

COMPLETION OF
BLOCK-OF-THE-MONTH FOR 2008

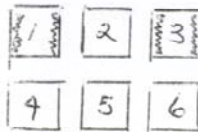
NOTE: Use a walking foot for all of this process. All measurements are given to finish with 2½" sashings.

Cut 12 short sashing strips 18½" x 3" and 4 long strips 64½" x 3".

1. Fold backing away from each edge of a quilted block, one side at a time to **cut away the batt only**. Lay a 12½", or larger, square ruler on the block, lining up the centre seam of a 4-block 10¼" (or 10 1/8" if you find that quilting has drawn up your block) from the cutting edge. Trim batt on all four sides the same way.

2. Press the backing to the batt again. Lay and pin a short sashing strip 1" from the trimmed batt edge. A 1" ruler is handy for this. Stitch all four layers (back, batt, block and sashing) with a seam aligned ¼" from the sashing edge.

Repeat on the opposite edge of the same block. You will stitch 2 sashings onto opposite edges of **two** blocks, the 1st and the 3rd of your nine patch layout.



3. Next, sew opposite long edge of an attached short sashing of block #1 to block #2, right sides of sashing and block together.

Repeat for blocks #2 & #3.

Repeat the whole process for blocks #4-#6 and #7-#9.

4. To join batt edges under sashings:

- . Loosen machine tension at least 1.5 positions.
- . Use widest setting of a zigzag stitch and lengthen it by at least 1 position.
- . Pin two blocks together with backings and sashing out of the way and batt edges lined up to lay perfectly on top of each other.
- . cut 1¼" strips of stabilizer (I found Golden Threads to be my preference for effectiveness and ease of removal later).
- . When stitching two batt edges, line up their edges to **centre** in the walking foot throat and lay them on top of the strip of stabilizer. The purpose of your stabilizer is to keep your machine from binding an overcast edge on the batts.
- . Remove the stabilizer and ease the batts flat to a **butted** edge under your sashing.
- . Now you may press everything open and flat, turning under ¼" of one backing to hand stitch backings to one another.

5. Readjust your machine tension. Stitch two long sashings to each edge of Rows #1 and #3, and then to Row #2 as you did with the blocks of a Row above. **At each end of sashings, be sure to ONLY stitch them to each other and NOT through the batt and backing!**

Repeat step 4 above to complete the long join of batts and backings.

6. To add borders, determine your desired finished size and quilt the borders first, as you have your blocks, and then repeat the whole process to join them to your centre medallion of blocks. **Remember the batt must be 1" wider than your border on the edge you will join to the centre, and the backing 1¼" wider.**

Need help? Call Jerri (after Feb 19) @ 386-4496.