

## Projects

### "St. Patrick's Shamrock Banner"



Get your feet wet with some quilting while making this banner to welcome the leprechauns with their pots o' gold this St. Patrick's Day!

**Skill Level: Beginner**

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#### Supplies:

Baby Lock Sewing Machine

1/4 yard each of 2 green small cotton prints (used for the shamrocks)

1/4 yard neutral color cotton (used between the blocks)

3/4 yard coordinating cotton print (used for the backing and shamrock accent)

2/3 yard Warm and Natural<sup>®</sup> batting

All-purpose thread

Tape measure

Scissors  
All-purpose thread  
Monofilament thread  
Contrasting color quilting thread  
Air-erasable fabric pen  
Chaco-liner  
Ruler  
Rotary cutter  
Temporary spray adhesive  
Iron and Ironing board

## **Instructions:**

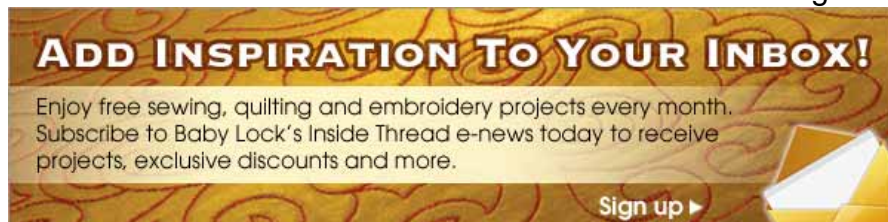
### **To make the blocks**

1. At your cutting table, cut 6 – 3 1/2" squares from each of your green print fabrics; cutting a total of 12 squares.
2. Next, cut 2 - 1" x 5 1/2" strips from each of the green prints; cutting a total of 4.
3. From the shamrock accent fabric, cut 40 - 1 1/2" squares and 4 – 3 1/2" squares.
4. To assemble the shamrock blocks, place 1 – 1 1/2" square on 3 corners of 1 - 3 1/2" square, right sides together.
5. Using the air-erasable fabric pen and ruler, mark a sewing guideline diagonally across the block. You will mark the line across the point of the larger block.
6. At the machine, sew over those lines.
7. Using the ruler and rotary cutter, trim the excess fabric from the corners 1/4" from the seam. Press the small triangles to the outside.
8. Repeat these steps to create a total of 3 squares. These blocks will make the leaves of the shamrock.
9. Using the ruler and rotary cutter, cut the 5 1/2" blocks in half diagonally. This creates a total of 8 triangles.
10. With right sides together, center 1 triangle along the edge of one of the 5 1/2" strips and stitch using a 1/4" seam. Press the seam toward the triangle. Repeat sewing another triangle to the other side of the strip. Press this seam toward the triangle.
11. Using the rotary cutter and ruler, trim the corners where the strips are sewn to square the block. Place 1 – 1 1/2" square on 1 of the corners where the stem is, right sides together.
12. Using the air-erasable fabric pen and ruler, mark a sewing guideline diagonally across the block. You will mark the line across the stem.
13. At the machine, sew over the line.
14. Using the ruler and rotary cutter, trim the excess fabric from the corner 1/4" from the seam. Press the small triangle to the outside. This will be the stem of the shamrock.
15. To assemble the shamrock block, stitch 2 leaf pieces together using a 1/4" seam, matching raw edges and aligning the seams. Press the seam allowance to one side.

16. Stitch the final leaf to the stem piece, matching the raw edges and aligning the green corners.
17. Press the seam allowance so it faces opposite the other section.
18. Place these 2 sections right sides together, matching the center seam.  
**Note:** Because the seam allowances are pressed in opposite directions, it's easier to align the centers and the bulk in the seam is reduced.
19. Press the block making sure all the seams are flat on the back of the block. If necessary, trim to square the block.  
**Note:** If you are careful with your trimming and 1/4" seams, sewing slowing you may not need to trim the block.
20. Repeat this to create a total of 4 shamrock blocks.

### To Assemble the Wall hanging:

21. From each of the green prints cut 2 – 1 1/4" squares. Using a 1/4" seam stitch these together, one of each color to make 2 rectangles, pressing seams in opposite directions. Stitch these to rectangles together to create the center block of the wall hanging.
22. From the neutral fabric, cut 4 strips 2" x 6 1/2" and
23. 2 strips 1" x the width of the fabric.  
**Note:** Most cotton fabrics are 44-45" wide.
24. Using a 1/4" seam, matching raw edges, stitch one block to one of the 6 1/2" strips. Making sure the stems face the same direction, stitch a second block to the other side of the strip. Repeat, joining the 2 remaining blocks. Press the seam allowance toward the center strip.
25. Using the remaining strips and the center block, stitch these together using a 1/4" seam. Press the seam allowance away from the center block.
26. Matching raw edges and aligning the seams, stitch one set of blocks to the center strip. Press the seam allowance toward the center.
27. Repeat, stitching the remaining blocks to the other edge of the center strip. Press the seam allowance toward the center.
28. The large assembled block should be about 14 1/4" square. Measure the sides to be sure.
29. From the 1" strips cut 2 strips the length of the side measurement. Stitch one strip to the top and bottom of the assembled block using a 1/4" seam. You should be able to add 1 1/2" to the length of the previous strips for the remaining sides. Measure these sides to be sure.
30. From the remaining 1" strip cut 2 strips the length of this side measurement. Stitch one strip to each of the remaining sides of the assembled block using a 1/4" seam. This completes the sashing for the assembled block.
31. From one of the green fabrics, cut 2 strips 3 1/2" x the width of the fabric to use for the outside border. From the other green fabric cut 3 strips 1 3/4" x the width of the fabric that will be used for the binding.



32. Measure and stitch these following the same steps used for the sashing.
33. Measure the finished square. Add 2" to the length and width of this measurement. Cut backing fabric and batting this size.
34. Spray the wrong side of the backing fabric with spray adhesive and layer batting onto the backing. Spray the batting with spray adhesive and layer the quilt on top of that.
35. Thread the machine with monofilament. Starting in the center, stitch in the seam lines of the center block and along the strips between the blocks. Stitch in the seam lines around each of the shamrocks. Finally, stitch in the seam line around the outside of the sashing.
36. Take the quilt to your table and, using the Chaco-liner and ruler, draw and X pattern in the border around the outside of the quilt. Leave a 1/4" from the outside edge as this will be where the binding will be sewn.
37. Thread the machine with contrasting quilting thread. Stitch over the drawn pattern.
38. When the quilting is finished trim the excess backing and batting to the edge of the quilt block.
39. Join the 1 3/4" wide strips together to make 2 2/3 yard binding. Fold the binding in half the lengthwise and press.
40. Pin the binding around the front of the banner, matching raw edges. Using a 1/4" seam stitch the binding to the banner. Be sure to miter the corners.
41. Fold the binding to the back and slip stitch in place.
42. Place this on the center of your table or hang on your front door to welcome the leprechauns with their pots o' gold this St. Patrick's Day!

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