

Instructions for Pink Rail Fence Wall Hanging

Designed by Barbara Macey © 2011



- Whether you buy fabric by the yard or by the metre the quantities given are suitable for working in both inches and centimetres.
- Working in inches will result in a slightly larger quilt than working in centimetres.
- **It is important to keep to either inches or centimetres throughout the project as dimensions are not interchangeable.**
- **Unless otherwise indicated, instructions in both inches and centimetres allow for a 1/4" seam allowance.**

Requirements

Fabric for patchwork

1/2 yard (50 cm) Aboriginal fabric, Women Waiting for Rains by M & S Textiles Australia

1/2 yard (50 cm) solid pink fabric for sashing and binding

3/4 yard (60 cm) of fabric for the quilt back and the hanging sleeve.

Thin batting 22" x 30" (56cm x 76cm)

Thread to match sashing

1/4" machine foot. Or make a guide on your sewing machine with masking tape:

TIP: To make a 1/4" guide for your sewing machine: Rule a line exactly 1/4" from one edge of a piece of paper. Place the paper under the foot of the sewing machine and lower the needle into the line on the paper. Place a piece of masking tape on the sewing machine against the right hand edge of the paper. Test by sewing along the edge of a piece of fabric using the tape as a guide. Adjust the position of the tape if necessary.

Pins, scissors, thimble.

Roller cutter and large cutting mat OR scissors and ruler.

Masking tape (painters tape) to secure quilt layers, and narrow tape for marking quilting lines.

Optional: Medium sized safety pins to secure the quilt sandwich.

Optional: if required for hanging, 1/2" (12mm) dowel or thin cane 19-1/2" (49.5cm) long and 2 small screw-eyes.

MAKE THE QUILT TOP

Cut the patchwork fabric

Unless otherwise indicated, seam allowances of 1/4" are included in all dimensions given including metric. Accurate cutting is important.

Cut 4 strips the width of the Aboriginal fabric x 3" (6.5cm).
Cut 8 strips the width of the pink fabric x 1-1/4" (3.5cm)

Figure 1



Fig. 1. Sew the pink strips to the long sides of the Aboriginal fabric strips, right sides together. Press seam allowances towards the pink fabric. The assembled strips should be 4-1/2" (11cm) wide.

Cut the assembled strips to make thirty five 4-1/2" (11cm) squares.

Figure 2



Fig. 2 shows the two top rows of squares. Arrange 35 of the squares like this in 7 rows, each with 5 blocks (units) as shown above. Rearrange as necessary for a pleasing effect.

Sew each row of 5 squares together, pressing seam allowances in opposite directions for each alternate row. Sew the 7 rows of squares together. Press seam allowances in one direction.

Make the quilt back

Cut fabric 15" (38 cm) x the width of the backing fabric. Cut in half along the lengthwise grain of the fabric. Remove selvages. Seam these 2 pieces, right sides together, to make a rectangle 29-1/2" x 22" (75 cm x 56 cm).

PREPARE THE QUILT SANDWICH

Important - at this stage, the backing and the batting are meant to be larger than the quilt top, so **do not trim yet**.

Place the **back** of the quilt **right side down** on a durable hard surface that will not be damaged by pins or masking tape.

Keeping the fabric smooth, secure the quilt back to the hard surface using masking tape.

Place the batting on top of the quilt and smooth out; secure with tape.

Place the quilt top **right side up** and centred on the batting. Make sure that all the seam allowances are lying flat.

Starting at the centre, and smoothing as you go, pin all 3 layers together in the centre of each square. Pin around the edges too.

TIP - Use safety pins to avoid damaging your fingers as you sew.

Tack (baste) the three layers together if you wish, but it is not really necessary for a quilt this size. Remove the masking tape.

QUILT THE LAYERS TOGETHER

Figure 3

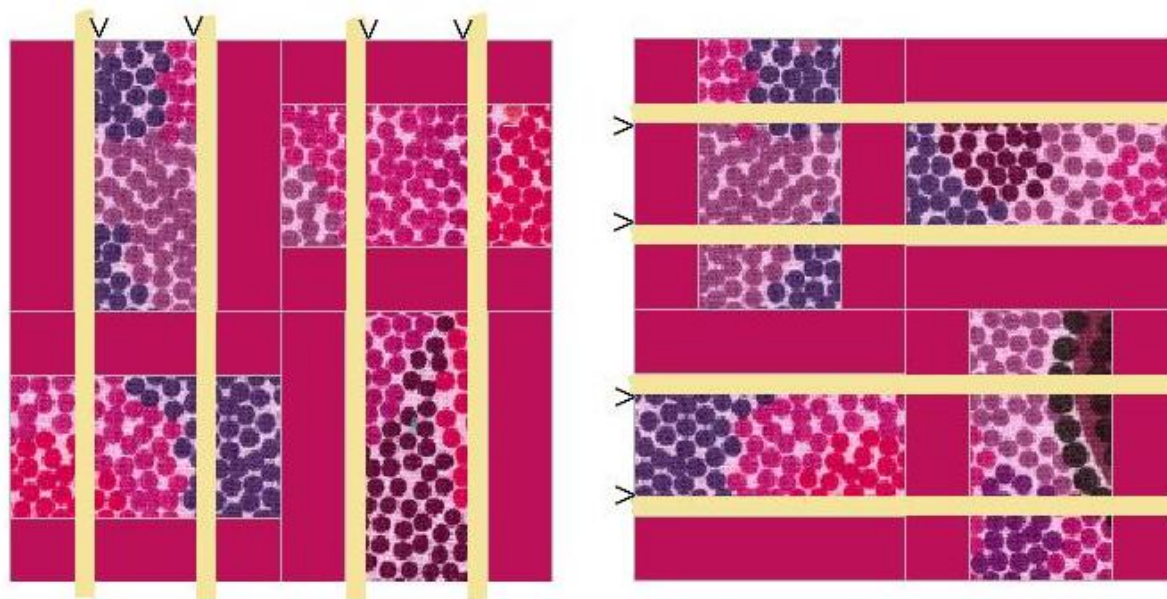


Fig. 3 shows how to place narrow tape as a guide for quilting. Arrows indicate where to begin each line of quilting. Quilt all the vertical lines first, remove the tape and repeat the process for the horizontal lines. Always remove the tape as soon as possible.

Figure 4



Fig. 4 shows the top row of blocks with a simple quilting pattern of squares and rectangles. Quilting stitches are shown in black for visibility. Use this pattern or quilt as you wish.

BIND THE QUILT

Use your favourite method or follow these instructions for a binding with squared corners.

Cut the binding

From the pink fabric cut 4 strips the width of the fabric x 3" (7.5cm). Iron thoroughly.

Figure 5

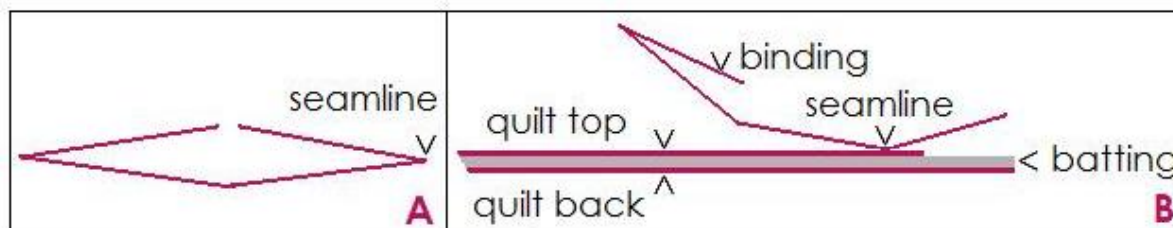


Fig. 5A shows how to fold to pre-form binding. Fig. 5B shows placement of binding on the quilt top.

Pre-form the binding

Cut 2 strips the length of the quilt and 2 strips the width of the quilt including the side bindings, plus 1" (2.5cm) for seam allowances. Pre-form the binding by pressing all strips in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. Open strips out (wrong side up) and fold, then press both raw edges towards the centre of the strip so that they are about 1-16" (1.5mm) from the centre fold. See Fig.5A. Fold the binding as it will be when in place on the quilt, and press.

Attach the binding

Sew the 2 long strips to the sides of the quilt. Seam allowance on the quilt is 1/4". Note that seam allowances of the binding are approximately 5/8" (2cm) to avoid ridges under the binding and to make it firmer.

Open the binding and with right sides facing, align one of the side folds with the seam allowance of the quilt. See Fig 5B. Pin then sew in place along the seamline.

Now trim away excess batting and backing fabric from the edges of the quilt, leaving it just wide enough to reach the centre crease of the binding.

Fold the side bindings to the back of the quilt and sew by hand.

Using the same method, sew the 2 short strips across the top and bottom of the quilt, trimming the ends if necessary, and turning them in for a neat finish.

PROVIDE A HANGING SLEEVE

Using the backing fabric, cut a rectangle approximately 21-1/2 in x 5-1/2" (54.5 cm x 14cm). Hem all sides to make the finished sleeve the width of the back excluding the binding and 4" (10cm) deep. Hand sew one long edge of the sleeve to the back of the quilt between the side bindings and just below the top binding. Sew the lower edge of the sleeve to the back of the quilt, leaving the sides open.

Cut a piece of 1/2" (12mm) dowel or thin cane so that it fits the back of the quilt without overlapping the binding. Sand thoroughly to remove any roughness, and remove all dust. Seal with a clear finish if desired. Insert small screw-eyes in the ends of the dowel so that it can be hung on small hooks in the wall. Or tie colourless fishing line to the screw-eyes to hang the quilt by.