

CATNIP TEA PARTY

22½" x 22½"



# Catnip Tea Party

A few years ago, I bought an autograph book that dated from the 1880s. I gave the book to a friend as a gift, but one of the verses has always remained in my mind:

*“When this you see,  
Remember me,  
And take a little  
Catnip Tea”*

I knew that I would make a quilt someday as a reminder of that verse from long ago. I had been playing around with the design idea, for quite sometime, of two young ladies sharing tea on a sofa. I hope you like the results. The borders are made up of simple Nine-Patch blocks. I love the scrappy, postage-stamp look they create when placed side by side. Consider the teapots in the corners for other projects as well. I think they would look marvelous embroidered on tea towels.

## SUPPLY LIST

- 1 skein each of the following DMC® floss:
  - Blue 796
  - Red 304
  - Pink 603
  - Medium green 987
  - Light green 704
  - Black 310
  - Lavender 208
  - Peach 722
  - Brown 938
- ½ yd. background fabric for embroidery
- Total of 12 fat quarters; 6 medium or dark prints and 6 light prints for the Nine-Patch border
- ¼ yd. plaid fabric for inner border
- 27" x 27" batting
- 27" x 27" backing
- ¼ yd. binding fabric

## CUTTING MEASUREMENTS

**NINE-PATCH BLOCKS:** Cut 9 medium or dark strips, 18" x 2", from the medium and dark prints.

Cut 9 strips, 18" x 2", from the light prints.

**BACKGROUND:** Cut the center block 15" x 15". This will be trimmed to size after the embroidery is complete and the borders have been made.

Cut 4 corner squares, 5½" x 5½".

These will be trimmed to size before being added to the borders.

**INNER BORDER:** Cut 4 border strips, 1" x the length required. The length will be determined after the center block and the Nine-Patch borders are complete.

## DIRECTIONS

- Transfer the CATNIP TEA PARTY design to the background fabric by the method you prefer. Refer to the Transferring Your Designs to Fabric section, page 10.
- Transfer the 4 teapot designs to the 4 corner squares.
- Embroider the designs, using the stem stitch (Fig. 1, page 11) and 2 strands of floss, except on the faces, arms, and legs. Use 1 strand of floss on these.
- Sew 3 sets of 2 medium or dark and 1 light 18" x 2" print strips.
- Sew 3 sets of 2 light and 1 dark or medium 18" x 2" print strips (Fig. 9). Remember to vary each set.
- Cut these sets into 2" segments (Fig. 10).
- Make 12 Nine-Patch blocks. Eight of

the blocks should have dark or medium corners, and 4 should have light corners (Fig. 11).

- Sew 4 border strips by sewing 3 Nine-Patch blocks together. The blocks with the darker corners will be on either end, and the blocks with the light corners will be in the middle. Ideally, the borders will measure 14" long after they are sewn. If they are shorter don't be concerned.
- In all cases, trim your center block to measure  $\frac{1}{2}$ " less than the length of your Nine-Patch borders. In other words, if the borders measure 14" long, cut the center block  $13\frac{1}{2}$ " square. If the borders measure  $13\frac{1}{2}$ " long, cut the center block 13" square, and so on.

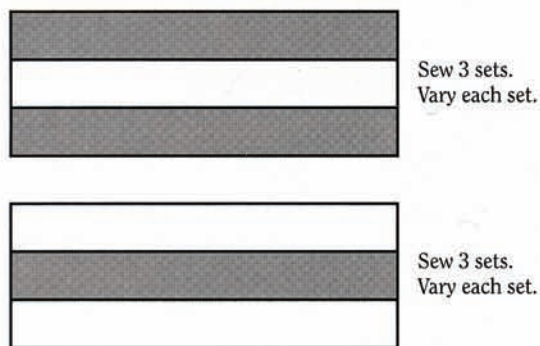


Fig. 9. Varying Strips Diagram

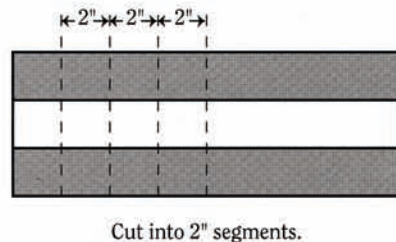
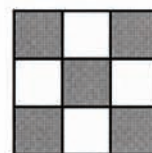
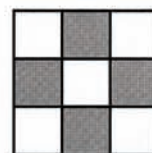


Fig. 10. 2" Segments Diagram



Make 8.



Make 4.

Fig. 11. Nine-Patch Blocks



- Cut 2 inner border strips, 1" x the width of your center block.
- Sew the inner border strips to the top and bottom of the center block.
- Cut 2 inner border strips, 1" x the length of the center block, plus the top and bottom inner borders.
- Sew these strips to the sides of the center block.
- Trim the teapot corner blocks to the exact size of the Nine-Patch blocks.
- Finish assembling the quilt according to the CATNIP TEA PARTY layout guide (Fig. 12).

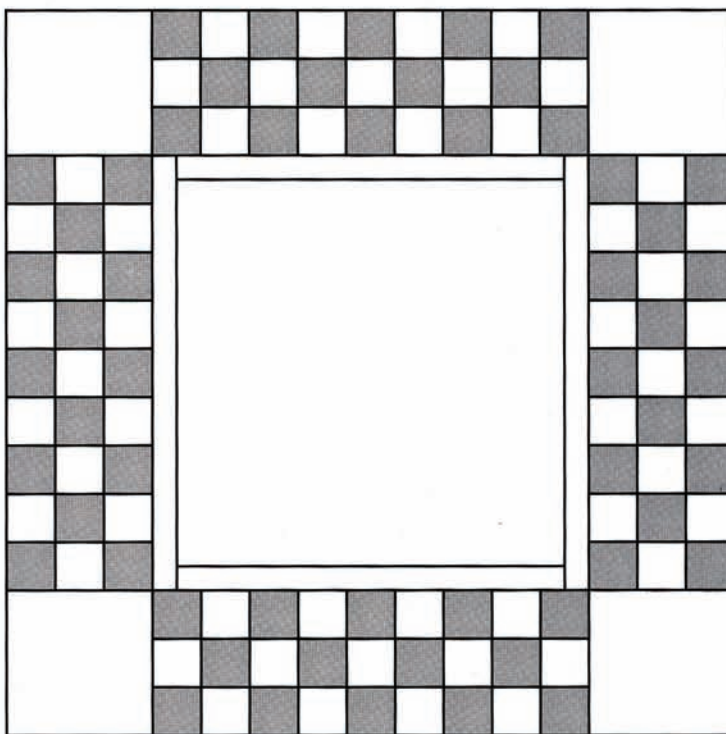
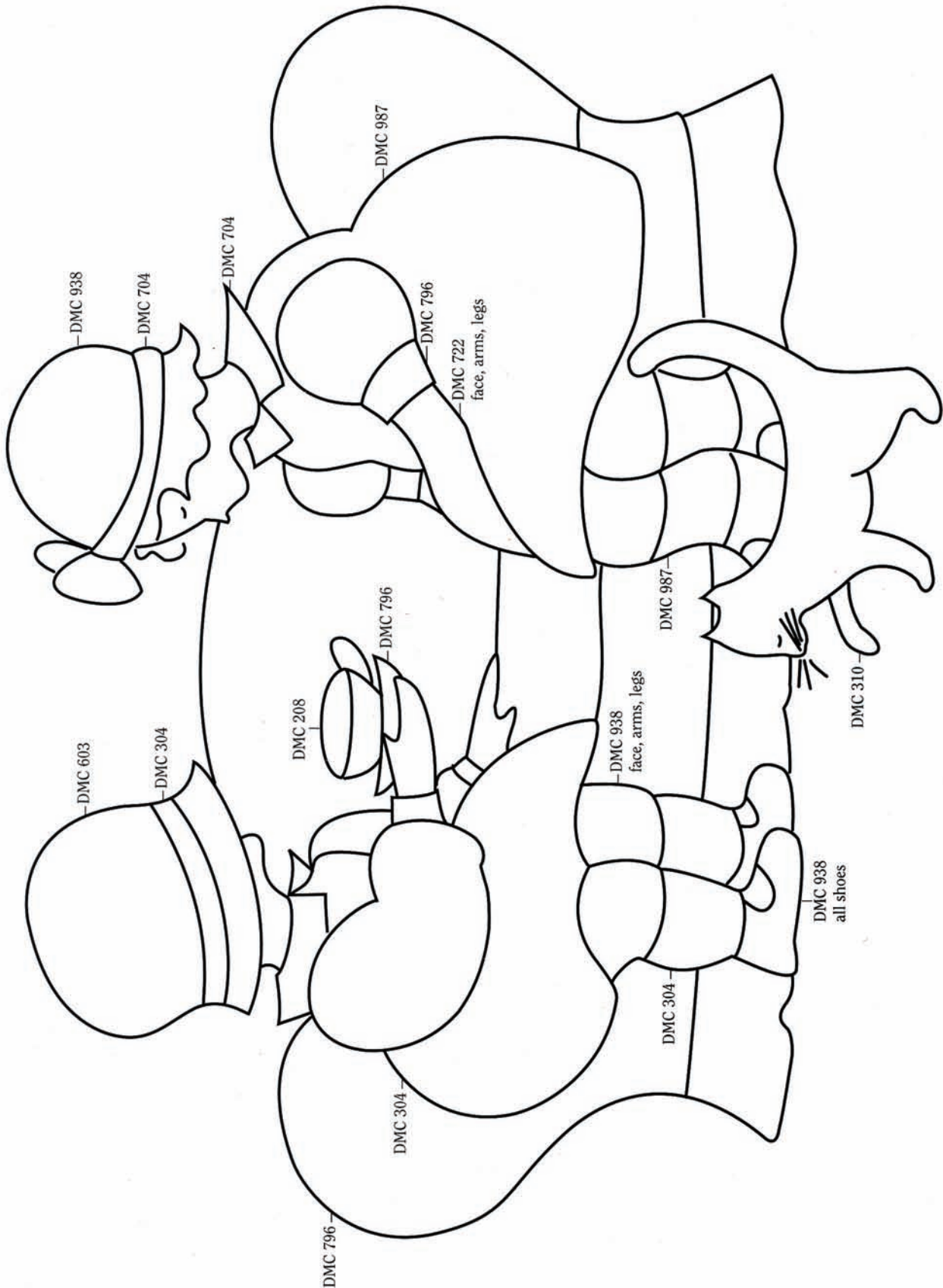


Fig. 12. CATNIP TEA PARTY Layout Guide

# Catnip Tea Party



*Catnip Tea Party and Tea Towel Fun*

