

Bittersweet Briar 3-day class: (Karen Whitney)

Project Supplies for Bittersweet Briar Class:

Kim Diehl- Simple Graces Book is required (I don't mind if you share with a friend)

Design Notes: This fun quilt project combines cotton prints with felted wool. Wool that's been felted has a soft, densely woven feel to the cloth and it easily resists unraveling as you work with it. Please use only 100% wool and avoid worsted wool (usually found in men's suits).

Instructions for felting wool can be found on page 20 of the Simple Graces Book.

Materials:

2 yards of black cotton stripe or print for block and border background

1 $\frac{3}{4}$ yard of green cotton print for vines, border patchwork, and binding

4 squares, 11" x 11" of red wool for large flower petals or you can use a variety of colors

12 assorted rectangles, approximately 2" X 7" for skinny flower petals

24 assorted squares of wool, approximately 3" x 3" for circle appliques

3 assorted squares of wool, ranging from approximately 7" x 7" to 3" x 3" for bulls-eye flower center

4 assorted rectangles of wool, approximately 5" x 7" for vine blossoms

4 assorted rectangles of wool, approximately 4" x 6" for vine blossom centers

3 assorted green rectangles of wool, approximately 8" x 10" for leaves and blossom buds

1 square of cheddar yellow wool, 12" x 12" or equivalent assorted scraps for bittersweet berries

3 yards of fabric for backing (not used during class)

54" square of quilt batting (not used during class)

3/8" bias bar

Freezer paper and mechanical pencil

2 yards Heat & Bond Lite or equivalent fusible product

Liquid fabric glue

Size 8 or 12 Perle cotton in a neutral color or you can substitute black or any other color to get the look you'd like.

Sewing thread to match the medium green cotton print for the vines

Pre-class cutting instructions:

From the black (or other color of your choice) cotton stripe, cut: 4 squares, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

Note: If you've opted to use a print, rather than a stripe, you can simply cut and substitute one 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ " square.

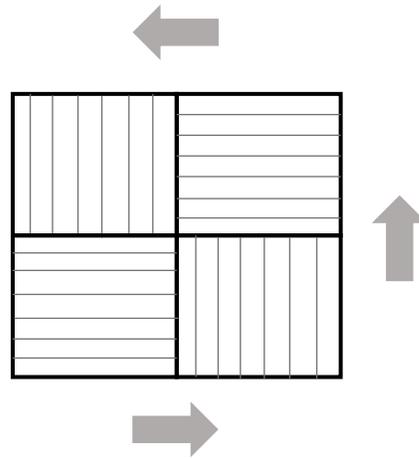
From the medium green cotton print, cut: 5 strips, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 42"; crosscut into 20 rectangles, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and then 4 squares, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

5 strips, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 42" (binding)

From the BIAS of the remaining green print, cut: enough 1 ½" wide strips to equal 4 lengths, 45" each, when joined together using straight, not diagonal, seams.

Pre-sewing:

1. Lay out four black stripe 20 ½" squares as shown. Join the squares in each horizontal row. Press the seam allowances on each row in the opposite directions so they will nest together when the rows are joined. Join the rows. Press the seam allowances to one side. The pieced quilt center should now measure 40 1/2".



2. Using straight, not diagonal seams, join the green print 1 ½" strips together end to end to make a 45" length. Press the seam allowances to one side, with the seams all laying in the same direction. Repeat for a total of four 45" lengths.
3. With WRONG sides together, fold each green print 45" strip in half lengthwise as it passes under the presser foot. Using a ¼" seam allowance, sew along the long raw edges to make a tube; take care to let the sewing machine pull the strip under the presser foot without giving any resistance, as this will preserve the stretchiness of the fabric. Repeat with the remaining 45" lengths for a total of four stitched tubes.

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