

Holiday Photo Postcards  
By Sue Haney



Materials:

- 8 ½" x 11" Printable fabric sheets (such as EQ Printables or Printed Treasure's)
- Ultra firm double sided fusible stabilizer such as Peltex #72
- Assorted fabrics to frame the photo
- Drill cloth (similar to canvas),
- Thread to match assorted fabrics
- Rotary cutter
- Mini iron and standard iron

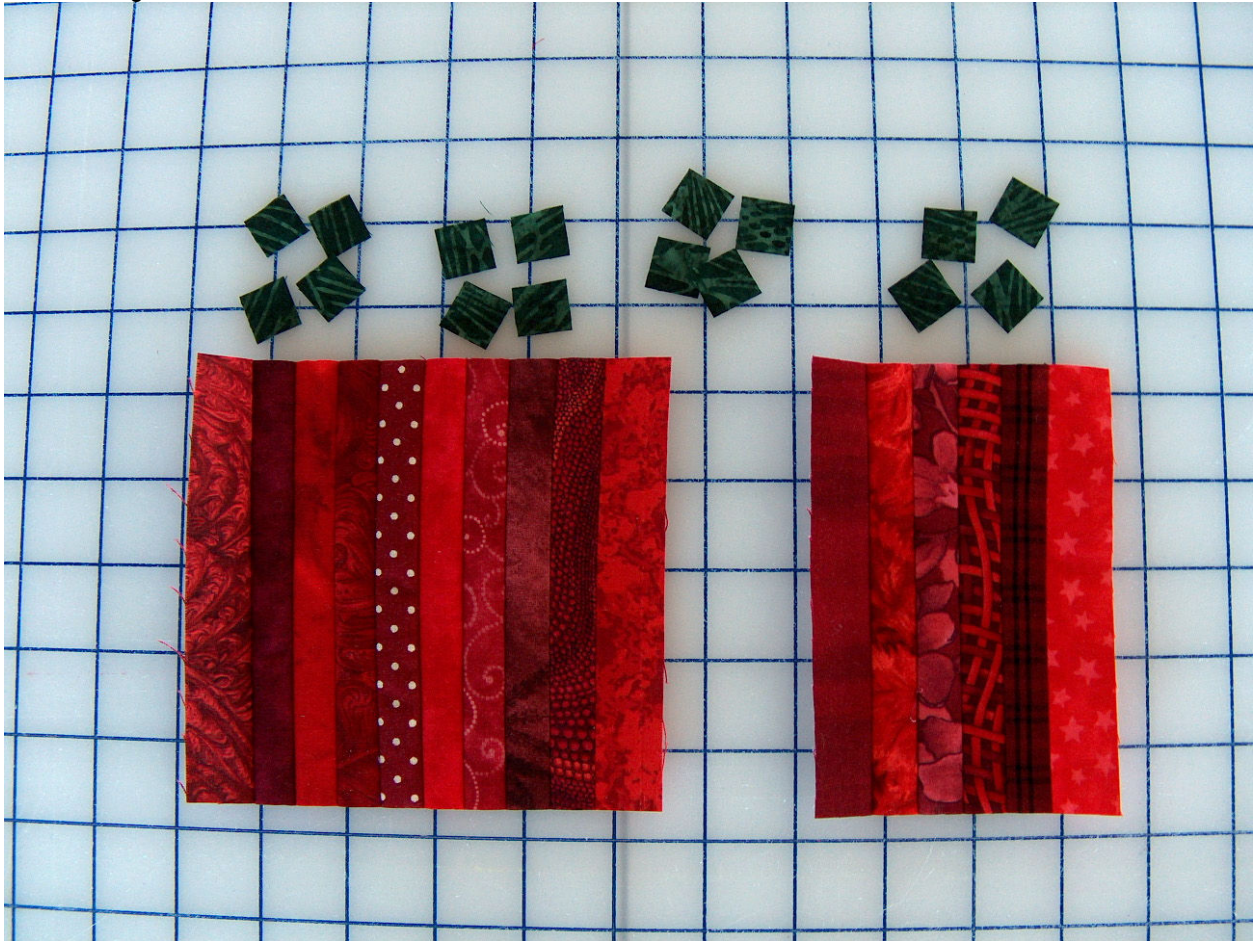
1. Print your favorite photo size 3 1/2" x 5" on the printable fabric. You should be able to get four on an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet. Follow manufacturer's directions for drying time and whether you need to rinse or not. I use EQ Printables. Cut photos apart, leaving a 1/8" white border.



2. Cut a 4" x 6" postcard from Peltex 72, double-sided fusible. Remove the plastic film from only one side. Leave the film on the other side because you will be placing this down on your ironing board.
3. Fabric Borders & Corners: cut 1" strips from as many fabrics as you'd like. You can use as few as two or as many as 36 different fabrics. The more you use, the more interest the card has. You only need a length of about 5 inches, from which you can make four postcards.
  - a. Top and bottom borders:  
Sew together 10 red strips using a 1/4" seam. Press the seams open.
  - b. Two side borders:  
Sew together 6 red strips. Press seams open.

c. Corners:

Cut four ½" squares of green. I cut them generously and trim any excess hanging over the postcard edge later.



Using a rotary cutter, make a nice even edge on one side of your sewn pieced strip. Then cut ½" strips across.

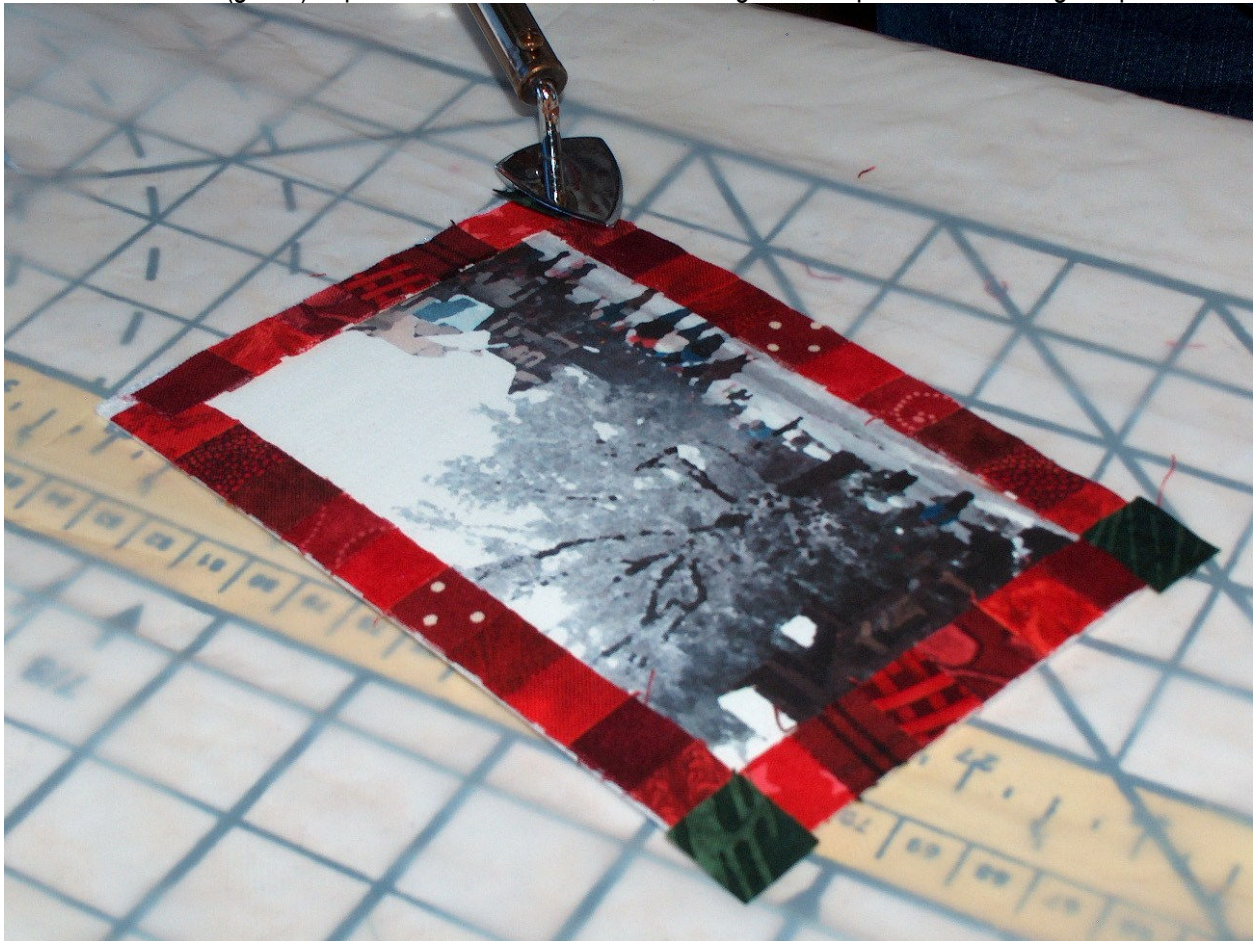
Center the photo on the cut 4" x 6" Peltex postcard. There will be about 1/8" of Peltex along each side. Using the mini iron, carefully tack down the photo to the side of the Peltex without plastic following the manufacturer's directions. Later on we will use a big iron to make sure everything is fused down good.

Using the mini iron, fuse the longer length of pieced strips (right side up) to the top and bottom of the postcard, overlapping the photo just a bit. The 1/8" of Peltex will hold the fabric strip just enough to keep it secure until you begin sewing. The pieced strip will not extend to the edges of the postcard. That will be covered with the corner (green) squares.

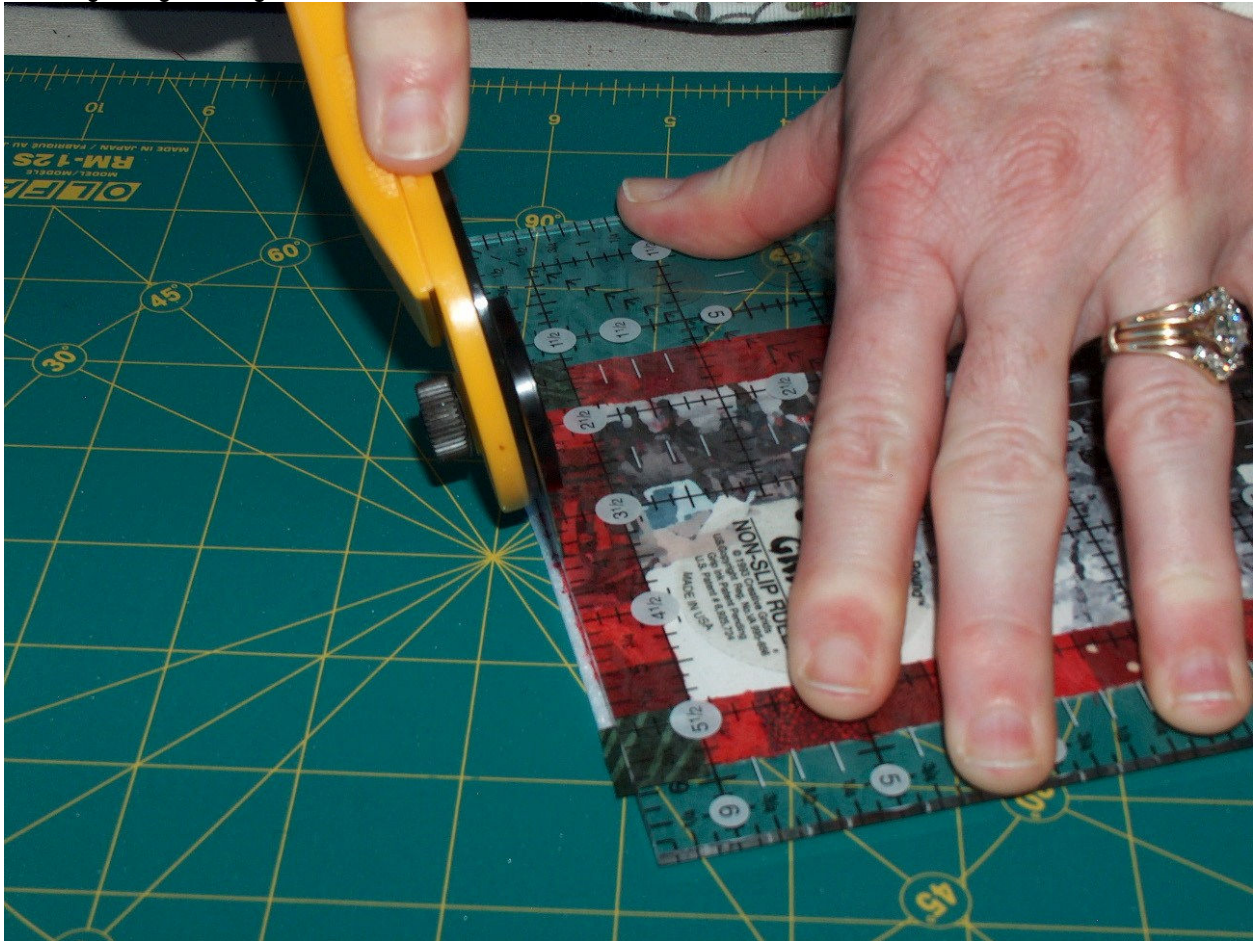


Repeat with the shorter length of pieced strips to the sides of the postcard, being careful to cover the white border. If you can see a little Peltex along the edge, that is okay. It can be trimmed later. Again the pieced strip will not extend to the end.

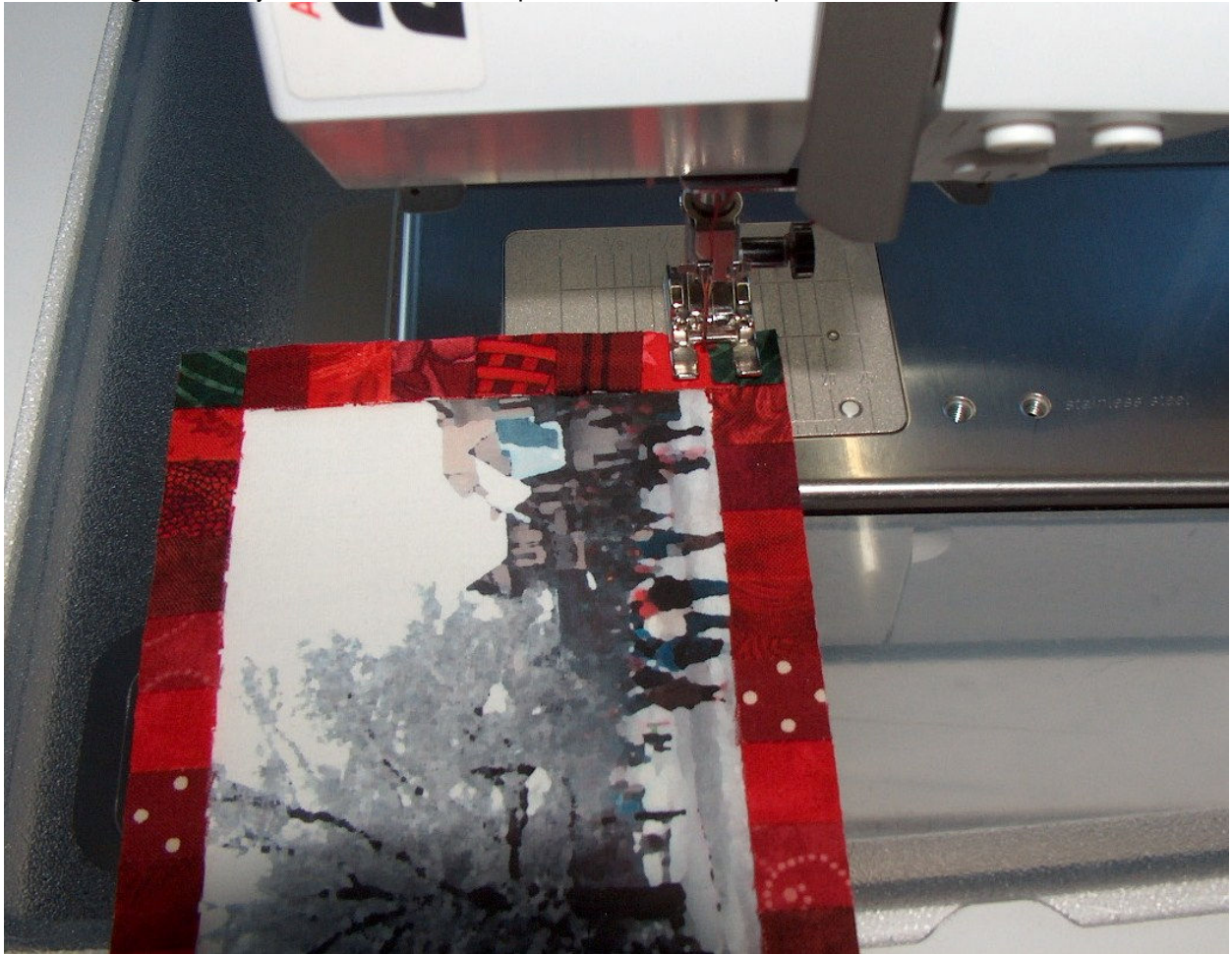
Place the 4 corner (green) in place and fuse them down, making a nice square corner along the photo.



4. Trimming card: Using the big iron, press the entire card to make sure the photo and borders are fused down and flat. Allow to cool and **then** remove the plastic sheet from the back of the Peltex. Trim away any Peltex showing along the edges.



5. Finishing: Using a zig-zag stitch (width 2, length 1 on my Bernina), with a coordinating (red) thread sew along the inside edge of the borders, starting at the postcard EDGE of the green. The green squares do not have finished edges, so they need to be covered up and sewn down. Repeat on all four sides.



Cut a piece of drill cloth (very much like canvas) about  $4 \frac{1}{4}$ " x  $6 \frac{1}{4}$ ". This does not have to be exact, but it will shrink in the next step, so be generous! Fuse the drill cloth to the back side of the Peltex according to the manufacturer's directions. Allow to cool and trim away excess.

Using a zig-zag stitch (width 2.5, length .5 or less on my Bernina), with coordinating (red) thread in the top and bobbin, sew along the outside edge of the postcard to finish the edges. Overlap where you started and use three short securing stitches.

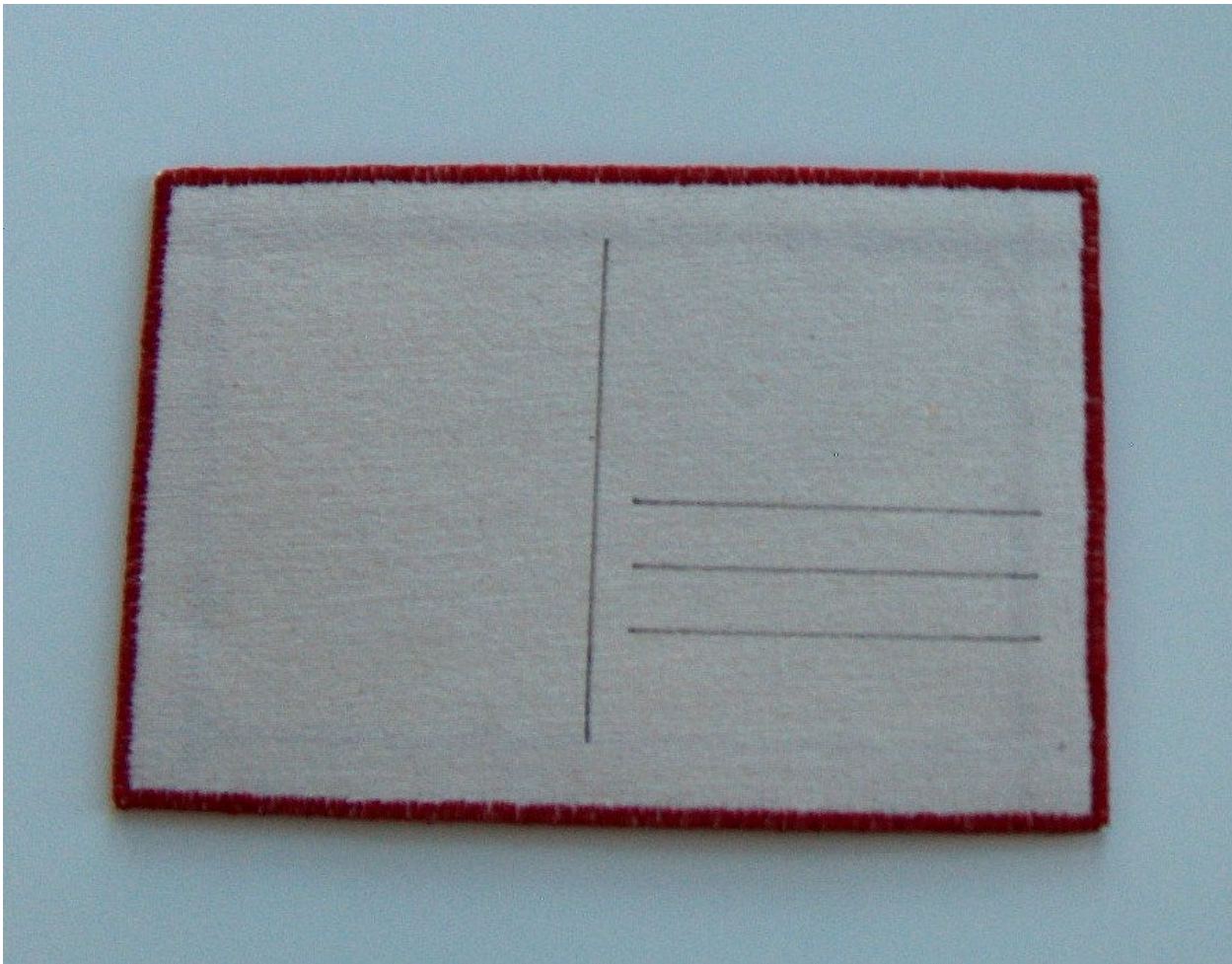




Add a small easel to your postcard and it makes a great gift.



If you want to mail your postcard, use a Micron 05 pigma pen and draw a line down the center, and then three lines on the right for the address.



Use one regular postcard stamp and put in the mail. The Post Office requires nothing further.