12½" unfinished • Adding borders accurately



Block layout - diagram not to scale

CUT FOR ONE BLOCK

All cutting sizes include ¼" seam allowances.

Fabric	Qty	Cut size
White	1	6½" × 6½"
Coral	2	3½" × 6½"
Turquoise	2	3½" × 12½"

White center, coral side strips, and turquoise top and bottom strips. Use quilting-weight cotton.

SEW THE BLOCK

1. Arrange the pieces.
Place the white square in the center, the coral strips at the sides, and the turquoise strips above and below. Sew every seam with right sides together and a consistent ¼" seam allowance.

2. Add the coral sides.
Align one coral strip with each side of the white square. Match both ends, pin, and sew along the 6½" edges. Press the seams toward the coral. The center unit should measure 12½" wide × 6½" high.

3. Add the turquoise strips.
Match the ends and midpoint of each turquoise strip to the top or bottom of the center unit. Pin and sew along the 12½" edges. Support the fabric so it does not stretch. Press toward the turquoise.

4. Measure the block.
Check for a 12½" × 12½" unfinished square. If the size is off, check your cutting and seam allowances. Do not stretch a strip to fit; correct the center unit before attaching the next border.

Size check: a 6" finished center plus two 3" finished borders gives 12" in both directions. The block measures 12½" before its outer seam allowances are sewn into the quilt.

A LITTLE HISTORY

Framing a center with borders has a long quilting history. The Smithsonian holds a framed medallion quilt dated 1835-1845. Our Framed Square is a simple teaching variation of that framing idea, not a reproduction of the historic quilt.

History source: Smithsonian, National Museum of American History

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