

Not My Grandmother's Quilt

by MADRA PRATER

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

Skill Level: Beginner

Quilt Size: 41" x 52"

Block Size: 9" x 9"

Number of Blocks: 12

MATERIALS

- ¼ yard blue print
- ½ yard lavender print
- ⅝ yard pink print
- 1½ yards green print
- 1⅞ yards yellow dot
- Backing 47" x 58"
- Batting 47" x 58"
- Neutral color all-purpose thread
- Rayon embroidery thread to match fabrics
- Embroidery machine with software*
- Serger*
- Paper
- Basic sewing tools and supplies

*Quilt Works Software by Designer's Gallery and Baby Lock embroidery machine and serger used to make sample.



Try a twist on an old favorite using your serger to create the seams.

PROJECT NOTES

I grew up in a family of avid quilters. My grandmother lived to be 96; she quilted for 80 of those years. A quilt was always in progress in her household. She pieced the tops in the summer, and there was the ever-present quilting frame in the family room during the winters. My love of fabric took me in a different direction; I became a fiber artist and software educator.

Today's technology allows us to have a computer program outline a shape and add stippling to it, and then it can be quilted using the embroidery machine. The serger allows us to add some interesting texture to the piecing of our quilts.

INSTRUCTIONS

Cutting

Step 1. Cut two 7½" by fabric width strips yellow dot; subcut strips into (24) 1½" A strips.

Step 2. Cut two 9½" by fabric width strips yellow dot; subcut strips into (24) 1½" B strips.

Step 3. Cut one 9½" by fabric width strip lavender print; subcut strip into eight 2½" C strips.

Step 4. Cut five 2½" x 31½" D strips and two 2½" x 46½" E strips along length of green print.

Step 5. Cut five 3½" by fabric width strips yellow dot; join strips on short ends to make one long strip. Cut the strip into two 3½" x 35½" F strips and two 3½" x 52½" G strips.

Step 6. Cut five 2¼" by fab-

ric width strips pink print for binding.

Step 7. Draw a 7½" x 7½" square on a piece of paper. Mark a line 1½" on one end and 2" on the other end of the square as shown in Figure 1; connect the lines.

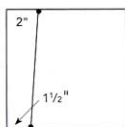


Figure 1 Mark paper as shown.

Step 8. Continue to measure and mark lines as shown in Figure 2 to complete a full-size block drawing to include pieces 1–5. Make a second copy of the drawing to cut apart.

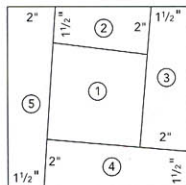


Figure 2 Complete paper pattern as shown.

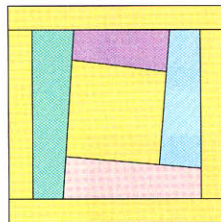
Step 9. Fold remainder of fabrics with right sides together along length. Cut 12 each as follows, adding a ¼" seam allowance all around when cutting: piece 1—yellow dot; piece 2—lavender print; piece 3—blue print; piece 4—pink print; and piece 5—green print.

Note: You will be cutting reverse pieces at the same time when fabric is folded.

Completing the Blocks

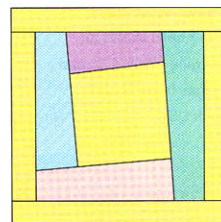
Note: Instructions are given here for joining pieces with serged seams on the right side of the fabric. You may join pieces in the traditional manner. Set up the serger for 2-thread flatlock seams (¼" wide). The pieces will be stitched with wrong sides together. During the construction of the block, always have the yellow dot 1 piece on top. Refer to sidebar for detailed instructions for flatlock seams.

Step 1. Stitch all piece 2's to piece 1's referring to Figure 3



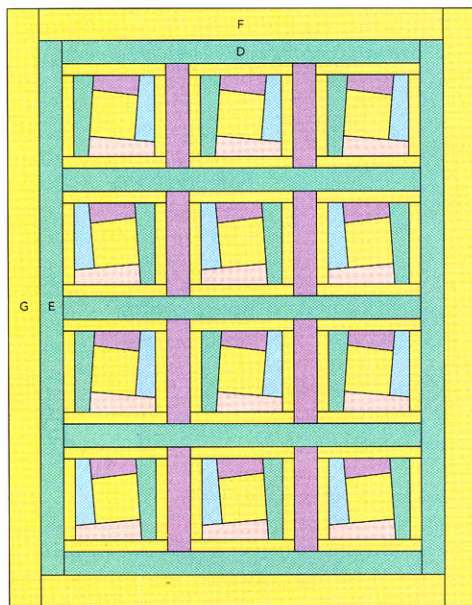
Offset Log Cabin

9" x 9" Block



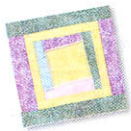
Offset Log Cabin Reversed

9" x 9" Block



Not My Grandmother's Quilt

Placement Diagram 41" x 52"



ROTARY REVOLUTION: NOT MY GRANDMOTHER'S QUILT



The photo shows an Imagine Wave 4-thread serger from Baby Lock USA.

for placement. **Note:** If not using a serger, join pieces with wrong sides together using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Press seam away from piece 1. Use a wide zigzag stitch to stitch seam allowance flat on piece 2.



Figure 3 Stitch piece 2 to piece 1.

Serged Flatlock Seams

Flatlocking is serging two layers of fabric together and then pulling them apart so that the seam lies flat.

Flatlocking may be done with either a 2- or 3-thread stitch; 2-thread flatlock stitches will lie flatter, and 3-thread flatlock stitches are stronger.

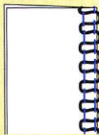


Figure 6 For loops on the right side, flatlock fabrics wrong sides together.

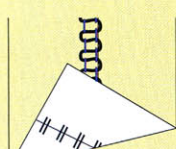


Figure 7 Ladders form on the wrong side of the stitched fabrics.

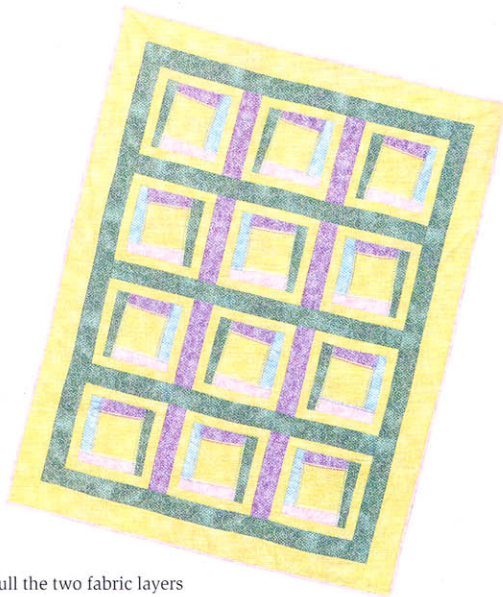
Loops and ladders are formed when flatlocking layers together. If the loops are to show on the right side of the finished quilt, flatlock fabrics with wrong sides together as shown in Figure 6. After stitching, pull fabrics until the seam lies flat; ladders are formed on the wrong side as shown in Figure 7.

Flatlocking is reversible, depending on whether you want the loops or ladders to show.

Serge with a balanced tension; if the edges won't lie flat, loosen the needle and looper thread tensions until both hang over the edge of the fabric when stitching as shown in Figure 8.



Figure 8 Stitches should hang over the edge a little to create a flat seam when fabrics are pulled apart.



Step 2. Pull the two fabric layers apart until the seam lies flat. Place the section back on the master pattern to check for accuracy.

Step 3. Stitch all piece 3's to the 1-2 units; repeat Step 2. Continue this process until the 1-5 units are complete referring to the block drawings for positioning of pieces. **Note:** Six of the units will be reversed.

Step 4. Trim units to measure $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x $7\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Step 5. Using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam on the sewing machine, sew A pieces to the 3 and 5 edges of the assembled unit and B pieces to the 2 and 4 edges of the assembled unit to complete the blocks as shown in Figure 4.

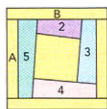


Figure 4 Sew A and B pieces to the pieced unit to complete 1 block.

C strips to make a row as shown in Figure 5; press seams toward C. Repeat for two rows.

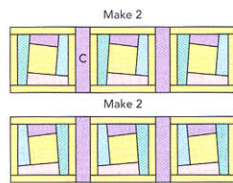


Figure 5 Join 3 blocks with 2 C strips to make rows.

Step 2. Repeat Step 1 with three reversed blocks and two C pieces to make a reversed row, again referring to Figure 5. Repeat for two reversed rows.

Step 3. Join the rows with five D strips referring to the Placement Diagram; press seams toward D.

Step 4. Sew an E strip to opposite long sides of the pieced center; press seams toward E.

Step 5. Sew an F strip to the top and bottom and a G strip to opposite

Completing the Top
Step 1. Join three blocks with two

long sides of the pieced center; press seams toward F and G.

Finishing the Quilt

Step 1. Sandwich the batting between the completed top and prepared backing; pin or baste layers together to hold.

Step 2. Quilt as desired by hand or machine; remove pins or basting. Trim excess backing and batting even with quilt top.

Note: The quilting on the sample was stitched using Quilt Works by Designer's Gallery, selecting the 4" x 4" hoop size, and lineart07 as the image with flower centerlines edited out. The new image size was set to 2" width. The Auto Stipple Tool was used to stipple around the center flower. The edited design

was saved onto a flash card or floppy disk to be repeated on all block centers.

Step 3. Join binding strips on short ends to make one long strip. Fold the strip in half along length with wrong sides together; press.

Step 4. Sew binding to quilt edges, mitering corners and overlapping

ends. Fold binding to the backside and stitch in place to finish. **QW**

Madra Prater is a freelance writer, national award-winning fiber artist and Amazing Design educator. Visit the Baby Lock Web site at www.babylock.com for more information about their products.