



Quilting
In The
Country

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Back To School Plaid

Woven and Three-Dimensional

By Jane Quinn
22" x 39"



Materials:

½ yd each of four coordinates (#1-#4)
5/8 yd each of fifth coordinate (#5)
½ yd of binding (same as #2 in picture)
Small batting

Cutting:

From each of the first four coordinates, cut five 2 ½" wide strips
From the fifth coordinate, cut seven 2 ½" wide strips
From the binding, cut five 2 ½" wide strips
From the batting, cut eleven strips that measure 1 ¾" x 44"

Piecing the Main Strips:

To create a Main Strip, you will sew two 2 ½" wide strips together along one long edge with right sides together. Press the seam open. On the wrong side, mark a line one inch out from the seam on each strip that runs the length of the strip. Press under ¼" of the remaining long raw edge of one of the two strips to the wrong side. Place the sewn strip on a table with the wrong side up. Place one batting strip on the pieced unit so that it fits just inside the marked lines. Fold the strip without the long pressed edge up over the batting strip along the marked line and pin in place. The raw edge of this strip that was just folded should cover just over half of the batting strip. Now fold the strip with the pressed under edge up over the batting strip along the marked line and pin in place. It should extend past the raw edge of the previously folded piece. You should now have a one inch wide strip showing of each of the two original fabric strips. Using a zig zag or other decorative stitch, top stitch along the length of the top of the Main Strip you have just created where the two fabrics meet after folding them in to secure them. You will be stitching through all of the layers so the stitching will show on both the top and bottom sides of the Main Strip. Leave the short ends of the Main Strip unfinished.

Using the process described in the paragraph above, select pairs of strips to sew together to create eleven Main Strips. You can have fun with mixing up your fabrics, or you can organize them symmetrically (as Jane did) as you move out from the center so that each side is a mirror image of the other.

The numbers in the Materials List above refer to how Jane positioned the fabrics as she moved from the center Main Strip out towards the edge. The center Main Strip was made from two strips of the same gold fabric (fabric #1). The second Main Strip out from the center on each side is made from a plaid strip (fabric #2) and a red strip (fabric #3). The third Main Strip out from the center on each side is made from a green strip (fabric #4) and a floral (fabric #5). The fourth Main Strip out from the center is made from a green strip (fabric #4) and a red (fabric #3). The fifth Main Strip out from the center is made from a plaid strip (fabric #2) and a gold (fabric #1). The sixth (and last) strip out from the center is made from two strips of the same floral (fabric #5).

Piecing the Cross Strips:

Cut the five remaining 2 ½” strips in half so they are 22 inches long. Press under ¼” of each long edge to the wrong side. Fold the strip in half so the pressed edges meet and pin. You will have a strip that is one inch wide x 22 inches long. Top stitch close to the pressed edges to secure them along the length of the Cross Strip.

Repeat this process to make a total of ten Cross Strips.

Weaving the Strips:

Pin your Main Strips in the position you want on a design wall, hanging down with their short raw edges approximately even and pinned into the design wall at the top. Draw a chalk line straight across the short ends at least ¼” away from their raw edges. The line needs to be perpendicular to the long edges of the Main Strips that are hanging straight down. Later you will sew your binding on that drawn line. Measure down 3 ½ inches from that marked line and mark another line going across all of the Main Strips that is parallel to your first marked line. Weave your first cross strip through the Main Strips along that line, centering the Cross Strip on that line. You will need to pin the Cross Strip to the Main Strips. Continue weaving in your Cross Strips at 3 ½” intervals as you move down the design board, pinning them to the Main Strips. When you have woven your last Cross Strip, mark a line 3 ½” below that last Cross Strip. That will be the line where you sew the binding.

Binding:

Sew your binding strips together end to end. Press the whole length of the binding in half with wrong sides together. It should measure 1 ¼” x about 150 inches. Remove your woven strips from the design board. The whole unit should be held together with the pins. Lay your pinned woven strips on a table. Carefully pin the binding on top around all four sides of the woven strips with the raw edges of the binding matching the outer edge of the woven strips. On the long edges, you will have the raw edges of the binding matching the folded edge of the outer Main Strip. On the short edges, you will have the raw edges of the binding marching the marked chalk line that crosses the short raw edges of the Main Strips. Sew around all four edge using a ¼ inch seam allowance. Trim off the short ends of the Main Strips where they extend out beyond the raw edges of the binding. Fold the binding to the back side and stitch in place.

Decorative Stitching to Secure Woven Strips:

Using a decorative stitch or buttons of your choice, secure the Cross Strips to the Main Strips where they weave in and out by stitching through both strip layers.