

# milk & cookie mats

Make the memories even more special for you and your family by making these homemade mini-placemats, perfect for holding a few cookies and a cold glass of milk. Oh, and my children implore you: PLEASE leave a few carrots for the reindeer. They get hungry too, you know.

handmade by **JOHN Q. ADAMS**



## fabric & such

### FOR THE TREE

Assorted pieces of green and brown fabric (for tree and trunk), each 4 to 5 inches square (10.2 to 12.7 cm)

6 pieces of linen, each 5 x 6 inches (12.7 x 15.2 cm)

1 piece of backing fabric, 13 x 14 inches (33 x 35.6 cm)

1 strip of binding fabric (or 1 jelly roll strip), 2½ x 44 inches (6.4 x 111.8 cm)

1 piece of batting, 13 x 14 inches (33 x 35.6 cm)

1 piece of cardstock (for the template), 5 inches square (12.7 cm)

### FOR THE CIRCLE

5 strips of fabric, 2½ x 10 inches (6.4 x 25.4 cm)

2 pieces of fabric (for background and backing), 10 inches square (25.4 cm)

1 piece of batting, at least 10 inches square (25.4 cm)

Cardstock for template

Aluminum foil

## tools

Basic Patchwork Kit (page 9)

Plate or other round object for tracing, 7½ inches (19 cm) in diameter

## finished size

Tree: 7 x 9½ inches (17.6 x 24.5 cm)

Circle: 9½ x 9½ inches (24.5 x 25 cm)

## seam allowance

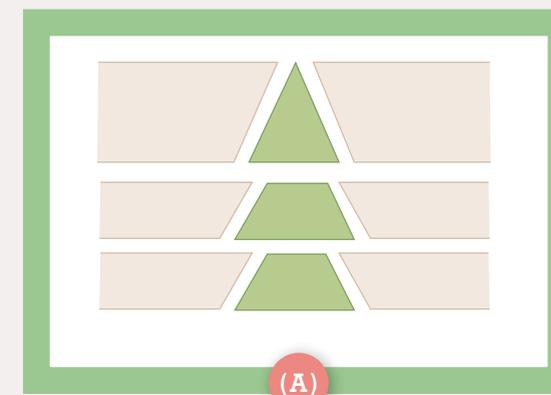
¼ inch (6 mm) unless otherwise indicated

## get started

### the tree

- 1 Trace the triangle template onto the cardstock and cut out the shape.
- 2 Cut three 5-inch squares (12.7 cm) of green fabric.
- 3 Stack your three squares and lay the cardstock triangle template on top of the stack, aligning the bottom edge of your template with the bottom edge of your fabric. Cut along the edges of your template, creating three triangles from your green fabric.
- 4 Set aside one triangle for your treetop. Trim off the tops of the other two triangles so they each measure 2½ inches (6.4 cm) tall from the bottom edge.
- 5 Using your triangle template, cut one end off one piece of linen at an angle matching the shape of your triangle. Repeat with another piece of linen. Lay your full triangle in between the two pieces of cut linen.

- 6 Cut two of the remaining linen pieces in half so each piece measures 2½ x 6 inches (6.4 x 15.2 cm). Use the template and cut the edges in the same way as step 5. Position the cut linen on the sides of your other tree sections (A).
- 7 Sew all the strips together. When sewing angled strips together, you need to offset the edges by about ¼ inch (6 mm). Sew the three complete strips together to create your tree.



**8** To create your tree trunk: Cut a piece of brown fabric that measures 2 x 2½ inches (5.1 x 6.4 cm). Cut another linen rectangle in half to create two 2 x 6-inch (5.1 x 15.2 cm) linen strips. Sew together these three pieces along the short edges, with the trunk fabric in the middle.

**9** Sew your tree trunk strip to the bottom of your pieced tree.

**10** Trim your pieced top to 8½ inches (21.6 cm) wide. Make a quilt sandwich with the top, batting, and backing, then pin or baste all layers in place. Quilt as desired.

**11** Bind the edges of the mat, using the strip of binding fabric (pages 15–17).

### the circle

**1** Trace a circle onto the cardstock using a plate or other round object with a diameter of approximately 7½ inches (19 cm). Cut out your template.

**2** Sew the fabric strips together along the 10-inch (25.4 cm) side, using a ¼-inch (6 mm) seam allowance throughout. Your pieced square will measure approximately 10 x 10½ inches (25.4 x 26.7 cm).

**3** Lay your circle template on your pieced square. Cut around your template, leaving approximately ¼ inch (6 mm) extra around the edge of the circle template (**B**).

**4** Lay your pieced circle, right side down, on a square of aluminum foil that measures approximately 12 inches square (30.5 cm). Lay your cardstock template on top of the pieced circle.

**5** Using your fingers, fold the foil over and around the edges of the circle template. Move your fingers around the circle slowly, pressing carefully and smoothing out the edge as much as possible.

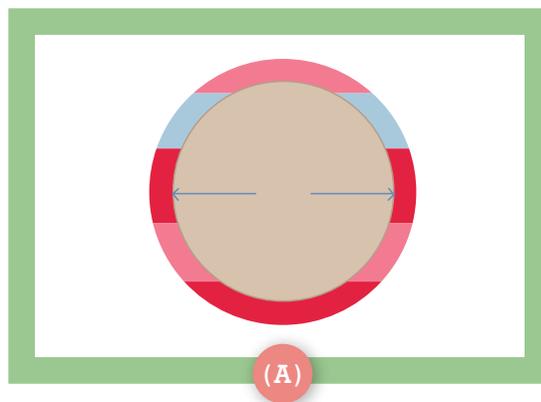
**6** Press the edges with a hot, dry iron. Move around the edge of the circle slowly, pressing down the fabric well along the edge of the circle. Once finished, the tin foil will be hot. Let cool before unwrapping the foil.

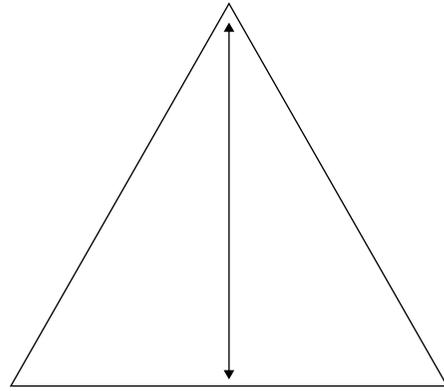
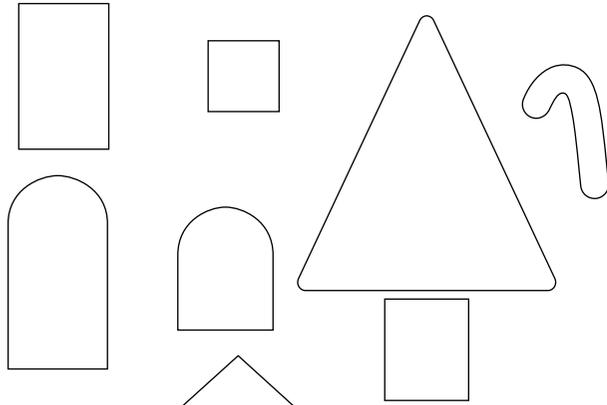
**7** Unwrap the foil carefully. The fabric should be pressed well around the entire circle template. Remove the cardboard template from inside your fabric piece.

**8** Center your circle, right side up, on top of the square of background fabric. Pin in place.

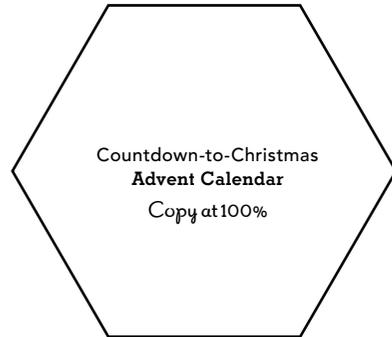
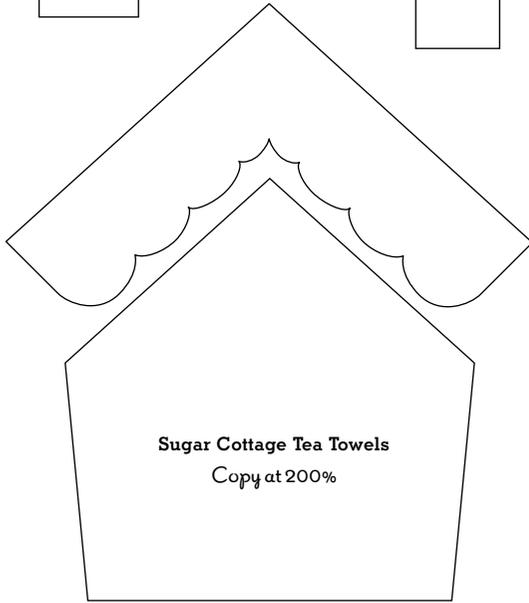
**9** Make a quilt sandwich with the pinned circle/ background fabric, batting, and backing fabric, as you would a quilt top, then pin or baste all layers in place. Topstitch around the edge of your circle, stitching through all layers of your quilt sandwich and securing the layers in place.

**10** Quilt as desired and bind your mat (pages 15–17).

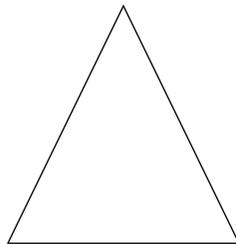
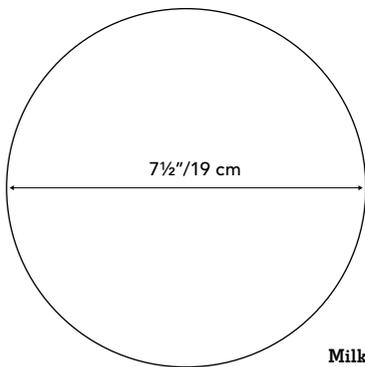




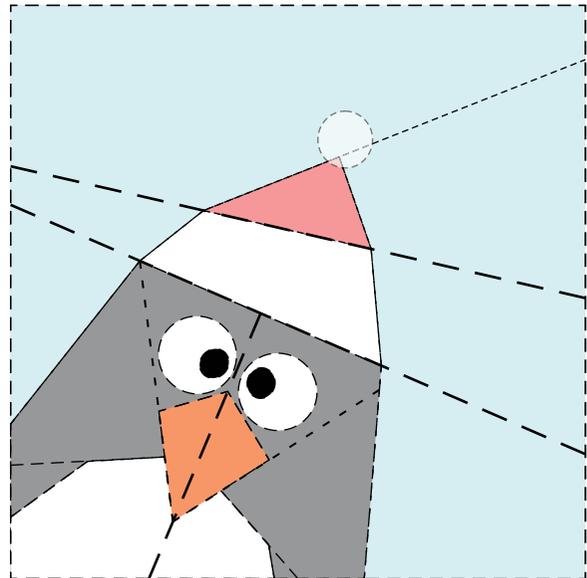
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