

Julia's Quilt

by Mary Ellen Kranz



JULIA'S QUILT (see larger photo on page 52)

For more detailed information on making quilts, including fusible appliqué and mitered borders, see the AQS Quilting Essentials & Tested Tips at www.AmericanQuilter.com.

Printing the photo patches

Using photo editing software in your computer, prepare the desired photos for the quilt blocks and arrange them in three files with three photos each. The photos for the X and Y blocks should finish 3" x 3", centered in a 3½" square to allow for ¼" seam allowances all around. The photo for the Z block should finish to 4" x 4", centered in a 4½" square.

Following manufacturer's directions, print the photos on prepared paper-backed inkjet fabric sheets and treat the printed fabric for colorfastness. Follow manufacturer's directions for pressing.

Making the X and Y blocks

Arrange A patches of assorted light and medium-value prints into nine-patch units. Note the position of the medium-value prints in each row as shown by the pink patches in figure 1. Sew the patches together in rows, pressing the seam allowances in the directions of the arrows. Sew the rows together to make 32 nine-patch units (fig. 1).

Arrange 4 nine-patch units with 4 pink tone-on-tone B patches and one photo patch B to make a block X

(fig. 2). Note that the position of the medium prints in the nine-patch units lead to the corner of the photo. Sew the patches and nine-patch units together in rows, and then join the rows. Repeat to make 4 X blocks.

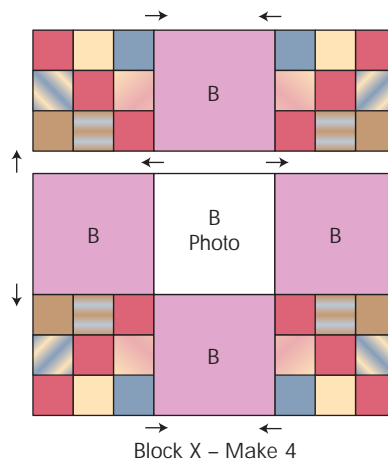
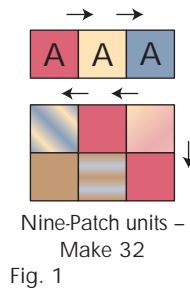


Fig. 2

Follow the procedure outlined above for block X to make 4 Y blocks, using the remaining nine-patch units, floral print B patches, and photo B patches (fig. 3).

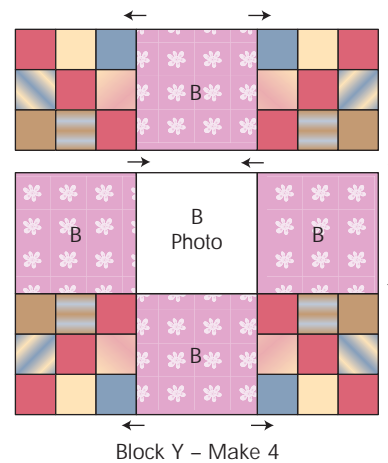


Fig. 3

Making the Z block

Sew D patches to opposite sides of C. Sew E patches to the top and bottom edges of C. Press the seam allowances away from C (fig. 4).

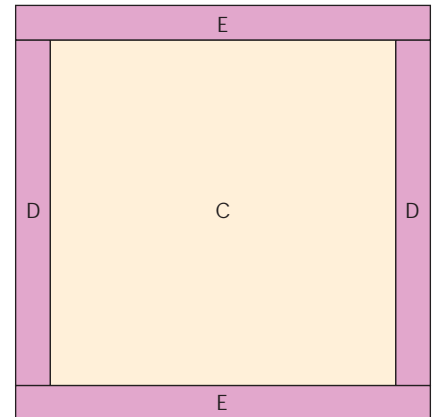


Fig. 4

Turn under and press the ¼" allowances around the outer edge of the F-patch baby photo. Position the photo in the center of the C patch and blind-stitch in place.

Assembling the quilt

Arrange the blocks in 3 rows of 3 blocks each, following the quilt assembly diagram on page 56. Sew the blocks together in rows and press the seam allowances in opposite directions from row to row. Sew the rows together to complete the quilt center.

Trace the fusible appliqué shapes (G, H, I and J) on page 57, onto the paper side of the fusible web, allowing at least ½" between the pieces. Cut out each shape with ⅛" to ¼" all around.

Following the manufacturer's directions, fuse the patches to the wrong sides of the fabrics. Cut out along the drawn lines. Remove the backing paper. Finish the edges with decorative mashing stitching, if desired.

Referring to the detail photo on page 56, arrange the appliqués around the baby photo and fuse in place.

Adding borders #1 and #2

Press the quilt top well. Measure the vertical length of the quilt through the center and cut 2 strips this measurement from the border #1 strips. Sew the borders to opposite sides of the quilt. Press the seam allowances away from the quilt center.

Measure the width of the quilt through the center, including the side borders you just added. Cut 2 strips this measurement from the border #1 strips and sew them to the top and bottom edges of the quilt. Press the seam allowances away from the quilt center.

On your computer, type the text you wish to include in border #2. You may want to experiment with font styles and sizes to make letters that will fill the border strips that finish 2" wide by about 32½" long. Print the text on paper. Cut the lines apart and tape them into long strips. Center the border strips over the text and trace the letters with permanent fabric-marking pen. Centering the text, trim each border to 2½" wide.

Pin the lettered border #2 strips around the quilt in the desired order, centering the saying on each edge. Sew the strips to the quilt, beginning and ending the stitching at the ¼" seam line at each corner of the quilt. Press the seam allowances away from the green border. Miter the corners, trim the seam allowances to ¼", and press them open.

Adding border #3

For border #3, arrange the 20 K patches around the quilt top, 5 on each side. Sew the patches together along their 6½" sides for each border. Press the seam allowances to one side.

Press the quilt top well and measure the horizontal width through the center, from raw edge to raw edge. Trim the top and bottom pieced border strips to this measurement. Add an L patch to the ends of the trimmed border strips and set them aside.

Measure the vertical length of the quilt top through the center, from raw edge to raw edge. Trim the side border

FABRIC & CUTTING REQUIREMENTS

Skill level: Easy

Quilt size: 45½" x 45½"

- Requirements are based on 40" fabric width.

Finished block size: 9" x 9"

- Cut strips from selvage to selvage.

Assorted light, small-scale prints – 1⅜ yards

- 192 A, 20 K

Assorted medium, small-scale prints – ¼ yard

- 96 A

Pink tone-on-tone prints – ⅜ yard total

- 16 B

Pink medium-scale floral print – 1 yard

- 6 strips 2¼" x 40" for 192" of continuous binding
- 16 B, 2 D, 2 E, 4 L

Off-white print – 9" x 9" square

- 1 C

Green print – 7" x 7" square

- 1 G

Assorted green prints – ⅛ yard total

- 20 J

Pink print – ⅛ yard

- 4 I

Red print – ⅛ yard

- 4 H

Medium green print – ¼ yard

- strips for border #1 sides, 2 strips 1¼" x 29½"
- strips for border #1 top/bottom, 2 strips 1¼" x 31"

Light yellow check – ½ yard

- strips for text border #2, 4 strips 3½" x 40"*

Backing – 3 yards

- 2 panels 26" x 50"
- sleeve, 1 strip 9" x 45½"

Batting

- 50" x 50"

3 paper-backed inkjet fabric sheets of 100% cotton, 8½" x 11" each**

- 8 B, 1 F

* Trim to 2½" x 40" after printing, keeping text centered in each strip.

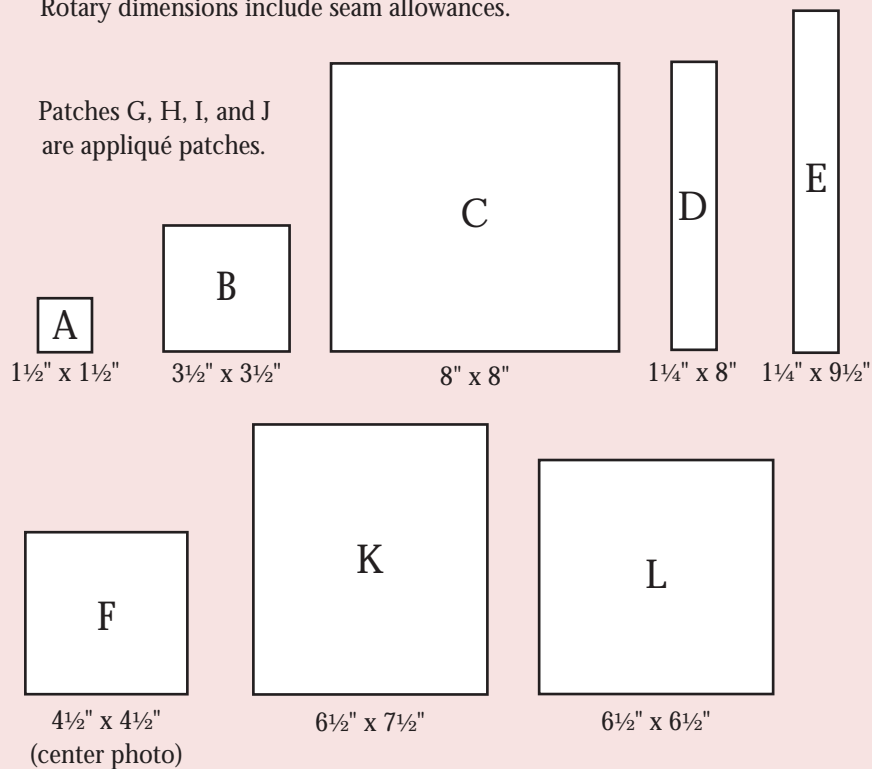
** See Printing the photo patches on page 54.

Supplies: 2 sheets (9" x 12") paper-backed fusible web

ROTARY CUTTING

Rotary dimensions include seam allowances.

Patches G, H, I, and J are appliqué patches.



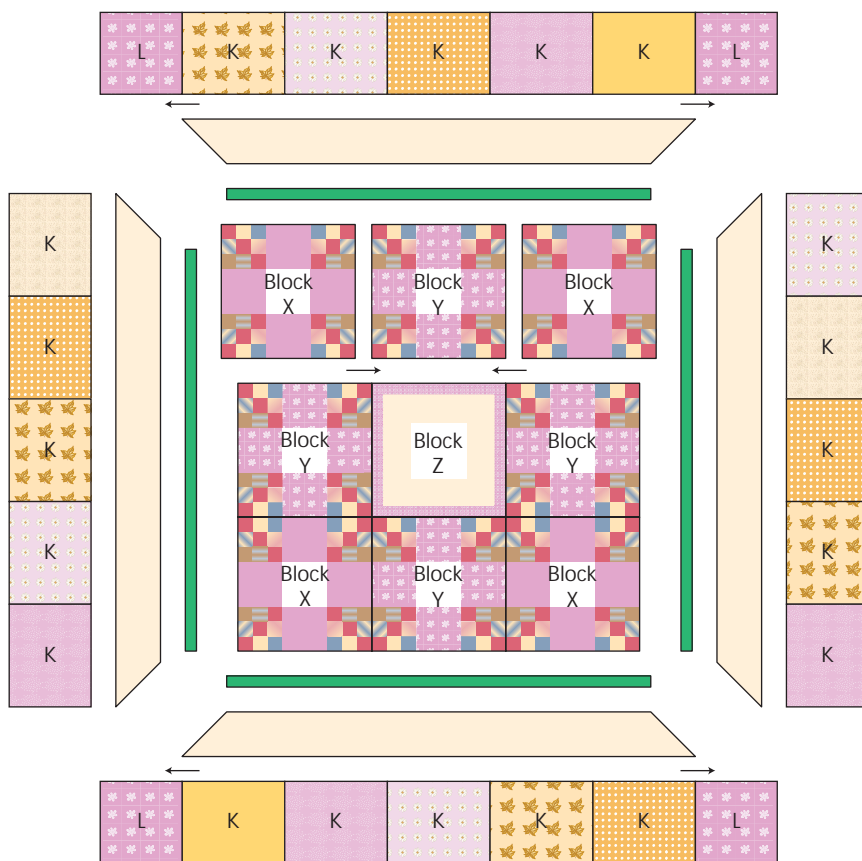
strips to this measurement. Sew them to the sides of the quilt and press the seam allowances toward the quilt center.

Sew the top and bottom border #3 strips to the quilt and press the seam allowances toward the quilt center.

Quilting and finishing

Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top. Baste the layers together. Quilt as desired avoiding stitching through the photo blocks. The featured quilt was quilted in meandering free-form swirls and flowers.

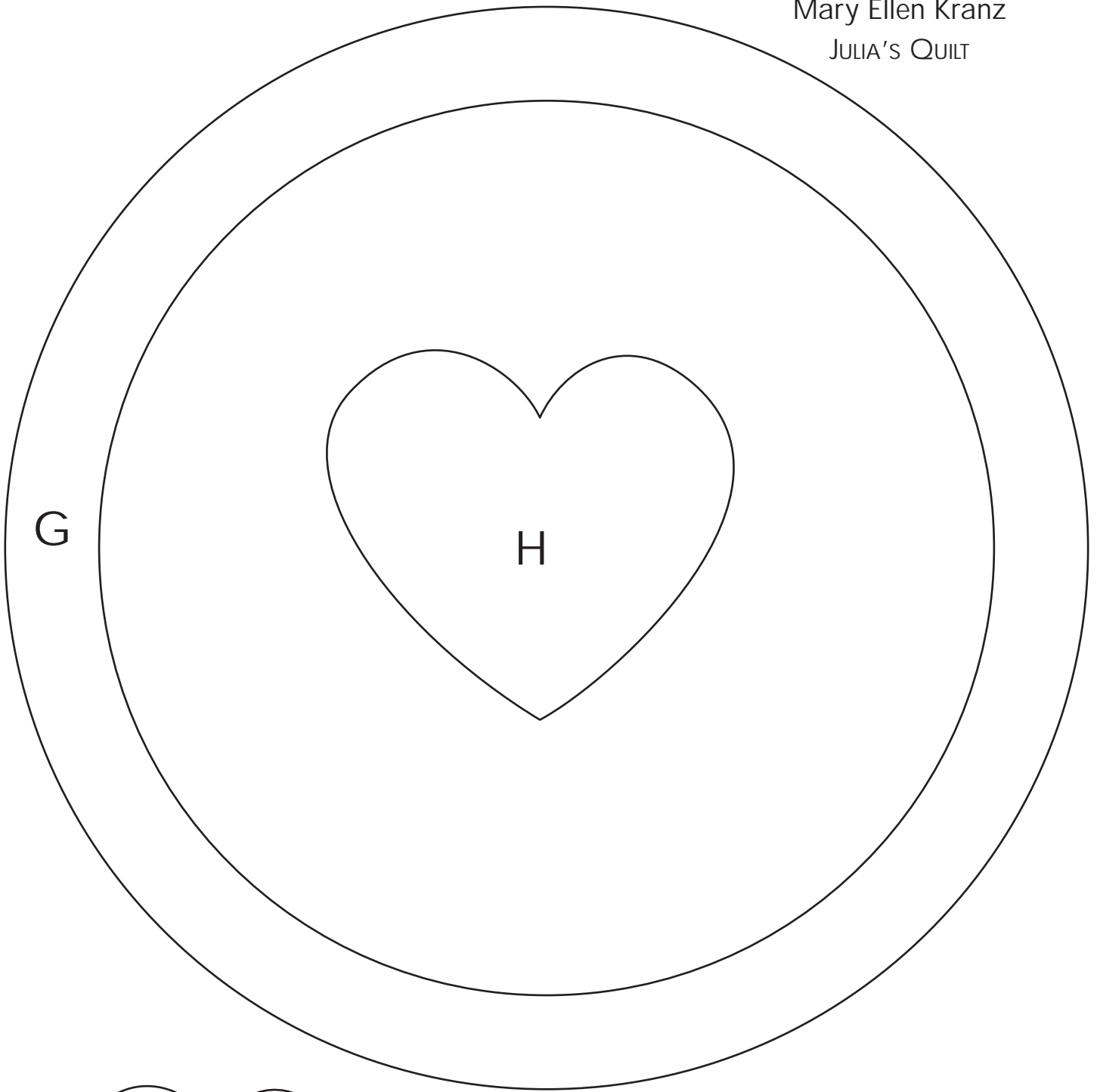
Sew the binding strips together with bias seams to make 192" of continuous binding. Use the strip to finish the edges of your quilt with double-fold binding. To display your quilt on a wall, make a sleeve and sew it to the back of your quilt. ♦



Quilt assembly

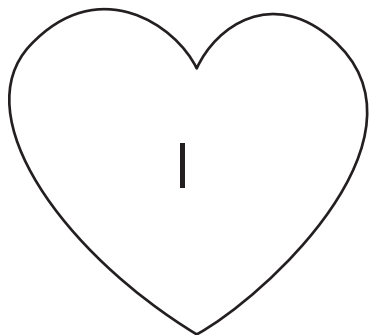


Detail, JULIA'S QUILT

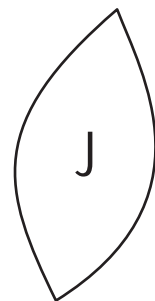


G

H



I



J