

Quilting the Diamonds Bonus Pillow

Pillow Supplies

- 1 pieced pillow top
- 1 square muslin 25" x 25"
- 1 square batting 25" x 25"
- 2 rectangles fusible interfacing 1-7/8" x 22"
- 7/8 yard backing
- 1/4 yard binding
- 3 (1") buttons
- 1 pillow form 20" x 20"

Preparation

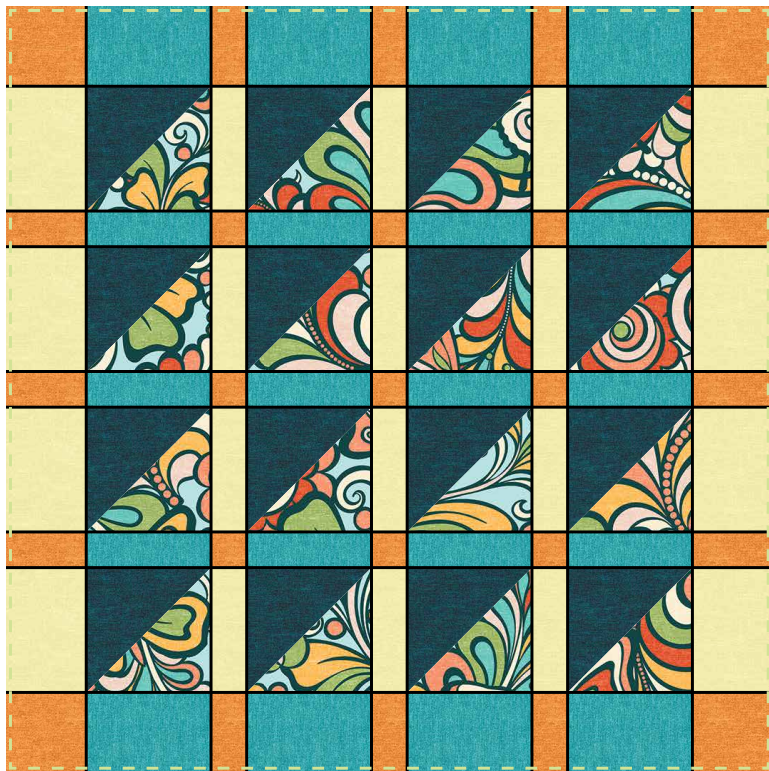
Layer the pillow top on top of the muslin and batting. Thread, pin, or spray baste.

Note: In the following diagrams the current step is shown in black, with previous steps in light green, regardless of the thread color I used.

Step 1

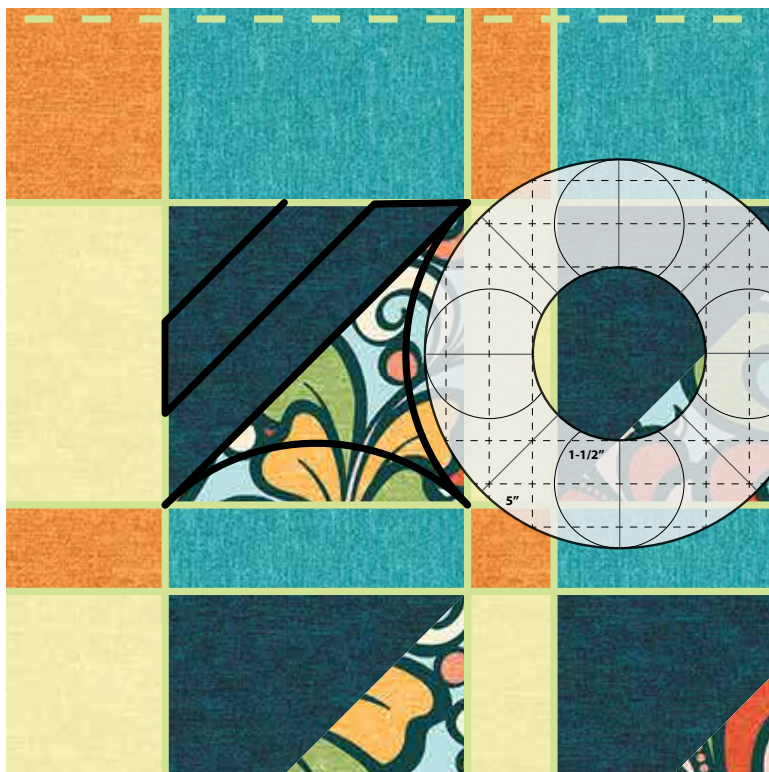
Using the Every Angle Template, baste all the way around the pillow top, about 1/8" from its edge.





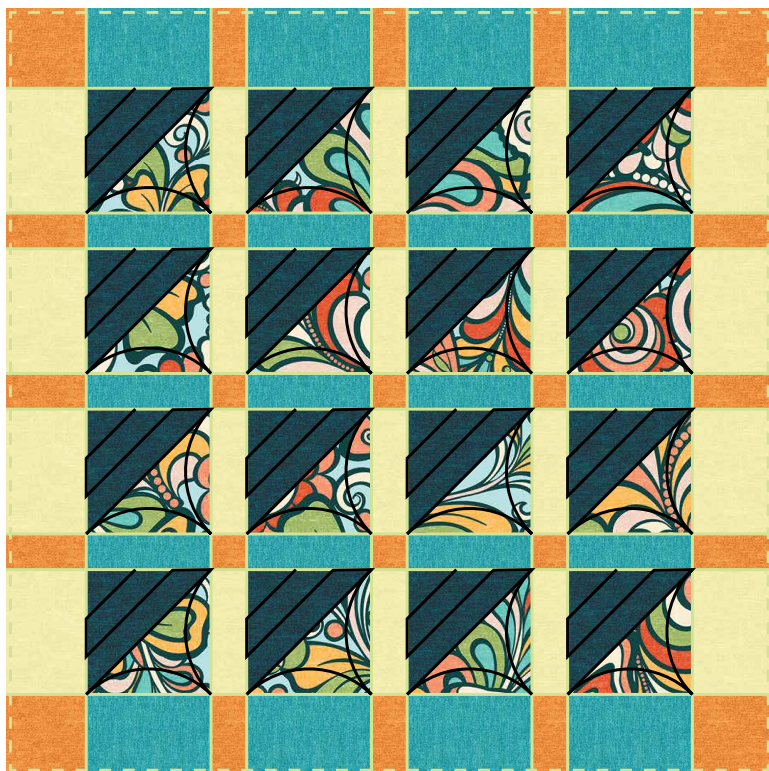
Step 2

Quilt "along the ditch" along all the vertical and horizontal seams. The side of the seams you choose to quilt on will depend on the color of thread you choose. I used light orange thread and quilted on the sashing side (as opposed to the half-square triangle side) of the seams.



Step 3

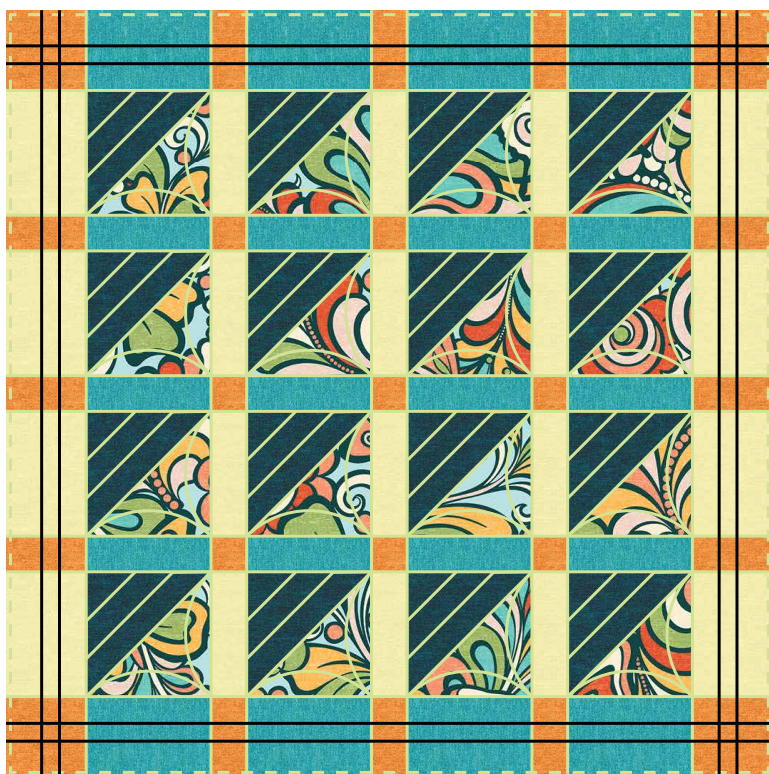
Switch to a thread that goes well with the blocks. I chose a medium teal. Use the Every Angle template to quilt the diagonal seam along the half-square triangle and then use the 5" Every Circle template to quilt arcs over the feature fabric as shown. Travel to the solid side of the block and quilt two more diagonal lines, spaced 3/4" apart.



Step 4

Quilt all the blocks.

You can either end your thread each time you finish a block or you can travel from block to block, depending on your thread color and sashing colors.



Step 4

Switch back to the thread you used in Step 2. Quilt parallel lines on the outside pillow borders. The first one should be $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the outer seams and the second should $\frac{1}{2}$ " further away.

Diamonds Bonus Pillow Finishing

Pillow Finishing

From the Backing fabric, cut 1 strip 16-1/2" x WOF and subcut into 1 rectangle 16-1/2" x 22". Cut 1 strip 12-1/2" x WOF and subcut into 1 rectangle 12-1/2" x 22".

Trim the quilted pillow top to 3/4" beyond the last border lines you just quilted. (You'll be trimming about 1/4" of the pillow top off of each side.) Baste or zigzag the newly trimmed edges to make putting on the binding easy.

Turn under one long edge of each of the pillow backing rectangles 1/2" and press. Turn under again 2" and press. Slip a strip of interfacing into the fold and fuse. Turn the pillow back pieces wrong side up and top-stitch 1/8" from the first fold on each to secure.

Sew 1 buttonhole in the center of the folded edge of the smaller pillow back rectangle using BERNINA foot #3A. Add two more, each one 4" from the center buttonhole. Open up the buttonholes.

Baste top and bottom units together, so that the edge of the top unit just overlaps the topstitching on the bottom unit. Mark button placement on bottom panel.

Center quilted pillow top on backing, WRONG sides together, and baste 1/8" from pillow top edge. Trim excess pillow back fabric.

From the Binding fabric, cut 3 strips 2-1/4" x WOF. Join binding strips into 1 continuous piece. Press, folding in half lengthwise. Join binding to the front of the pillows. Fold over and hand-stitch to the back to secure. Remove basting stitches that are holding the top and bottom units together. Sew on the buttons using BERNINA foot #18.

Insert the pillow form and enjoy!

