

MY FIRST QUILT

SUPPLIES NEEDED

copy of School of Sewing
fabrics/supplies on materials list
rotary set: mat, cutter, ruler
quarter-inch foot (optional)
walking foot (recommended)
coordinating thread
iron
scissors
pins
pencil
curved safety pins
Flannel-backed vinyl tablecloth
(recommended)

SKILLS TAUGHT

matching quilt block seams,
half square triangles, machine
quilting, hand sewn binding

Class Prep

Prior to class, encourage students to carefully consider the design options on pages 150-152. Stress the importance of selecting fabrics that vary in value and avoiding extreme large scale prints. The photos on pages 70-71 and 149 can help with this discussion. For and students nervous about color selection, revisit the color theory section on pages 46-48, including the student quote from Christine. Design walls or flannel-backed vinyl table cloths (encourage students to bring one!) are especially handy for quilt layout.



Teaching the Class

For our group, we broke the steps down into three classes: Making the Blocks (Steps 1-7), Assembling the Top (Steps 8-15) and Basting & Quilting (Steps 16-23)

Cutting: For any students making a two color quilt, encourage them to try the method shown in the Extra Credit!

Step 5. Point out the Pressing Debate sidebar on page 145.

Discuss pros and cons with your students, taking their fabric choices into consideration.

Step 7. They may grumble, but don't let anyone skip this step. Make it up to them with chocolate!

Step 8. Note the description in the instructions for using a flannel-backed vinyl table cloth. I can't encourage these enough!

Step 11. Consult with students and help them decide if they can chain piece their blocks. A demo always helps them understand

why this is such a time saving technique.

Step 12. Note tip in instructions for pressing left or right.

Steps 14 & 15. Point out tip in the sidebar to keep students from wrangling an awkward balance of fabric through their machine.

Step 18. Note tip in the instructions for folding quilt top in half. Many may find this helpful.

Step 19. Spend some time discussing and planning and marking here. Refer to the Choosing a Quilting Style sidebar on page 148 if needed.

Step 22. Demo what the 'quilt wrestling' will look like- rolled up and over your shoulders to keep the weight from hanging off the table. If students get that it is OK to look funny with a 'quilt boa', they'll feel more comfortable jumping in.

Step 25. Encourage them to bring the finished quilt back to show you! And have some more chocolate to celebrate!

► **If your students would like to show off their finished quilts, send a photo to**

shea@emptybobbinsewing.com or share on social media sites with the hashtag #schoolofsewing. I would love to feature you and your group! Consider submitting info about your experience at theschoolofsewing.com/sewtogether