

Modern Quilt Squares

6 FREE QUILT BLOCK PATTERNS



1 LINEN SQUARE-BLOCK QUILT
SIOBHAN ROGERS

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JINA BARNEY

These days, in the quilting and sewing world it's hip to be square. The popularity of modern patchwork designs means that fiber artists are creating—and clamoring for—contemporary quilt block patterns for quilt designs and other patchwork projects.



In *Modern Quilt Squares: 6 Free Quilt Block Patterns*, we've added two new patterns to our line-up of free contemporary quilt designs with quilt squares and easy quilt blocks: the Linen Square Block Quilt and Scrappy Log Cabin Coasters, plus a fresh take on traditional quilt blocks in the form of a shower curtain.

The “Linen Square Block Quilt” by Siobhan Rogers pairs neutral linen fabric with bright prints for a sophisticated block design.

You can shrink your scrap stash and practice improv piecing a quilt block at the same time with the “Scrappy Log Cabin Coasters” by Kathryn Morrison.

“Rubik's Crush” by Ashley Newcomb comes together quickly, pairing large print quilting squares with more intricate pieced quilting blocks.

Tina Givens' “Birdhouse Rock” quilt is based on nine simple quilt blocks in the shape of a birdhouse. A mix of solids and prints makes each pieced quilt square unique.

“A Dotty Garden” is one of those quilt block patterns that would look perfect at a cottage or sunny bed-and-breakfast in the country. Designer Sarah Fielke shares her easy method for how to appliqué quilt blocks in this pattern, and templates are included, too.

Finally, fill your bathroom with quilt block beauty by making a quilted shower curtain like the one by Jina Barney for Riley Blake Designs. Quilt squares come together to make larger quilt blocks in this combination of two traditional quilt block designs: the snowball and the Irish chain.

With so many easy quilt block patterns to try, we're sure you'll enjoy *Modern Quilt Squares: 6 Free Quilt Block Patterns*.

Warmly,

VIVIKA HANSEN DENEGRE
Editorial Director

Quilting Arts

MAGAZINE*

MODERN QUILT SQUARES

6 FREE QUILT BLOCK PATTERNS

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR **Vivika Hansen DeNegre**

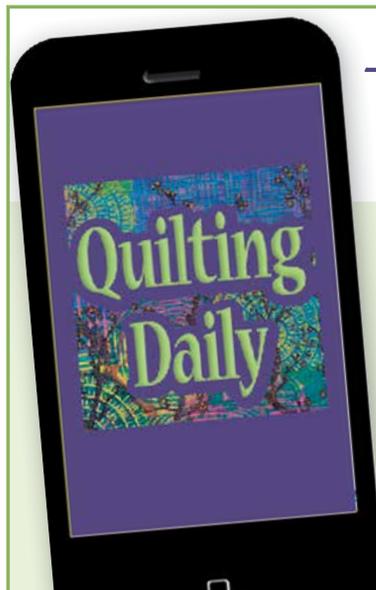
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ADAPTED FROM
MODERN PATCHWORK
2012

LINEN square-block QUILT



I love linen. I think it adds a lovely look and feel to quilts. The pink fabrics in this quilt are very bright and vibrant, and the natural linen seems to tone them down. Also, I find that linen really shows off machine quilting. This quilt features circular machine quilting on the square quilted blocks. I feel that the swirls in the machine quilting add a lovely movement to the quilt.

DIRECTIONS

1. Use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance and press the seams open. Refer to figure 1 to see the order for adding the strips to the block center.
2. From the solid fabric, cut:
 - 4 strips 8" \times 70" (cut on the lengthwise grain) for the horizontal sashing
 - 9 strips 8" \times 22" (cut on the lengthwise grain) for the vertical sashing
 - 6 squares 6" \times 6" for the block centers

BY SIOBHAN ROGERS

*Quilt machine stitched
by Kim Bradley.*



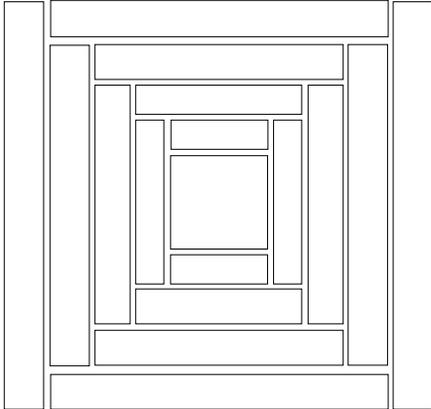


Figure 1

3. Each block has 4 different print fabrics that frame the center square. From your 4 print fabrics, cut strips $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times \text{WOF}$ (width of fabric). You will trim the strips to length as you assemble the blocks.
4. Sew 1 print A strip to 1 solid $6'' \times 6''$ square. Press open, and trim the strip even with the square. Repeat on the opposite side. Add print A to the remaining sides in the same manner.
5. Repeat the process to add the B–D print strips. Create 5 additional blocks in the same manner. They should measure $22''$ square.

Note: To speed up the piecing process, you may wish to chain piece the blocks. First sew all of the $6''$ center squares to a print A strip. Trim the units apart,

press open, and trim the A strip even with the $6''$ square. Sew the opposite side of the center blocks to the next A strip; cut, press, and trim. Continue in the same manner to complete adding the A strips, and then do likewise with the B–D strips.

6. For each block row, alternately sew together (3) $8'' \times 22''$ sashing strips and 2 blocks. Press the seams in 1 direction.
7. Sew an $8'' \times 70''$ sashing strip to the top of the first block row. Press, and then trim the ends of the strip even with the block row. In the same manner, join the remaining sashing strips and block rows, and sew together to make the quilt top.
8. If you are using yardage for the backing, cut the yardage in half to get (2) 3 yd. lengths. Sew together lengthwise. Layer the quilt back, batting, and quilt top. Hand or machine quilt the layers together as you choose. This quilt was machine quilted with a longarm machine by Kim Bradley.
9. Trim away the excess batting and backing.
10. Prepare the binding. I used $2\frac{1}{2}''$ -wide strips of the pink paisley fabric. Join the binding strips together and press the seams

MATERIALS

Finished size: $66'' \times 95''$

- Solid fabric for the block centers and sashing, $3\frac{1}{2}''$ yds. (I used a cotton-linen blend in natural.)
- 4 coordinating print fabrics to frame the solid block centers:
 - Print A, $\frac{3}{4}$ yd. (innermost)
 - Print B, 1 yd.
 - Print C, $1\frac{3}{8}$ yds.
 - Print D, $1\frac{3}{4}$ yds. (outermost)
- Backing fabric, 6 yds. (I pieced fabric scraps together to make a $74'' \times 103''$ rectangle for the backing.)
- Binding fabric, $\frac{7}{8}$ yd.
- Batting, queen size (I used wool.)
- Rotary cutting tools
- Sewing machine (with free-motion capabilities, if desired)
- Thread in matching and/or contrasting colors

open. Fold the binding in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. Press the fold. Attach the binding to the front of the quilt with a $\frac{1}{4}''$ seam sewn through all layers. Fold the binding to the back of the quilt, and hand stitch to finish. ✨

beaspokequilts.blogspot.com

ADAPTED FROM
MODERN PATCHWORK
SPRING 2014

scrappy LOG CABIN COASTERS



BY KATHRYN MORRISON

Inspired by the liberated quilting techniques that Gwen Marston, Jean Wells, and the Gee's Bend quilters used in their work, these coasters feature a modern take on one of my favorite traditional blocks, the log cabin. Using irregularly sized logs results in a simple, but dynamic design. You will need only basic quilting skills, so coasters can be finished quickly—making them the perfect handmade gift.

DIRECTIONS

All seams are $\frac{1}{4}$ ". See "Sewing Basics" for more information.

1. Cut a square of both orange and purple fabric, each roughly 1" square.
 2. With right sides together, stitch the squares together right sides facing. Press the seam open.
 3. Cut a purple strip as long as the side you're adding it to—roughly 2" long.
- TIP:** *The strips do not need to be precisely cut. Use scissors to cut the strip roughly the size you need. As you continue sewing, trim the strips even with the stitched end.*
4. With the orange square toward the top, place the purple strip right

side down along the right side of the piece. (*figure 1*)

TIP: *To create the scrappy look, don't try for a perfectly aligned seam. Play with angling each edge slightly—but remember that a little angling goes a long way!*

5. Sew the purple piece down. Trim excess seam allowance. Press the seam open.
6. Turn the piece clockwise so the last sewn seam is on the bottom. Place another purple strip on the right side. Sew the seam, trim the excess seam allowance (*figure 2*), and press. Add 2 more purple strips.
7. Once you have purple strips on all 4 sides, use the same method to add 4 orange strips.



MATERIALS

Finished size: 4" x 4"

Makes one coaster

- Orange quilting fabric, 10–15 scraps (at least 1"–1½" wide)
- Purple quilting fabric, 10–15 scraps (at least 1"–1½" wide)
- Backing fabric, 4¾" x 4¾"
- Batting fabric, 4¾" x 4¾"
- Optional
- Walking foot for your machine
- 6" square acrylic ruler

8. Alternate colors until the coaster is about 3¾" square. To measure the block, align the seam line of the outer row of strips to the ½" mark on the 6" square ruler. (*figure 3*) This will account for the width of the log and the seam allowance.

NOTE: *The number of rows you have will vary depending on how wide or narrow you made your strips.*

9. Use strips that are about 1½" wide for the final row. Once all 4 of these wider strips are sewn, trim the coaster to 4¾" x 4¾". (*figure 4*) The width of the outer row after trimming should be about ¾".
10. Layer the pieced coaster and backing fabric right sides together. Place the batting square on top and pin the layers together.
11. Sew around the edges with a ¼" seam allowance. Leave a 2" opening in the center of 1 side of the coaster. To make it easier to get crisp corners when you turn the coaster right side out, clip a small triangle off each corner.

12. Turn the coaster right side out through the seam opening. Gently poke out the corners and roll the edges of the coaster in your fingers to flatten the seam. Press.
13. Tuck the edges of the opening under $\frac{1}{4}$ " and hand sew shut.
14. Quilt the coaster. Use a straight stitch and sew along the inner and outer edges of the purple rows. *Optional:* A walking foot is helpful for this. ❖

thevegankat.com

design options

- It's fun to choose your own colors—and this project is perfect for using up scraps. Just make sure one color reads as light and the other color reads as dark to create contrast in the design.
- Change the look of the coaster by starting with a different center shape. Try a rectangle or a triangle and build the logs out in the same way. You may need to get creative when assembling the triangles together by adding extra strips to make the piece rectangular or square at the end.
- Another way to change the look is to change the scale. Set multiple blocks together to create a mug mat or a quilt.

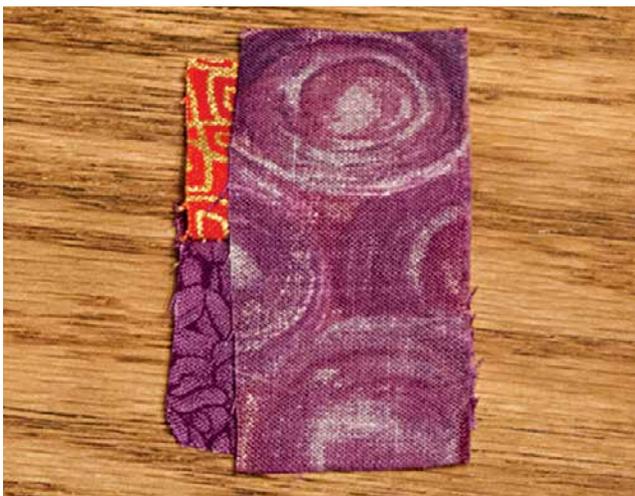


Figure 1



Figure 2

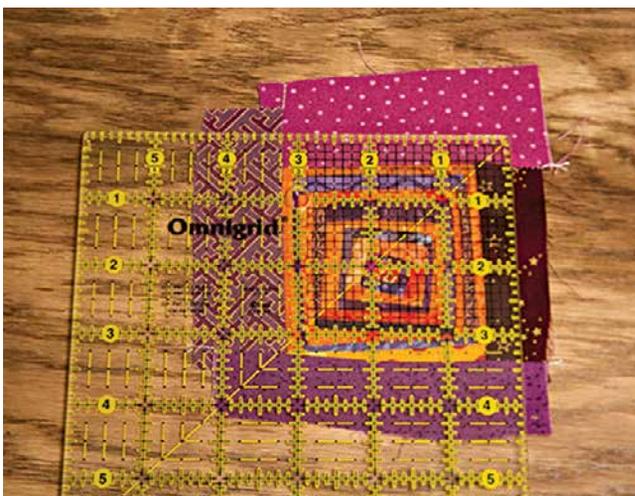


Figure 3



Figure 4

‘rubik’s crush’

CREATE A DELIGHTFUL
QUILT WITH
LARGE-SCALE
FABRICS



This is a fun quilt to showcase a favorite fabric collection, especially one with large-scale prints, such as Anna Maria Horner’s “Innocent Crush” collection for FreeSpirit. This quick quilt contains plenty of interest, pairing large print squares with more intricate pieced blocks, which I think resemble a Rubik’s Cube.

ADAPTED FROM
101 PATCHWORK PROJECTS + QUILTS
2011

BY ASHLEY NEWCOMB

The size of this quilt makes it a great throw for the couch, or you could increase (or decrease) the number of blocks to make a bed or crib quilt.

The quilt top is made up of two types of blocks: 12½" squares of print fabrics (these can be one fabric cut to 12½", or you can choose to sew two fabrics together and then cut the pieced unit to 12½") and the Rubik's block, which consists of a small patchwork square that is sashed with a light-colored solid fabric. The Rubik's blocks are bordered with the same solid fabric. To add interest, I elected to center some of the Rubik's centers

and to offset the remaining ones; these instructions will lead you to do likewise.

DIRECTIONS

CUTTING THE SOLID FABRIC

NOTE: *Cut all strips across the full width of the fabric, from selvedge to selvedge.*

1. Cut (14) 1" strips. Sub-cut the strips to get a total of (102) 2½" lengths, and (34) 7½" lengths.

MATERIALS

Finished size: 55" × 77"

- Assorted print fabrics, (18) 12½" squares and (153) 2½" squares
- Light-colored solid fabric for the Rubik's block sashing, 2 yards

2. Cut (5) 3¼" strips, (2) 4" strips, (2) 2½" strips, (2) 4½" strips, (2) 2" strips, (2) 5" strips, and (2) 1½" strips. From each of these strips, cut (2) 7½" lengths and (2) 13" lengths.



THE BLOCK CENTERS

1. Select (9) $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square blocks and arrange them on your work surface in 3 rows, 3 blocks per row. Position a $1" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$ strip of solid fabric between each square.
2. Sew each row as follows: small block, solid strip, small block, solid strip, small block. Iron flat, pressing all seams open. Repeat for each row.
3. Sew the 3 rows together alternately with (3) $1" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ solid strips. Press the seams open. The pieced square should measure $7\frac{1}{2}" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ (raw edge to raw edge). Make a total of 17 block centers.

SASHING

NOTE: Once the outer strips are added to each block center, the block will measure $13" \times 13"$, and it will be necessary to trim each block to $12\frac{1}{2}"$ square.

CENTERED BLOCK

1. Sew (1) $3\frac{1}{4}" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ solid strip to the top of a Rubik's block center, and sew (1) $3\frac{1}{4}" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ solid strip to the bottom. Press the seams open.
2. Sew a $3\frac{1}{4}" \times 13"$ solid strip to each side of the block. Press the seams open. Trim the block to $12\frac{1}{2}" \times 12\frac{1}{2}"$. Make a total of 5 blocks.

OFF-CENTER BLOCK #1

1. Sew (1) $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ solid strip to the top of a Rubik's block center, and sew (1) $4" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ solid strip to the bottom. Press the seams open.
2. Sew (1) $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 13"$ solid strip to 1 side, and sew (1) $4" \times 13"$ solid strip to the opposite side of the block. Press the seams open, and trim the block. Make 4 blocks.

OFF-CENTER BLOCK #2

1. Sew (1) $2" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ solid strip to the top of a Rubik's block center, and sew (1) $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ solid strip to the bottom. Press the seams open.
2. Sew (1) $2" \times 13"$ solid strip to 1 side, and sew (1) $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 13"$ solid strip to the opposite side of the block. Press the seams open, and trim the block to size. Make 4 blocks.

OFF-CENTER BLOCK #3

1. Sew (1) $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ solid strip to the top of a Rubik's block center, and sew (1) $5" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$ solid strip to the bottom. Press the seams open.
2. Sew (1) $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 13"$ solid strip to 1 side of the block, and sew (1) $5" \times 13"$ solid strip to the opposite side. Press the seams open. Trim the block to size. Make 4 blocks.

THE QUILT TOP

NOTE: There are seven rows of 5 squares each (alternating print squares with pieced Rubik's blocks).

1. For the first row, alternate 1 print $12\frac{1}{2}"$ square with 1 Rubik's block, starting with the print square. Arrange your blocks as desired, balancing out the color placement. Sew the blocks together and press the seams open.
2. Sew the second row, starting with a Rubik's block and alternating the Rubik's blocks with the print $12\frac{1}{2}"$ squares. Press the seams open.
3. Continue this pattern to make all 7 rows.
4. Sew the rows together, pressing the seams open.

FINISHING

1. Layer the backing, batting, and top. Baste as desired.
2. Free-motion quilt as desired.
3. Square up the quilt and trim as needed. Attach the binding, following your preferred binding method. ❖

filminthefridge.com

birdhouse rock QUILT

This sweet quilt incorporates one simple birdhouse block, nine unique fabrics, and one clever little pattern. I included two solids to break up the print fabrics; however, this quilt looks good in any mix of fabrics. I used fabrics from my “Opal Owl” fabric collection.

ADAPTED FROM
101 PATCHWORK PROJECTS + QUILTS
2011

BY TINA GIVENS



MATERIALS

Finished size: 65" × 50"

- 9 unique fabrics for blocks, $\frac{3}{4}$ yard of each
- Binding fabric, $\frac{3}{4}$ yd.
- Backing fabric, $3\frac{1}{2}$ yds. (piece widthwise)
- Batting, twin size
- Birdhouse Rock Templates

DIRECTIONS

CUTTING THE FABRICS

Each block is made up of various shapes and rectangles. Most of these are provided as templates in the Pattern Insert; the remaining 3 (A1, B1, and C1) are easily rotary cut.

From each of the 9 fabrics, cut:

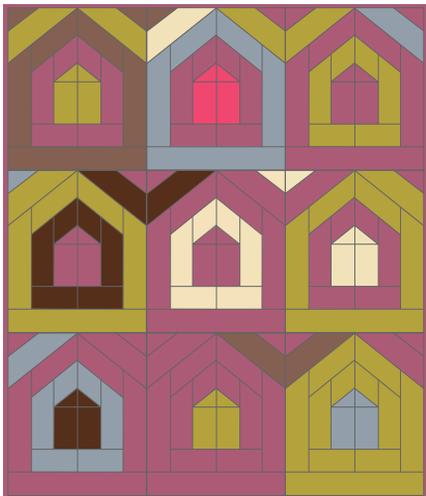
- (1) 4" × 19½" strip (label A1)
- (2) 4" × 7" rectangles (label B1)
- (2) 6½" × 4" rectangles (label C1)
- (1 and 1 reverse) for each of A2, A3, B2, B3, C2, D1, and E1

Separate each piece by its letter, so all A's, B's, C's, D's, and E's are in separate piles.

LAYING OUT THE BLOCKS

1. On a flat surface large enough to lay out the entire quilt, you are going to plan out the fabric arrangement for each block, and at the same time you will determine the overall block/fabric arrangement. Refer to Figure 1 and the photos as you design the blocks.

Figure 1



2. Begin by creating the inside bird-house shape using the C pieces from 1 fabric. Continue until you have 9 of these little houses laid out, 1 from each fabric.
3. Gather all of the B pieces from 1 fabric, and place them around 1 of the little houses. Do likewise for all of the B fabrics.

TIP: *Play with the fabric combinations to ensure that the B fabrics contrast with the inner house fabrics as desired.*

4. Now select all of the A pieces from 1 fabric, and place these outside of 1 of the B/C arrangements. Do likewise for all of the A fabrics, again paying attention to the fabric mix (within each block and from block to block).
5. Place the D and E pieces in place, and play until you are satisfied with what you have.

SEWING THE BLOCKS

NOTE: *Use ¼" 1seam allowances. Stitch all pieces with the right sides together, and press after each seam is stitched.*

1. Start with your first block and see Figure 2 for reference. Use the matchpoints to help match up your corners.
2. Match C2 and B3 along the side marked 1. Stitch these pieces together with their right sides together.
3. Stitch C2 to C1 along side 2 as marked on the template.
4. Add this piece to the B2 fabric, and then add B1 along the bottom edge.
5. Add A3 and then A2.
6. Add D1 and then E1.

7. Repeat steps 1–6 for the other side of the block.
8. At this point you will have 2 mirrored pieces for the block; sew these together along the center line.
9. Finally, add A1 along the bottom edge.

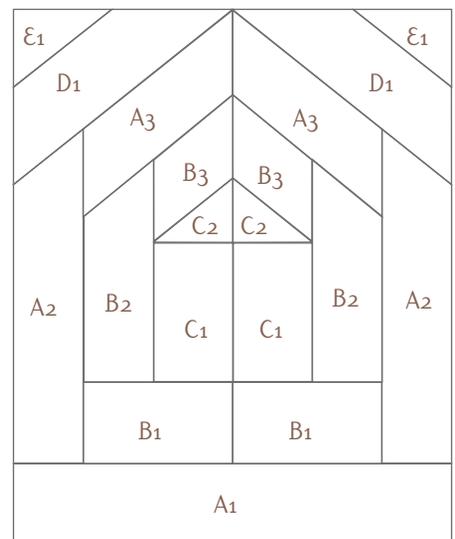
This completes the block, which should measure approximately 23" × 19". Repeat this process until you have completed all 9 blocks.

ASSEMBLING AND FINISHING

1. Sew the blocks into 3 rows of 3 blocks each. Sew the rows together. Press.
2. Layer, baste, and quilt as desired. The featured quilt was machine quilted by Donna Sontag of Whatever's Quilted at Quilts Like Crazy using a Handi Quilter.
3. Add the binding. I made a double-fold binding (from 4"-wide strips). ♦

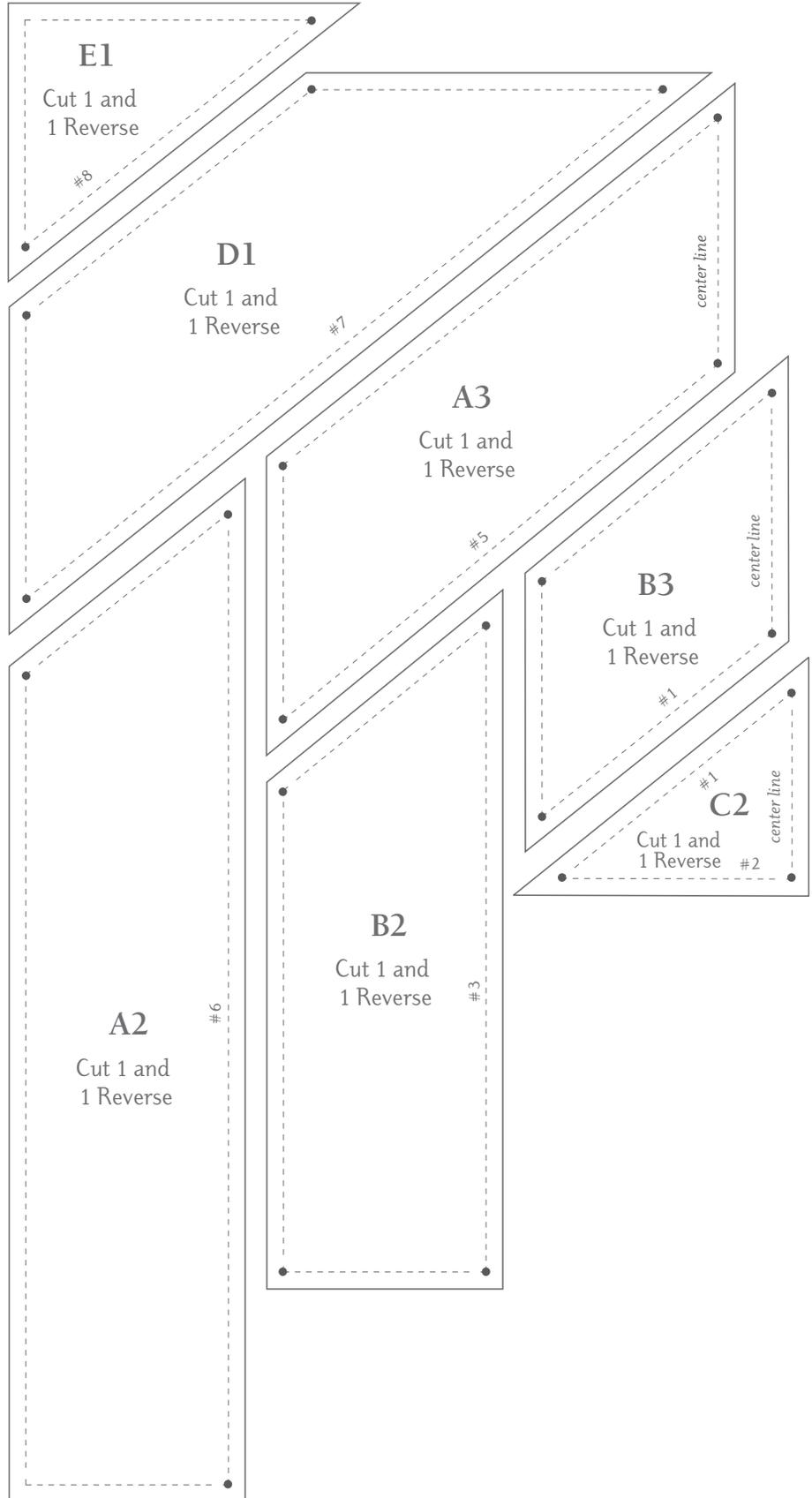
TinaGivens.blogspot.com

Figure 2



TEMPLATES

PRINT AT 505%





A DOTTY garden

BY SARAH FIELKE

ADAPTED FROM
INTERNATIONAL QUILT FESTIVAL: QUILT SCENE
2009/2010

MATERIALS

Finished size: 63" × 63"

- Fabric for background and border, 3¼ yds. (white with red dots)
- Fabric for sashing and appliqué, 1⅞ yds. (red with white dots)
- Fabrics for plates*, ¼ yd. each of 6 greens, 6 yellows, 6 blues, and 6 pinks
- 2 fabrics for center appliqué, 1 fat quarter each (blue dot and green floral)
- Binding, 1 yd. for bias, or ¾ yd. for straight-of-grain
- Backing, 4 yds.
- Cotton batting, 72" × 72"
- Template plastic
- Silver gel pen
- Roxanne™ Glue-Baste-It
- Embroidery/crewel needles, size 9 for quilting
- Straw needles for appliqué
- Cotton thread for piecing and to match appliqué fabrics
- Rotary cutter, mat, and clear acrylic quilter's ruler
- Sewing machine
- General sewing supplies
- Masking tape (I used 1½"-wide tape to mark the quilting lines.)

OPTIONAL

- 18°-wedge ruler from Creative Grids®, or similar (replaces Template 1)
- #8 perle cotton thread for hand quilting, red and white

*The fabric amounts for the plate blades allow you to cut more than the necessary quantity of blades. I used this amount of fabric for variety and scrappiness. You could use only four fabrics if you wish.

DIRECTIONS

NOTE: *It is recommended that all fabric be 100% cotton or linen, and be ironed. You may want to color test any dark fabric to ensure that it will not run. Unless otherwise stated, all seams are ¼" throughout.*

TEMPLATES

From the template plastic, cut one each of Templates 1 and 2. To make a template for a half circle, trace the Template 2 pattern twice on the template plastic; cut out the

half circle. In the same manner, use the Template 2 pattern to make a full-circle template from template plastic. If you wish to add the year and your initials to the center of the quilt, as I did, cut these from the template plastic as well. If you are not comfortable hand drawing the letters and numbers, use a computer to enlarge a font and trace over them. My letters are 6" tall.

CUTTING

NOTE: *Cut all strips across the width of the fabric, from selvage to selvage.*





1. From the background fabric, cut 3 strips $13\frac{1}{2}$ " and subcut them to yield 9 squares $13\frac{1}{2}$ ". Also cut 6 strips $11\frac{1}{2}$ ". From 2 of these strips, subcut 4 squares $11\frac{1}{2}$ " for the corners. Trim the remaining 4 strips to $41\frac{1}{2}$ " for the borders.
2. From the red with white dots, cut 4 strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". Subcut 2 of these strips into 6 strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $13\frac{1}{2}$ ". Trim the remaining 2 strips to measure $1\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $41\frac{1}{2}$ ". (The remaining fabric will be cut during the appliqué steps.)
3. From each of the green, blue, yellow, and pink fabrics, cut 1 strip 4". Using either the Template 1 piece or the 2" line on the 18°

ruler, cut a total of 248 plate blades, which is approximately 11 from each fabric. You may want to cut more than this so you can play with color/fabric arrangement.

4. From the binding fabric, cut 7 strips 3". (If you are using a striped fabric and desire a diagonally striped binding, as on my quilt, cut the binding strips on the bias.) Set aside.

PLATES

1. First sew the tops of the blades. Fold each wedge in half lengthwise, with right sides together, and sew along the top edge using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. This is an excellent time to chain piece.

2. Turn the wedges right-side out, taking care to poke the point out so it is nice and sharp. Press the wedges flat, with the seam at the back aligning with the center line of the wedge.
3. Sew the wedges together along the long raw edges, alternating them to form a loose color pattern. Repeat until you have sewn 22 wedges together to form a circle. Press to one side. You have completed one plate. Repeat this process to make 8 complete plates; set aside.
4. Using the same method, make 4 half plates (12 wedges each) and 4 quarter plates (6 wedges each). Press all the seams to one side and set aside.

APPLIQUÉ

The following method of appliqué may be a little different from what you are used to, but I find it to be very easy for beginners. Please use whatever method of appliqué you are comfortable with.

1. Place your full-circle template on the right side of the red-with-white-dot fabric and trace around it using the gel pen.
2. Using small, sharp scissors, cut out the shape, leaving a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance beyond the pen line.
3. Repeat this process with the other appliqué shapes, including the ones for the center block. Set aside all of the appliqué shapes except those for the center block.
4. For the center block, fold a $13\frac{1}{2}$ " background fabric square into quarters and finger press the

creasing. Using the fold lines and the photo of the quilt as a guide, arrange the letters and numbers on the background until you are happy with the placement.

5. Lift the edges of the shapes and put a drop of glue onto the back of each shape; press them down. Take care not to glue too close to the edge of the appliqué fabrics or you will not be able to turn the edges under to appliqué. You only need a small amount of glue to make the pieces stick. They will take a few moments to dry.
6. When the entire center block appliqué is attached to the background, select a shape on which to begin sewing.
7. Thread your straw needle with cotton thread to match the fabric you are appliquéing. Turn the raw edge under and finger press along the silver line all around the edge of the shape. Sew the shape to the background using small stitches. Clip into the inside curves as necessary.

PIECING

1. Piece the center of the quilt as you would for a nine-patch with sashing. First sew a $13\frac{1}{2}$ " square to a $1\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $13\frac{1}{2}$ " strip, then add a square and a strip, and finish with a square. Piece two rows like this. The third row should have a plain square, the center appliqué square, and another plain square, all separated by sashing. Press the seams toward the background squares.
2. Glue a half plate to the bottom of the center square of the two rows with plain squares. Move the plate down so that each end blade fully covers the edge of the background (these two blades will protrude over the edge), and glue the plate in place; trim the edge of each end blade so it is even with the background. Appliqué the edges of the plate to the background. You will not need to turn the edges of the plate under, as there is already a folded edge.
3. Next, glue a half circle over the middle of the plate and sew as described previously in the appliqué instructions.
4. Sew the three rows together with a $41\frac{1}{2}$ " sashing strip in between each row. The two half-circle plates should have their raw edges facing in towards the center square, as shown in the photo. Take care to pin the center of the long sashing strip to the center of the row, then pin the ends, and finally pin in between, easing as you go if needed. This prevents the sashing from rippling. Sew.
5. Center and glue the remaining two half plates in place. Carefully rip out a portion of the quilt seam where each outermost wedge falls and tuck the wedge's raw edge inside; appliqué the plate down, and then close the seam afterward so that the raw edges of the plate are caught in the seam and hidden.
6. Press the quilt center and ensure that it is square.

BORDERS

1. Pin the center of a border strip to the center of the top of the quilt, then pin the ends and pin in between. Sew. Repeat with the bottom edge of the quilt.
2. Take the four $11\frac{1}{2}$ " corner squares and appliqué a quarter plate and quarter circle into a corner of each, as described previously. Sew a corner square to each end of the two remaining border strips, making sure that the plates will be facing the correct direction. Pin and sew these strips to the quilt, matching the corner seams.
3. Referring to the photo, carefully position, glue, and appliqué the full plates and full circles to the quilt top.

FINISHING

1. Cut the backing fabric in half crosswise into two 72"-long pieces. Remove the selvages and stitch the pieces together along the long side. Press the seam allowance open and press the backing piece.
2. Using masking tape, tape the backing fabric face-down onto the floor or a very large table, smoothing out any creases. Lay the batting onto the backing, and place the quilt top (right-side up) on top. Smooth any creases, then hand baste the three layers together, working from the center out. The backing and batting should be larger than the top for ease of quilting, so don't be tempted to trim them.

3. Quilt as desired. I marked out a 1½" grid across the background fabrics using masking tape, then hand quilted using #8 white perle cotton. Using red perle cotton, I outline quilted the appliqués, the blades, and along the blade seams.
4. Using diagonal seams, join the binding strips into one long strip.

Press it in half along the width, wrong sides together. Position the binding along the edges of the quilt top, aligning the binding raw edge with the quilt raw edge. Using a walking foot and a ½" seam allowance, sew the binding to the quilt. Trim the excess backing and batting so it is even with the

edge of the quilt top, then turn the binding to the back of the quilt and blind stitch it in place using coordinating thread. ❖

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TEMPLATE 1

Includes seam allowance

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TEMPLATE 2

No seam allowance included

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QUILTED shower curtain

This colorful quilted shower curtain is sure to jazz up any bathroom. It's quick and easy to piece, and you can use the same general design for a bed quilt or throw. The design incorporates two blocks: a snowball block and an Irish Chain block. I made this version with fabrics from the "Summer Song" collection by Riley Blake Designs.



ADAPTED FROM
INTERNATIONAL QUILT FESTIVAL:
QUILT SCENE
WINTER 2010/2011

BY JINA BARNEY FOR RILEY BLAKE DESIGNS

DIRECTIONS

CUTTING

NOTE: Please read all of the instructions before cutting the fabrics. All measurements include $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances.

- For the Summer Snowball Block, cut:
 - 36 squares $10\frac{1}{8}$ " \times $10\frac{1}{8}$ " from the assorted prints
 - 144 squares 3" \times 3" from the green polka dot
- For the Flower Chain Block, cut:
 - 12 strips $1\frac{5}{8}$ " \times width of fabric (WOF) from the orange polka dot
 - 5 strips $1\frac{5}{8}$ " \times WOF from the green damask
 - 13 strips $1\frac{5}{8}$ " \times WOF from the pink mini flowers
 - 52 squares $3\frac{7}{8}$ " \times $3\frac{7}{8}$ " from the green damask
- For the borders, cut:
 - 8 strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ " \times WOF from the orange polka dot (border 1)
 - 8 strips $4\frac{1}{2}$ " \times WOF from the white main print (border 2)
 - 9 strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ " \times WOF from the orange polka dot (border 3)

MAKING THE BLOCKS

NOTE: Sew with the right sides of the fabrics facing unless otherwise stated.

- Draw a line from corner to corner on the wrong side of each 3" \times 3" green polka dot square.
- Place a square on each corner of the assorted $10\frac{1}{8}$ " \times $10\frac{1}{8}$ " squares,

with the right sides together and raw edges aligned. Sew on the drawn line.

- Trim $\frac{1}{4}$ " beyond the seam line. Press the corner fabrics open. (Figure 1)
- Repeat Steps 1–3 to make 36 total Summer Snowball blocks.
- Using the $1\frac{5}{8}$ " strips, sew 3 strips together to make the following strip sets:
 - 5 sets of orange, pink, green
 - 3 sets of pink, orange, pink
 - 2 sets of orange, pink, orange
- Cut each of the strip sets into $1\frac{5}{8}$ "-wide segments.
- Sew the segments together to make nine-patch blocks as illustrated. (Figure 2) Make 52 Unit A and 13 Unit B.
- Using Unit A, Unit B, and the green damask $3\frac{7}{8}$ " \times $3\frac{7}{8}$ " squares, assemble 13 Flower Chain Blocks. (Figure 3)

ASSEMBLING AND FINISHING

- Refer to the photo and Figure 4 for block placement. Lay out the blocks in 7 rows of 7. Sew the blocks together to make the rows. Sew the rows together to complete the center of the quilt.
- Measure and add the border strips as follows.

BORDER 1: Measure the height of the quilt (measure through the quilt center from raw edge to raw edge). Sew 2 of the orange polka dot $1\frac{1}{2}$ " strips together end to end, and trim the resulting strip

MATERIALS

Finished quilt size: $82\frac{7}{8}$ " \times $82\frac{7}{8}$ "

Finished block size: $10\frac{1}{8}$ " \times $10\frac{1}{8}$ "

- Assorted prints for the snowball blocks, 3 yds. total
- Green polka dot for the snowball block corners, $1\frac{1}{8}$ yds.
- Orange polka dot for the chain blocks and borders, $1\frac{3}{8}$ yds.
- Green damask for the chain blocks, 1 yd.
- Pink mini flowers for the chain blocks, $\frac{3}{4}$ yd.
- White large print for the middle border, $1\frac{1}{2}$ yds.
- Binding, $\frac{2}{3}$ yd.
- Backing, $7\frac{1}{2}$ yds.
- Batting, queen size
- Muslin fabric for sleeve, 2 strips 10 " \times width of fabric (WOF)

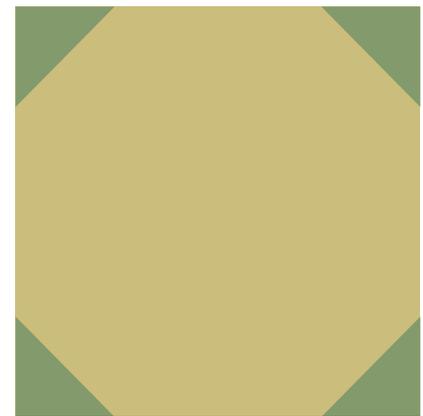


Figure 1

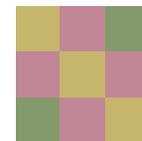


Figure 2:
Unit A

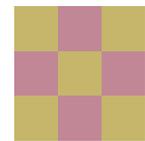


Figure 2:
Unit B

to the measured length (the side borders should be approximately $71\frac{3}{8}$ "); sew this strip to 1 side. Repeat for the opposite side. In the same manner, measure the width of the quilt, piece the strips for the top and bottom, and trim them to size (the top and bottom borders should be approximately $73\frac{3}{8}$ "); sew these strips to the top and bottom.

BORDER 2: Repeat the Border 1 instructions, using the white print $4\frac{1}{2}$ " strips. The side borders should be approximately $73\frac{3}{8}$ ". The top and bottom borders should be approximately $81\frac{3}{8}$ ".

BORDER 3: Repeat the process for the third border, using the remaining orange polka dot $1\frac{1}{2}$ " strips. The side borders should be approximately $81\frac{3}{8}$ ", and the top and bottom borders should be approximately $83\frac{3}{8}$ ".

3. Finish the quilt by layering the quilt top (right-side up), batting, and backing (right-side down). Bind the quilt using your preferred method.
4. To add the casing for the shower curtain rod, use the muslin strips to make a sleeve. ❖

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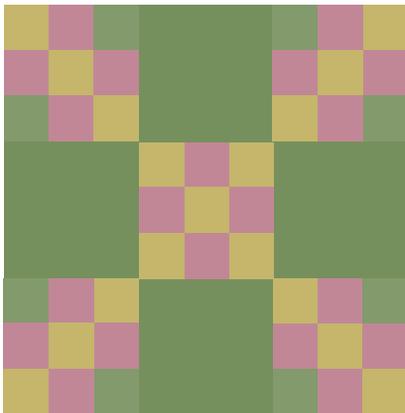


Figure 3

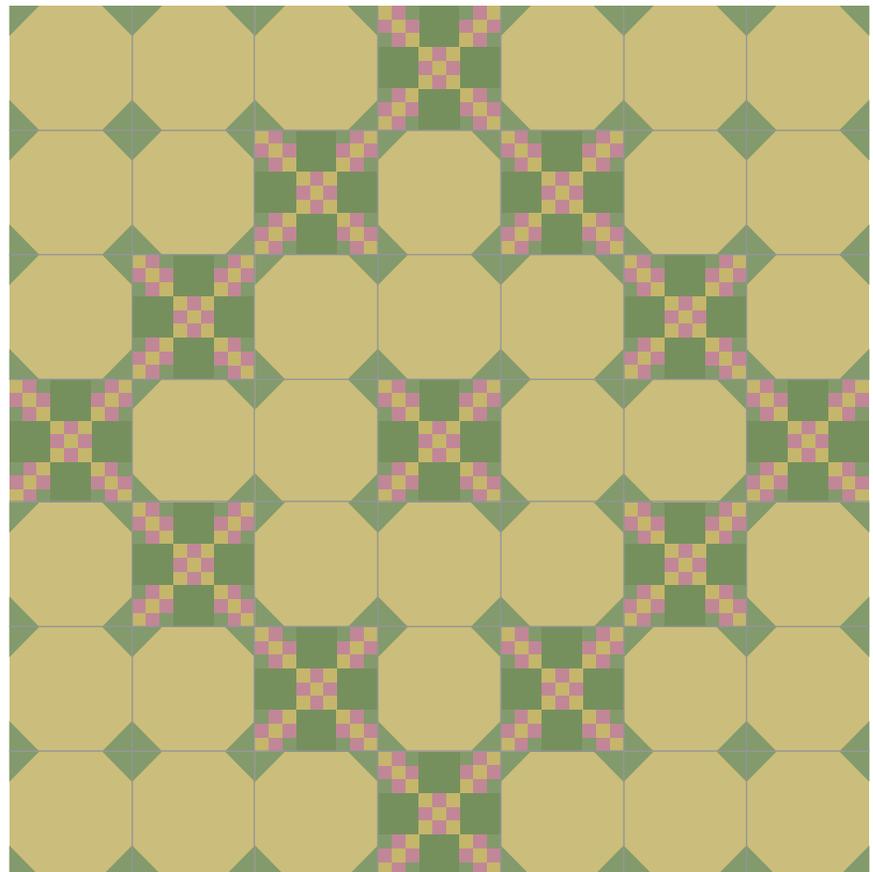


Figure 4