

MONTH ONE – BLOCK ONE – THE CENTRE MEDALLION - May

This month we will construct the centre medallion block and border 1.

Apologies, I don't have a computer design programme so you will have to make do with my trace, cut and paste flower patterns. Make sure you print them at 100% and paper size Australian A4.

This block is the centre medallion block and is cut $16\frac{1}{2}$ " square and will be 16" finished. It has an 8" Flower 1 appliquéed in the centre and a 6" Flower 1 in each corner of the block.

Fabric requirements for this block

This block requires the background fabric and two others, I chose a pink floral and pink spot

- The background needs no explanation
- The pink floral is the under petals
- The pink spot is the top petals and the centre circle. You may choose to make the centre circle a different fabric

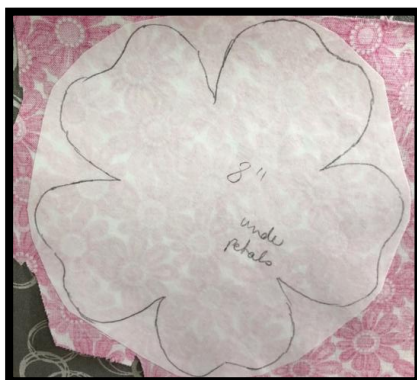


Cutting

- Background - cut a width of fabric strip of background fabric $16\frac{1}{2}$ " and crosscut a $16\frac{1}{2}$ " square. I have a Matilda's Own $20\frac{1}{2}$ " square ruler (available from your quilt shop) which is great for cutting larger blocks. I don't use it often but is very handy when needed. Save the rest of the $16\frac{1}{2}$ " strip of fabric for future blocks.
- Pink flowers – I gave a brief description of the process for raw edge machine appliqué in the Raw Edge Machine Appliqué file but will give more detail here.

Construction

- Using the master pattern provided for the 8" centre Flower 1 trace all the pattern pieces required onto the paper side of the fusible web. Mark what they on the paper so you don't get mixed up. Use a light box if you have one.
- Cut them out with a margin around the shape of about $\frac{1}{8}$ " of an inch
- Fuse the shapes to the WRONG SIDE of the chosen appliqué fabric (left)
- Cut the shapes out on the line (right)



- Repeat the process, four times, using the master pattern provided for the 6" Flower 1, which will be placed in each corner of the background square.
- Prepare the background square by ironing stabiliser to the wrong side. Fold the square corner to corner twice, finger press to find the centre of the block



- Remove the paper from the back of the appliqué flowers. Gently wiggle the edge of the piece to unstick the paper, then peel away. Arrange the 8" Flower 1 pieces in the centre of the block, under petals on the bottom, then the top petals and then the centre circle. When happy with the placement fuse in place.
- Arrange the 6" Flower 1 pieces in the four corners of the block. I measured along the diagonal fold 5" in from the corner and placed the centre of the flower at this point. Fuse them in place and the block should look like the photo at the start of the notes

Stitching

- Appliqué the flowers to the background using the open toed embroidery foot, your preferred stitch and thread type. Remember the right-hand side of the blanket stitch should land in the ditch of the appliqué fabric and the left-hand swing of the stitch should be at right angles to the outer edge of the flower. Always change direction with the needle down on the right at the outer edge of the flower. Start and end with small straight stitches at length 0.30, slow and steady will give you a better result.

Once the centre block is complete, set it aside, we will put the quilt together in Month 8, December.