

Embroidery Flower Quilt

This lovely quilt is quite unusual and is reminiscent of floral needlepoint embroideries, recreated here using a subtle mixture of solid fabrics on a dark peacock background. The design is made up of just squares in a single size, so there's lots of easy cutting and sewing, although for the best result you do have to match up seams neatly when sewing the patches together. For the background, individual squares are used throughout rather than strips, to continue the appearance of an embroidery. We've also made a pieced backing for the quilt and instructions are given for making this if you choose this option.

Difficulty rating *

Materials

- Fabric 1: 3¹/₄yd (3m) Solid peacock (120045)
- Fabric 2: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid warm sand (120002)
- Fabric 3: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid cappuccino (120007)
- Fabric 4: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid toffee (120004)
- Fabric 5: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid burgundy (120006)
- Fabric 6: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid country red (120014)
- Fabric 7: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid rosewood (120034)
- Fabric 8: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid terracotta (120035)
- Fabric 9: 8in (20.3cm) square Solid brown (120005)
- Fabric 10: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid red (120021)
- Fabric 11: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid dusty rose (120009)
- Fabric 12: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid pink (120026)
- Fabric 13: 1/8 yd (15cm) Solid cerise (120015)
- Fabric 14: ¼yd (25cm) Solid coral (120016)
- Fabric 15: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid mustard (120040)
- Fabric 16: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid cantaloupe (120019)
- Fabric 17: ¹/₄yd (25cm) Solid ginger (120018)
- Fabric 18: ¹/₄yd (25cm) Solid rust (120017)
- Fabric 19: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid salmon (120027)
- Fabric 20: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid pale yellow (120022)
- Fabric 21: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid dijon (120039)
- Fabric 22: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid lime green (120028)
- Fabric 23: ¹/₄yd (25cm) Solid moss (120038)
- Fabric 24: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid sage green (120020)
- Fabric 25: 3/8yd (40cm) Solid pine (120041)
- Fabric 26: 1/8 yd (15cm) Solid fern green (120025)
- Fabric 27: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid aqua (120042)
- Fabric 28: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid dusty teal (120043)
- Fabric 29: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid sky teal (120023)
- Fabric 30: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid cornflower blue (120024)
- Fabric 31: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid petrol (120037)
- Fabric 32: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid blue sage (120008)
- Fabric 33: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid soft teal (120003)
- Fabric 34: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid light blue (120044)

- Fabric 35: \(\frac{1}{4}yd \) (25cm) Solid night blue (120029)
- Fabric 36: ¹/₄yd (25cm) Solid lupine (120013)
- Fabric 37: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid aubergine (120036)
- Fabric 38: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid thistle (120012)
- Fabric 39: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid lavender pink (120010)
- Fabric 40: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid plum (120048)
- Fabric 41: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid lilac (120030)
- Fabric 42: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid lilac mist (120011)
- Fabric 43: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid grape (120046)
- Fabric 44: 8in (20.3cm) square Solid rain grey (120032)
- Fabric 45: 8in (20.3cm) square Solid dark granite (120033)
- Fabric 46: 6in (15.2cm) square Solid charcoal (120047)
- Wadding (batting): 72in x 90in (183cm x 229cm)
- Backing fabric if using your choice of a single fabric: 5yds (4.6m) **OR**Backing fabric if making the pieced backing described: refer to Step 5 for fabrics needed
- Binding fabric: 5/8yd (60cm) Solid peacock (120045)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat

Fabric Notes

Where a long eighth or long quarter of a yard is given in the Materials list you could use a fat eighth and a fat quarter instead. A fat eighth is assumed to be approximately $10\frac{1}{2}$ in x 18 in (26.7cm x 45.7cm) and a fat quarter approximately 21 in x 18 in (53.3cm x 45.7cm).

Finished Size

63½ in x 81½ in (161.3 cm x 207 cm)

General Notes

- Fabric quantities are based on a usable width of 42in (107cm), unless otherwise stated.
- Measurements are in imperial inches with metric conversions in brackets use only *one* system throughout (preferably inches).
- Width measurements are generally given first.
- Press all fabrics before cutting.
- Use ½in (6mm) seams unless otherwise instructed.
- Read all the instructions through before you start.
- Make one unit first as a test before going on to make the remaining units.

Quilt Layout

1 The quilt is made up of a single square size – cut at 2in (5.1cm), finishing at $1\frac{1}{2}$ in (3.8cm). The quilt design is split up into nine units (Unit 1 to Unit 9), to make the fabric selection and sewing easier. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.

Fig A Fabric swatches



Fig B Quilt layout



Cutting Out

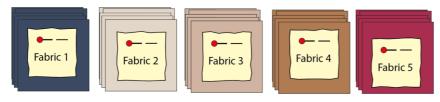
2 All of the squares are cut 2in (5.1cm) square. The quickest way to cut these is in 2in (5.1cm) strips across the width of the fabric, and then sub-cut into squares, as shown in **Fig** C. Some of the fabric colours are rather similar to other colours, so it's a good idea to labels the piles of squares as you cut them, as shown in **Fig** D. You will then be able to find the

correct fabric square easily when you start sewing. If you keep them in numerical order this will also make them easy to select.

Fig C Cutting out



Fig D Organising the fabric squares



3 The specific positions of the coloured squares are shown in Fig E, Fig F, Fig G, Fig H and Fig I. When cutting the 2in (5.1cm) squares, be accurate and economical. You will need the following numbers of squares. Fabrics with an asterisk * are also needed for the rectangles on the pieced backing, if you are choosing this option.

- Fabric 1 1,164 sqs. *
- Fabric 2 − 19.
- Fabric 3-5.
- Fabric 4 18. *
- Fabric 5 21. *
- Fabric 6 23.
- Fabric 7 3.
- Fabric 8 3.
- Fabric 9 − 10.
- Fabric 10 − 16.
- Fabric 11 29. *
- Fabric 12 26.
- Fabric 13 36.
- Fabric 14 48.
- Fabric 15 27. *
- Fabric 16 35.

- Fabric 17 75.
- Fabric 18 46. *
- Fabric 19 20.
- Fabric 20 27.
- Fabric 21 21.
- Fabric 22 23.
- Fabric 23 77. *
- Fabric 24 18.
- Fabric 25 92.
- Fabric 26 40.
- Fabric 27 19.
- Fabric 29 15.

Fabric 28 – 23. *

- Fabric 30 33.
- Fabric 31 7.
- Fabric 32 6.

- Fabric 33 5.
- Fabric 34 34.
- Fabric 35 59.
- Fabric 36 39. *
- Fabric 37 18.
- Fabric 38 5.
- Fabric 39 6.
- Fabric 40 16. *
- Fabric 41 20.
- Fabric 42 6.
- Fabric 43 16.
- Fabric 44 5. *
- Fabric 45 8.
- Fabric 46 6.

Fig E Fabric colour positions for Unit 1 and Unit 2 Black numbers in the coloured squares refer to the fabrics listed in Fig A. All dark blue squares without a number are Fabric 1 (peacock). Green numbers indicate the rows

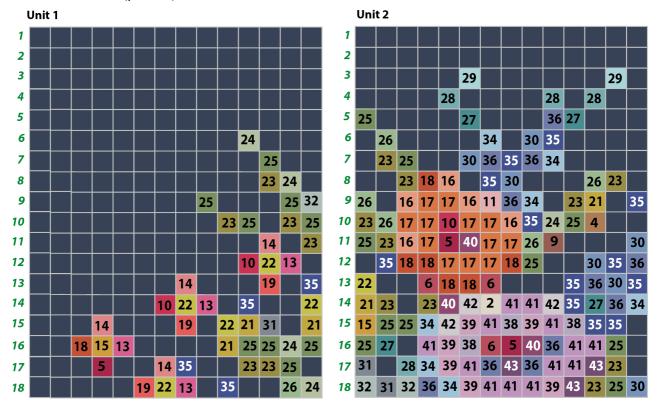


Fig F Fabric colour positions for Unit 3 and Unit 4 All dark blue squares without a number are Fabric 1 (peacock) Green numbers indicate the rows

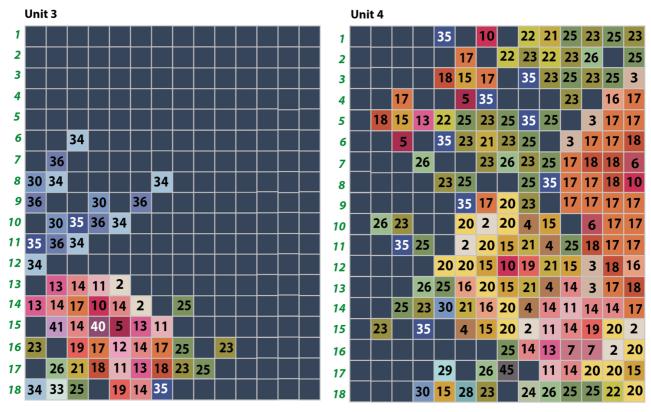


Fig G Fabric colour positions for Unit 5 and Unit 6 All dark blue squares without a number are Fabric 1 (peacock) Green numbers indicate the rows

	Unit 5 Ur														Unit 6														
1	26	37	23		43	31	36	30	37	43		34	27	36	1	15	29	33	23	35					26				
2	37		25	16	24	43	37	43	25	29	34	29	34	43	2	30	20	30		25	22		22	25					
3	16	17	17	17	44	45	25		34	30	20	21	15	30	3	37	30	34	23	22	20	22	26	35					
4	17	17	18	17	16	17	16	26	30	37	36	22	36	34	4	35	29	21	22	20	23		35			26			
5	18	6	10	18	17	18	17	17		43	46	36	30	43	5	28	34	30	34	33	35	12	19	16	25				
6	6	5	5	10	18	6	17	17	17	24	25	35	37	28	6	36	29	20	36	34	11	13	46	11	19				
7	40	21	22	5	6	18	18	16	17	26	24	22	35	27	7	30	34	21	22	28	33	6	14	15	14			28	
8	5	15	23	46	5	18	17	16	16	24	25		37	40	8	36	30	36	15	30	29	5	13	6	18	25	26		
9	6	46	46	5	6	17	17	17		2	11	16	40	11	9	2	36	37	30	36	34	45	18	5		23			
10	18	6	18	18	17	17	16		16	11	14	14	11	14	10	12	2	2	43	37	43	35							
11	17	18	18	17	17	16	17	14	42	12	13	11	12	7	11	13	14	11	2	31	35		19	13	16				
12	17	17	17	17	18	16	16	42	12	14	6	12	2	6	12	14	2	14	12	23	25	14	10	46	19	14			
13	17	17	16		17	18	11	41	11	41	14	16	12	40	13	6	19	13	11	2	43	19	18	10	14	13	25	26	
14	20		17	25	6	11	14	37	12	13	16	11	16	2	14	14	2	11	14	12	35		5	40	5		23		
15	20	4	15	23	24	26	11	43	34	41	6	8	11	13	15	6	12	16	12	11	25	35		35					
16	15	21	4	27	26	25	44	45	24	12	13	6	13	16	16	19	14	13	11	37	9	23	4						
17	10	19	21	15	44	24	45	25	37	44	11	14	12	13	17	8	13	12	16	11	25	26	21	25	23		23		
18	15	21	4	23	16	18	14	23	26	37	34	41	38	12	18	40	6	13	14	37	9	25	23	4	25	24			

Fig H Fabric colour positions for Unit 7 and Unit 8 All dark blue squares without a number are Fabric 1 (peacock) Green numbers indicate the rows



Fig I Fabric colour positions for Unit 9
All dark blue squares without a number are Fabric 1 (peacock). Green numbers indicate the rows
Unit 9

13	14	12	9	25		23	31						
	38	35		23			25	23					
23	25	9	35		32		35	26	28				
28		12	25							23			
26	13	10	14	45	25								
14		41		23	23	28							
35	23	25	25		27	23	26	28					
	26	27	32	25									
25			28	23	25								
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4 If using a single backing fabric: Remove the selvedges from the backing fabric and cut the fabric into two pieces each 90in (229cm) long x width of fabric. Sew them together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 72in x 90in (183cm x 229cm).

5 *If making a pieced backing:* You will need the following fabrics – the large pieces (warm sand and terracotta) need to be bought in *addition* to the quilt front fabrics and will produce a backing that is about 4in larger all round than the quilt front, to allow for quilting. If you buy 2yds (1.9m) each of warm sand and terracotta and cut the bare minimum off the selvedges, you should end up with a width of $44\frac{1}{2}$ in (113cm).

- One piece of Solid warm sand 72in x 44½in (183cm x 113cm).
- One piece of Solid dusty rose 72in x 44½in (183cm x 113cm).

For the strip of rectangles across the centre of the back, cut two rectangles 3¾in x 2in (9.5cm x 5.1cm) from each of the following fabrics – Fabric 18, 11, 4, 1, 15, 36, 5, 28, 23, 40 and 44. You should be able to cut these rectangles from fabric offcuts from the front of the quilt. Once cut, set them aside for the moment.

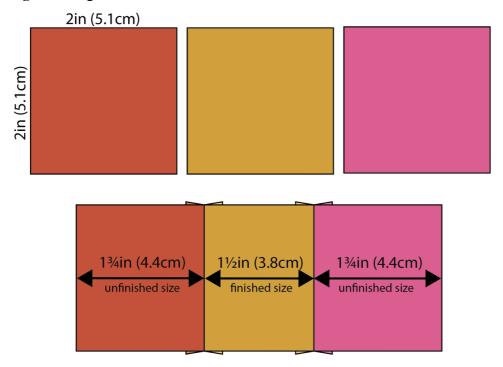
6 Cut the binding fabric into eight strips 2½in (6.4cm) x width of fabric. Sew them together end to end and press seams open. Press in half along the length, wrong sides together.

Making a Unit

7 Each of the nine units are made the same way, but the arrangement of squares differs, so follow **Figs E** to **Fig I** carefully. In order that the squares all fit together neatly, it's wise to check your $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance at the start of the sewing. **Fig J** is a reminder that when a square is sewn to another square, it should measure $\frac{1}{4}$ in (4.4cm) wide (because a $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) has been lost in the seam). When three squares are sewn together, the centre

square should measure its finished size of 1½in (3.8cm) wide. If your own sewn squares measure these sizes, it will be easier to match up the seam junctions later when you start to sew rows together.

Fig J Sewing accurate seams



- **8** Find a large, flat area and follow **Fig E** to lay out all the squares for Unit 1, making sure the squares for each row are in the correct order. Use a slightly shorter stitch length than normal because the seams are short ones. Starting with Row 1, use ½in (6mm) seams to sew the squares together into a row, pressing the seams open or to one side (**Fig K**). Check the sewn row measures 21½in (54.6cm). Sew Row 2 in the same way. If the seam on Row 1 was pressed to the side, press the seam of Row 2 in the opposite direction. Check the row measures 21½in (54.6cm).
- 9 Continue like this until eighteen rows have been sewn and pressed. Now sew the rows together, taking care to match seams neatly, and press. Check the unit measures 21½ in x 27½ in (54.6cm x 69.8cm).
- 10 Use the same technique to sew the other eight units, following the relevant diagrams carefully when laying out the squares.

Fig K Sewing a unit together

Unit 1

Row 1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

21½in (54.6cm)

Assembling the Quilt

11 Once all nine units have been made, lay them out as shown in **Fig L**. Using a ¼in (6mm) seam, sew the units together into three horizontal rows. Take care to match up the seams neatly, using plenty of pins as needed. Press the long seams in the first and third row to one side, and the seams in the second row to the opposite side. Now sew the rows together and press. Your quilt top is now finished.

Unit 1 Unit 2 Unit 3 Unit 4 Unit 5 Unit 6 Unit 7 Unit 8 Unit 9

Fig L Sewing the units together

Making a Pieced Backing

12 If you have chosen this option, take the rectangles for the backing that you cut and set aside in Step 5 and sew them together into a long strip – the colours will repeat twice, as shown in **Fig M**.

13 Lay out the pieced strip and the large pieces for the backing, as in Fig L, sew them together and press the seams open. This will make a backing about 72in x 90in (183cm x 229cm), which will be big enough to allow for quilting.

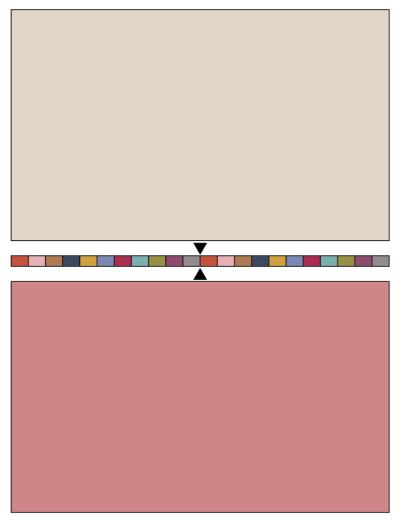
Fig M Making the pieced rectangles strip

Numbers indicate fabrics used

Make 2 sections



Fig N Assembling the backing



Quilting and Finishing

14 If you are quilting the quilt yourself you now need to make a quilt sandwich – you can do this in various ways, as follows.

- Use large stitches to tack (baste) a grid through the layers of the quilt in both directions, with lines about 4in (10cm) apart.
- Use pins or safety pins to fix the layers together.
- Use fabric glue sprayed onto the wadding (batting) to fix the layers together.

If you are sending the quilt off to be commercially long-arm quilted you won't need to make a sandwich, as this is done when the quilt is mounted on the machine. When the layers of the quilt are secured you can quilt as desired.

15 When all quilting is finished, square up the quilt ready for binding.

16 Use the prepared double-fold binding strip to bind your quilt. Sew the binding to the quilt by pinning the raw edge of the folded binding against the raw edge of the quilt. Don't start at a corner. Using a ¼in (6mm) seam, sew the binding in place, starting at least 6in (15.2cm) away from the end of the binding. Sew to within a ¼in (6mm) of a corner and stop. Take the quilt off the machine and fold the binding upwards, creating a mitred corner. Hold this in place, fold the binding back down and pin it in place. Begin sewing the ¼in (6mm) seam again from the top of the folded binding to within ¼in (6mm) of the next corner and then repeat the folding process. Do this on all corners. Leave a 6in (15.2cm) 'tail' of unsewn binding at the end.

17 To join the two ends of the binding, open up the beginning and end of the binding tails, lay them flat and fold the ends back so the two ends touch. Mark these folds by creasing or with pins – this is where your seam needs to be. Open out the binding and sew the pieces together at these creases. Trim off excess fabric and press the seam. Re-fold the binding and finish stitching it in place on the front of the quilt.

18 With the quilt right side up, use a medium-hot iron to press the binding outwards all round. Now begin to turn the binding over to the back of the quilt, pinning it in place. Use matching sewing thread and tiny stitches to slipstitch the binding in place all round, creating neat mitres at each corner. Press the binding and your pretty quilt is finished.