

Food for thought when thinking about Borders.

Colours and Importance of a Design Wall

Borders can be created from a variety of design elements. The element we want you to think about this month is 'colour and it's value' and the relationship to your quilt.

When planning for a border, It is important to be able to display the centre portion of your quilt somewhere where you can step back and evaluate the possibilities. Thus the importance of a design wall. (Personally I have several, different sizes, made using rigid insulation foam covered with old flannelette sheets)

Place your quilt on your design wall and preview a variety of colours.

Evaluate the different values (light, dark, density) of your colour choices . Some authors claim that a border that has similar colours to your quilt will create a sense of visual extension. A contrasting border, which defines the size will do the opposite and make the project seem smaller.

Another author claims that when a darker border is used on a project that is basically dark it will highlight the lighter features of the quilt fabric. The opposite is true. When you have a 'lighter' coloured fabric, and use a light border the result will emphasize the darker feature of the project. Often darker borders add a dynamic frame.

Do you agree? Stay tuned, there is more to come.

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