

remaining strip to stitch a strip to one vertical side of the octagon and cut off the excess. In the same manner, stitch a strip to the bottom of the octagon and the other side. Press the strips outwards, taking care not to place the iron directly on the batting.

5. In the same manner, stitch strips to the other four sides of the octagon, continuing the strips over the first four strips. Press the seams outwards.

6. Using a light pink strip (C), stitch a second round of strips around the octagon in the same manner.

7. Join a medium green triangle (D) to each corner of the block and press.

8. Set the machine for free-motion quilting and, using thread to match the floral print fabric, outline quilt some elements of the fabric design.

9. Centring the block, trim it to exactly $8\frac{1}{2}$ in square.

Make Block 2

1. To make each block, centre a square of batting over the wrong side of a 9in backing square.

2. With a blue water-erasable pen, mark the two diagonal lines across the top of the batting.

3. Use the lines to centre a dark pink square (A) on the batting. Pin in place.

4. Stitch a light pink strip (B) to either side of the square and cut off the excess. Press the strips outwards, taking care not to place the iron directly on the batting.

5. Use the remaining strip to stitch C strips to the ends of the first strips and the square. Cut off the excess and press the strips outwards.

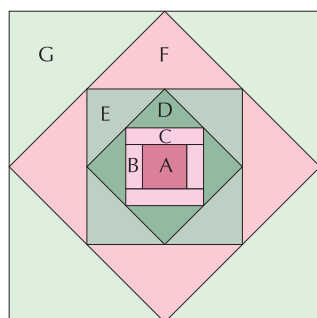


Diagram 4

6. Use the centre square to centre dark green triangles (D) on opposite sides of the centre block and stitch and press outwards. Add triangles to the other two sides of the block in the same manner.

7. Cut a $3\frac{3}{4}$ in square from template plastic and use the square and a water-erasable pen to rule lines around the raw edges of the dark green fabric as the pieces will be a little larger than required.

8. Aligning the raw edges of the medium green triangles (E) with the lines, stitch the four triangles to the block and press outwards.

9. Use the pen and a square ruler to mark a $4\frac{1}{2}$ in square on the medium green triangles.

10. Aligning the raw edges of the medium pink triangles (F) with the lines, stitch the four triangles to the block and press outwards.

11. Use the pen and a square ruler to mark a $6\frac{1}{4}$ in on the medium pink triangles.

12. Aligning the raw edges of the light green triangles (G) with the lines, stitch the four triangles to the block and press outwards.

13. Centring the block, trim it to exactly $8\frac{1}{2}$ in square.

Join the blocks

1. The joins between the blocks are covered by strips made using Clover bias makers – $\frac{1}{4}$ in, $\frac{1}{2}$ in and $\frac{3}{4}$ in. The fabric for the strips is not cut on the bias. Straight strips only are required.

2. To make medium green $\frac{1}{4}$ in strips, use $\frac{1}{2}$ in strips of fabric. Spray the strips with starch and press the beginning of the strip to make it stiff enough to thread into the bias maker. When the fabric comes out of the bias maker, pin the point of the fabric to the ironing board. With a hot steam iron, press the bias as it comes out of the bias maker. Try not to stretch the strip by moving it.

3. Cut strips of HeatnBond Lite less than $\frac{1}{4}$ in wide and iron onto the wrong side of the fabric strips.

4. Repeat the process using the 1in dark green strips with the $\frac{1}{2}$ in bias maker. Fuse HeatnBond Lite strips to these strips in the same manner.

5. Remove the paper from the $\frac{1}{4}$ in strips and fuse them over the centre of the right side of the $\frac{1}{2}$ in strips.

6. Remove the paper from the $\frac{1}{2}$ in strips and stitch down either side of the $\frac{1}{4}$ in strips as close to the edges as possible.

7. Make $\frac{3}{4}$ in strips from the $1\frac{1}{2}$ in strips of light green fabric for covering the joins on the back of the quilt. Fuse $\frac{1}{2}$ in strips of HeatnBond Lite to the wrong side of the fabric strips.

8. Following the photograph of the quilt, arrange the blocks into seven rows of five blocks, alternating the two different blocks.

9. To join the blocks into rows, butt them together but do not overlap them. Stitch a wide zigzag stitch over the join.

10. Cover the zigzag stitch with double green strips. Remove the paper and fuse in place.

11. Place pins along either side of the strips and turn the joined blocks to the wrong side. Using the pins as a guide, fuse $\frac{3}{4}$ in green strips to the joins between the backs of the blocks.

12. Using dark green thread on top of the machine and thread to match the backing in the bobbin, stitch along either side of the $\frac{1}{2}$ in dark green strips as close to the edges as possible. Check the back to ensure that the $\frac{3}{4}$ in strips are caught by the stitching.

13. Because the quilt is not wider than the length of the strips, it is not necessary to join the strips for covering the horizontal joins. To use this technique for a larger quilt, join strips on the bias and press the seam allowances open so the joins are flat.


14. Join the rows of blocks together in the same manner as joining the blocks.

Bind the quilt

1. To add the dark pink strip around the edge of the quilt, join two sets of two strips with bias joins and press the seam allowances open.

2. Press these strips and the two shorter strips in half, wrong sides together.

3. Align the raw edges of the pink strips with the raw edges of the blocks and baste strips to the left and right edge of the quilt. Add strips to the top and bottom edges of the quilt in the same manner.

4. Following Binding the Quilt in QC Basics on page 108, use the six $2\frac{1}{4}$ in strips to bind the quilt, incorporating the edge of the pink strips in the seam. 

A kit for this quilt is available from Quiltlove for \$195. See the Stockists & Contacts list for details.