

Pressing to Set Seams Will Improve Your Patchwork

I recently read an article by Janet Wickell, and decided to put her information to the test. I could hardly believe the difference it made!

When we sew fabrics together, the narrow channel along the seam is occupied by the thread. No matter how accurate we are sewing our seams, the fabric on each side of the thread will puff up just a little bit, and that tiny extra height, called “loft”, could become lost when it is pressed to one side. Pressing to set the seam helps remove those little puffed-up areas. Setting the seam will make patchwork lie flatter. Before you press a seam allowance to one side, place the sewn patchwork unit on an ironing board, unfolded, just the way it comes out of the sewing machine. Place hot iron on the patchwork and press. Then press seams to one side or open as usual.

I was pleasantly surprised at what a difference this “extra step” made in the look of my blocks. I hope you will try it!

For more information on this and other quilting tips, go to <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com>

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