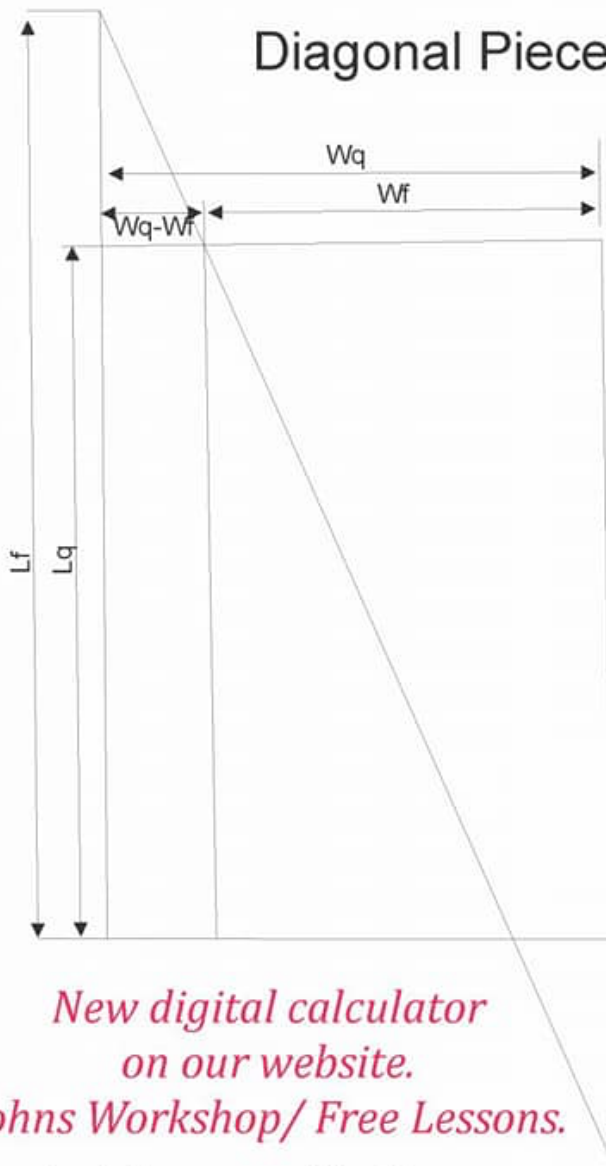


John's Formula for Joan's Trick

Diagonal Pieced Back



*New digital calculator
on our website.
Johns Workshop/ Free Lessons.*

Example: Quilt top measures 48" x 60".

You want your quilt back to be 51" x 66".
The desired length of the back goes into the formula as LQ=66

John likes to use a 1/2" seam allowance, pressed open, for his quilt backs, so add 1" to the quilt back width. The desired back width goes into the formula as WQ=51

For this example, the width of the fabric is 44"
This goes in to the formula as WF=44

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John's method for diagonally piecing a quilt back, from one piece of fabric, is the most efficient way to make the back whenever the width of the quilt back in one and a half times, or less, than the width of the fabric you plan to use. For example, if the width of your back fabric is 44", use John's method whenever the width you want your back to be is 66" or less. If you are using fabric that is 60" wide, use John's method whenever you want your quilt back to be 90" or less.

HOW DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH BACK FABRIC YOU NEED

It's easy. John has calculated a simple formula to figure the yardage. Work through his example to get familiar with the formula and you will be able to figure out how much back you need for any size quilt.

Wq = Width of Quilt Back
Wf = Width of Fabric
Lq = Length of Quilt
Lf = Length of Fabric

$$Lf = Lq + \frac{Lq(Wq - Wf)}{2Wf - Wq}$$

Example formula filled in:

$$Lf = 66 + \frac{66 \times (51 - 44)}{2 \times 44 - 51}$$

$$Lf = 66 + \frac{66 \times 7}{37}$$

$$Lf = 66 + (462 \text{ divided by } 37)$$

$$Lf = 66 + 12.5$$

$$Lf = 78.5, \text{ round up to } 79"$$



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