SUMMERTIME FROLIC

by Jackie White



icnic season is on its way. Stitch and quilt this eye-catching quilt and pack up a lunch for all of your friends. Summertime adventures begin!

Finished size: 48" x 48"



Supplies

- 0.25 yard/metre solid yellow
- 0.25 yard/metre solid pink
- 0.25 yard/metre solid orange
- 0.625 yard/metre yellow gingham
- 0.5 yard/metre red gingham
- 0.5 yard/metre green gingham
- 0.25 yard/metre pink gingham
- 0.5 yard/metre orange gingham
- 0.5 yard/metre grey gingham
- 0.5 yard/metre purple gingham
- 0.5 yard/metre brown gingham for binding
- Two yards/metres backing
- Two yards/metres batting
- Neutral thread
- Straight pins
- Safety pins

Cutting Directions

| FABRIC | CUTS |
|--------------|--|
| Solid pink | one 12.5" square + two 6.5" squares |
| Solid yellow | one 12.5" square + one 6.5" squares |
| Solid orange | one 12.5" square + three 6.5" squares |
| Grey plaid | five 6.5" squares + four 4.5" squares |
| Yellow plaid | one 13.25" square + ten 4.5" squares |
| Green plaid | one 13.25" square + three 6.5" squares |
| Red plaid | one 13.25" square + four 4.5" squares |
| Orange plaid | one 13.25" square + five 4.5" squares |
| Pink plaid | thirteen 4.5" squares |
| Purple plaid | nine 4.5" squares + two 6.5" squares |



Fabric for the quilt pictured is supplied by:





Instructions

Note: When sewing a quarter-inch seam allowance, try to be as consistent as possible. When the instructions ask for a *scant* quarter-inch seam allowance, stitch one or two threads narrower than your usual quarter-inch seam allowance.

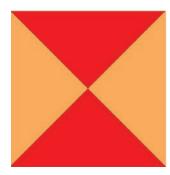
HOURGLASS BLOCK

Take one green plaid 13.25" square and one yellow plaid 13.25" square, put right sides together. Draw a diagonal line on the back of the top square. Sew a *scant* quarter-inch seam on both sides of the drawn line. Cut along the drawn line, open each block and press the seam towards the dark.

Lay the two new squares right sides together with the seam lines on top of each other, but be sure the colours are reversed—the green lays on the yellow. Draw a new diagonal line going to the opposite corners of the stitched line and sew a *scant* quarter-inch seam on both sides of drawn line. Cut along the drawn line, open each block and press the seam. You now have two 12.5" blocks.

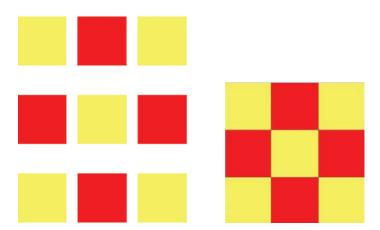
Repeat the *hourglass* block steps with the red plaid and orange plaid 13.25" squares.>



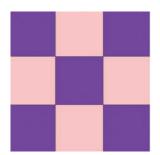


NINE-PATCH BLOCKS

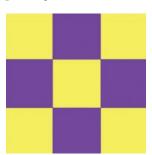
Use five 4.5" yellow plaid squares and four 4.5" red plaid squares. Lay them out as shown and sew the three top blocks into a row, the three middle blocks into another row and, finally, the three bottom blocks into a row. Next sew the top and bottom rows to the middle row. When matching the seams, lay one seam one way and the other seam the other way so they nestle into one another.



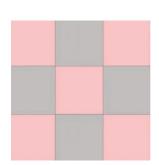
Repeat the *nine-patch* sewing steps using:



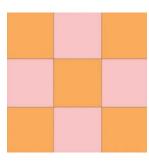
five 4.5" purple plaid squares with four 4.5" pink plaid squares.



five 4.5" yellow plaid squares with four 4.5" purple plaid squares.



five 4.5" pink plaid squares with four 4.5" grey plaid squares.



five 4.5" orange plaid squares with four 4.5" pink plaid squares

SMALL BLOCK SETS



Sew one 6.5" grey plaid square to one 6.5" purple plaid square.



Sew one 6.5" solid orange square to one 6.5" purple plaid square.



Sew one 6.5" grey plaid square to one 6.5" solid yellow square.



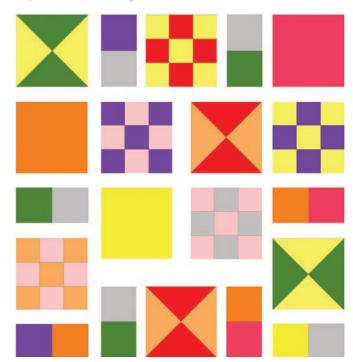
Sew one 6.5" solid orange square to one 6.5" solid pink square. Repeat steps to make two units.



Sew one 6.5" grey plaid square to one 6.5" green plaid square. Repeat steps to make three units.

ASSEMBLE QUILT TOP

Lay out the blocks as pictured:

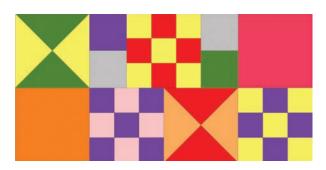




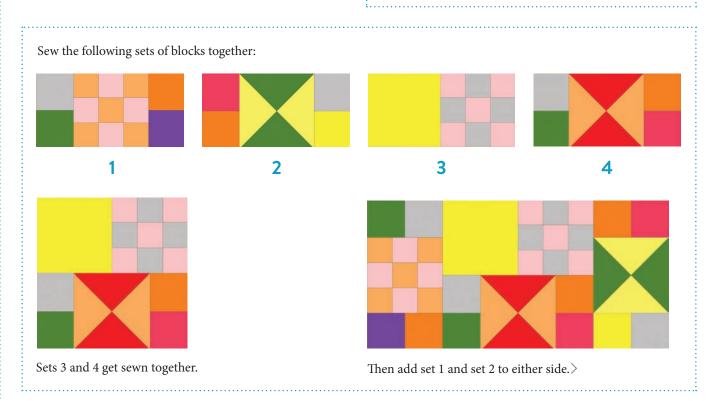
Sew the first row of blocks together.



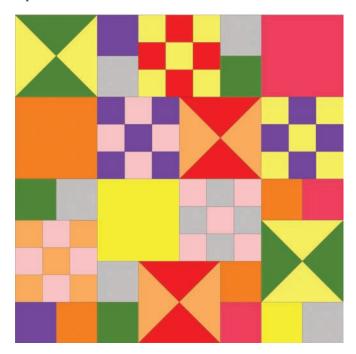
Sew the second row of blocks together.



Sew the first and second rows together.



Sew the top two rows to the bottom set of blocks. The quilt top is finished.



Assemble Quilt

Lay backing on a flat surface and use masking tape to tape the edges down. Pull fabric taut as you tape. Lay batting on top of backing. Smooth batting with your hand to get any ripples out.

Lay the quilt top, right side up, on top of the batting. Make sure batting and backing are visible (by at least one inch) all around the quilt top.

Using the straight pins, start at one edge of quilt and pin along edge through all three layers. Move to opposite side of top and starting in the middle of that side, gently pull the fabric taut, put straight pins through all three layers. Go to adjacent side, pin, then move to final side and gently pulling fabric taut, pin.

Switching to safety pins, start at the centre of the quilt and pin through all three layers. Place safety pins every four inches in both directions. Safety pin through all three layers along edges.

Once safety pins are in place, carefully remove all straight pins. Remove masking tape and lift layered quilt from flat surface.

The quilt is ready for machine quilting.

Machine Quilting

When sewing a quilt by machine, it is best to start in the centre and quilt out. Due to the bulk of a quilt, place tables around your machine so the quilt can rest on the table and the hanging weight of the quilt is not always pulling at the sewing needle (and your hands). Also, roll as much of the quilt into a tube as you can, which allows more room to work.

Glove Tip: Use some type of rubber gloves to hold the quilt. It will make holding the quilt and sewing much easier.

If quilting straight lines, a walking foot will assist greatly.

If free-motion quilting, practice makes perfect! Start with a simple, large meander and steadily move the quilt so the thread is not getting pulled, snapped or creating tension problems.

Once the quilt is quilted, remove safety pins. Using a ruler and rotary cutter, trim excessive batting and backing to be square with the edges of the quilt top.

Binding

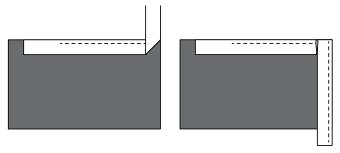
A MAKING BINDING

From the brown gingham fabric cut five 2.5" strips across the width of fabric. Sew strips together along the 2.5" ends until you get a long strip around 210".

Fold strip in half, lengthwise, wrong sides together and press along long edge. Pressed binding strip should measure approximately 1.25" x 210".

B ATTACH BINDING

With quilt top facing up, leave 5" of binding from edge (a tail so to speak), match the raw edge of binding to raw edge of quilt top edge and sew along edge using a quarter-inch seam allowance.

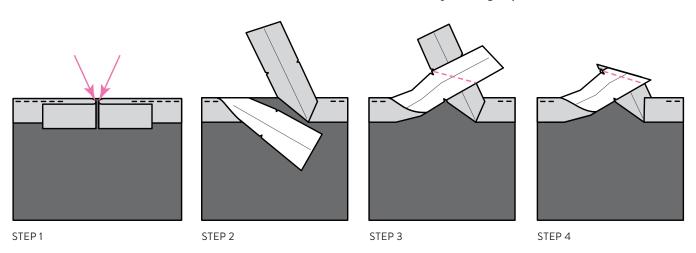


Corners: Stop sewing a ¼" from the corner. Lift needle out of quilt. Turn quilt 90°. Take binding strip and lay straight up, creating a fold right at the corner. Next, fold binding down on itself, laying raw edge along new side you will be stitching. Starting right at the top edge of the corner, begin stitching down the new side. Continue sewing using the same method on next three corners.

Stop stitching when approximately 8" from start of binding. Bring the tail ends together so they barely meet and fold each tail straight back on itself. Follow *Step One*, below, and make a tiny, ½" snip on the folds (pink arrows in *Step One* show where to snip).

Unfold the binding on both tails. Place right sides of fabric together, matching snips (*step two*). Sew a diagonal line across strips (*step three*). Before trimming, make sure binding will fold back in half and that seam allowance is hidden inside fold. Also make sure there is no twist in the binding. Once seam is confirmed correct, trim seam allowance to a quarter inch (*step four*). Fold binding so seam allowance is inside binding. Finish stitching binding to quilt.

Once binding is attached, fold over to back of quilt. Use clips or pins to hold binding in place. Hand stitch the binding onto the back of the quilt using tiny, invisible stitches.



Hanging Sleeve

Cut a strip 6" wide by width of fabric. Fold narrow ends in ¼" to the wrong side of the fabric and press, fold under another ¼" and press. Stitch down both ends.

Along long edge, fold fabric in half right sides together. Stitch ¼" along edge of fabric to make a tube. Flip tube so right side of fabric faces out. Press tube so seam is located in middle of tube. Place seam face down on the ironing board. Lift fabric up and fold one inch on top of itself along the length creating a bubble in the fabric. Press. The bubble will allow room for the rod to go through.

Pin tube to back of quilt, sew the top and bottom of the sleeve to the back of the quilt with hand stitching. Be careful not to sew through all layers of the quilt. •

