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START FREE TRIAL

Petals & Leaves Pillow

By Marian Shenk

Appliquéd flowers and a pieced background create an interesting design on this corded pillow.

Project Specifications

Skill Level: Intermediate

Pillow Size: 17" x 17"

Materials

- ◆ 1 fat quarter cream-on-cream print
- ◆ 1 fat quarter red tone-on-tone
- ◆ 1 fat quarter green mottled
- ◆ 2 fat quarters red/green/white plaid
- ◆ Backing 18" x 18"
- ◆ Batting 18" x 18"
- ◆ All-purpose thread to match fabrics
- ◆ Cream hand-quilting thread
- ◆ 3/4 yard 3/8"-wide dark green bias tape
- ◆ Polyester fiberfill
- ◆ 1 1/4" button to cover
- ◆ 4 (3/4") gold buttons
- ◆ 2 1/4 yards 3/8" red cord with lip
- ◆ Basic sewing tools and supplies, zipper foot and water-erasable marker or pencil

Instructions

Step 1. Prepare templates using full-size drawing given for A, B and C and the pattern for D. Cut as directed on each piece, adding a 1/8"-1/4" seam allowance to A, B and C when cutting fabric patches.

Step 2. Cut six squares each cream-on-cream print and red/green/white plaid 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" for E.

Step 3. Cut two squares each cream-on-cream print and red/green/white plaid 7" x 7"; cut each square on both diagonals to make F triangles as shown in Figure 1.

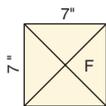


Figure 1

Cut a 7" x 7" square on both diagonals to make F triangles.

Step 4. Join the E squares and F triangles in diagonal rows to complete the pieced background as shown in Figure 2.

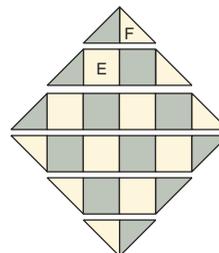


Figure 2

Join the E squares and F triangles in diagonal rows to complete the pieced background.

Step 5. Draw an 8" circle on the pieced background using a water-erasable marker or pencil. *Note:* You may make the circle using the full-size quarter pattern given, using the edge of the bias as a guide to make the circle.

Step 6. Turn under edges of each A, B and C piece and position around marked circle, again using the full-size drawing as a guide for placement of pieces. Hand-stitch in place using matching all-purpose thread.

Step 7. Position and stitch the 3/8"-wide dark green bias tape in place around marked circle and on top of the ends of the A, B and C pieces.



Petals & Leaves Pillow
Placement Diagram
17" x 17"



Step 8. To make a flower petal, place two D pieces right sides together; stitch around curved edges. Clip curves and turn right side out; press. Repeat for 20 petals.

Step 9. To make one flower, using a needle with knotted thread, gather five petals together on the thread; pull thread tight and place in a circle on the bias tape referring to Figure 3, using the full-size pattern drawing as a guide for placement on the bias tape. Hand-stitch in place using the same thread as gathering stitches to secure centers of petals to the background. Repeat for four flower motifs.

Step 10. Sew a 3/4" gold button in the center of each flower motif to cover raw edges and stitches.

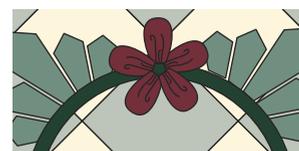
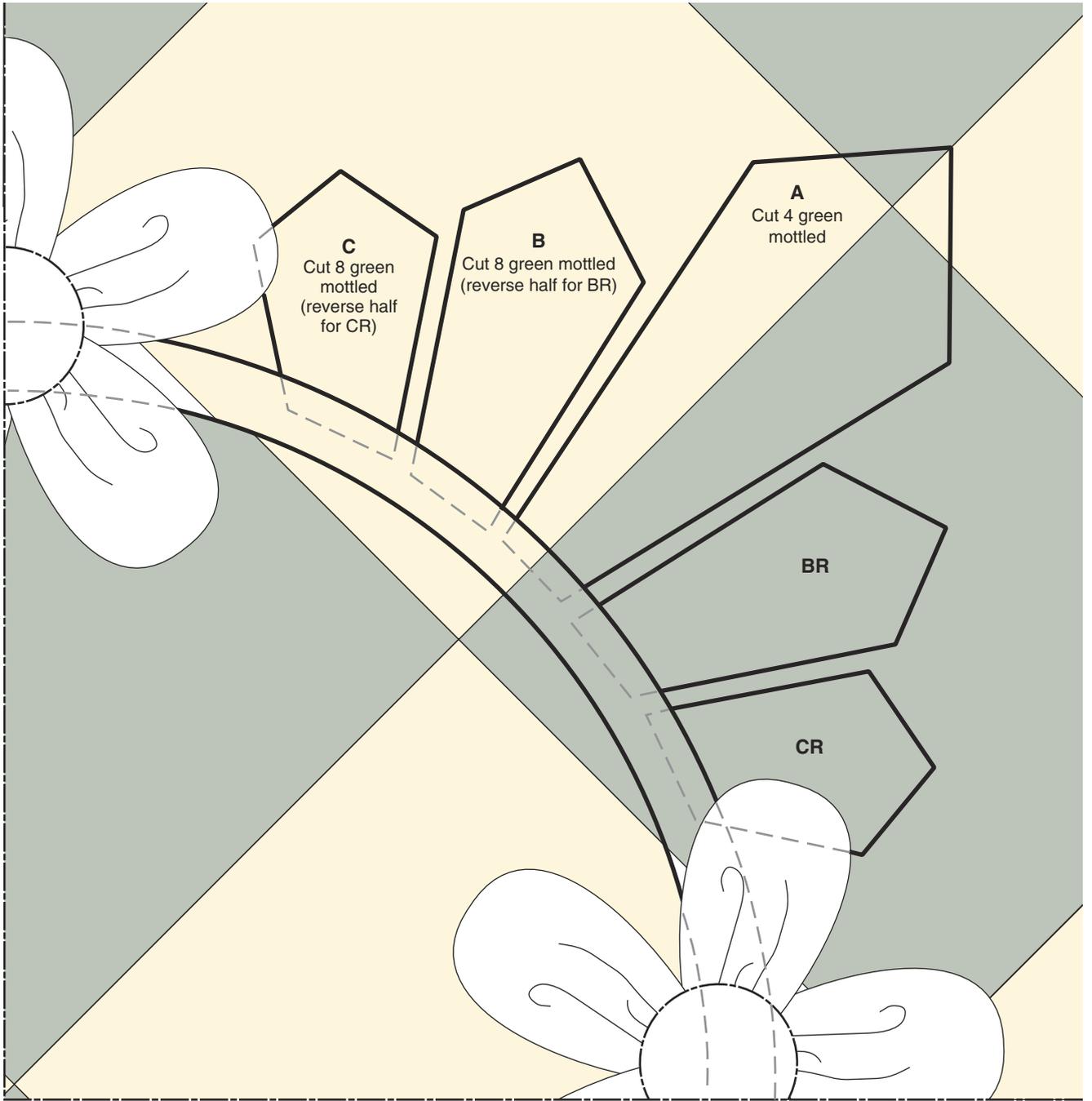


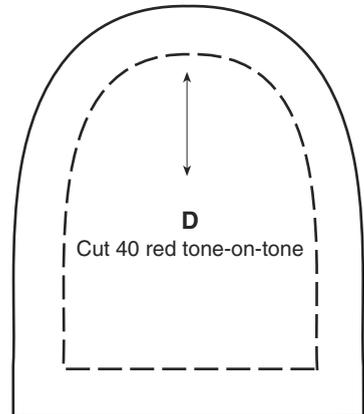
Figure 3

Gather 5 petals together on the thread; pull thread tight and place in a circle on the bias tape.

Step 11. Sandwich batting between the completed pillow top and the prepared backing square; pin or baste layers together to hold flat.



Quarter Pattern



Step 12. Quilt as desired by hand or machine. *Note:* The pillow shown was hand-quilted in the ditch of background seams and around outer edge bias tape using cream hand-quilting thread.

Step 13. When quilting is complete, remove pins or basting and trim excess batting and backing even with pillow-top edges.

Step 14. Cover the 1 1/4" button with green mottled as directed with button. Sew to the center of the quilted pillow-top.

Step 15. Using a zipper foot, machine-baste the 3/8"-wide red cord with lip to the edges of the quilted pillow top, overlapping beginning and end as shown in Figure 4.

Step 16. Cut a 17 1/2" x 17 1/2" square red/green/white plaid for pillow back.

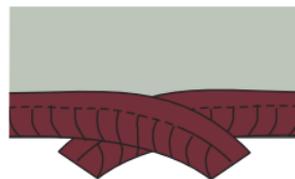


Figure 4
Overlap beginning and end of cord as shown.

Step 17. Place the pillow back right sides together with the quilted/corded pillow front. Using the zipper foot, machine-stitch all around, leaving a 10" opening on one side.

Step 18. Turn right side out; poke out corners. Stuff with polyester fiberfill to desired fullness.

Step 19. Hand-stitch the opening closed to finish. ❖

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