

## **Funky Borders** **Judy Eckhardt**

The key to a funky border is the word fun. This is not a traditional border and it is meant to be used on unusual and unique quilted pieces. These could be a vest, placemats, a modern art quilt or a fidget quilt for dementia patients. I used it on a bright fun quilt for my niece when she was in her teens. It is great way to use up scrap strips of different widths.

Each group of strips can be used as is, but a way to step them up a notch is to add bands of yarn or trims to the seams as embellishment. These add a new dimension and will impact your whole quilt. If your quilt is to be washable, be sure your yarns are all washable too and that they don't run. Wash a test piece first.

### **Wedge & Yarn Technique**

Suitable for straight borders

Cut your fabric strips in a variety of different widths from 1.5" – 3". Do the math to calculate how wide you want your border to be. Cut strips of 1.5", 2", and 2.5" will finish at 4'5" for a border.



Strip piece 2 different strip units, each using 3 – 4 bands of different colours. Press to the darker colours.



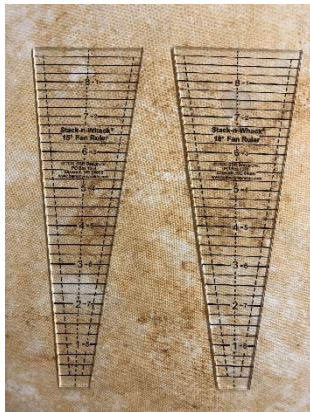
Couch a variety of cords and yarns along each seam line using invisible thread or decorative thread.



Use your open toed embroidery foot on left (these usually come with your machine) or the beading foot or couching foot that matches your machine.



Cut into wedges using the same size wedge for all cuts on both strips.  
There are a variety of wedge shaped rulers available usually used for making the Dresden plate block or tumbler blocks.  
Alternate the wide and short ends to make your strip.



Arrange and sew together to make a straight strip border as long as your border requires.





### **Preparing your border strips**

On each border unit, stitch a stabilizing row of stitching around the edges about 1/8" from the outside edge drawn line to keep any bias edges from stretching.

### **Sample Uses**

Mug Mat



Place mats

