

Tea and Friendship

This small wall quilt, designed by Lesley Brankin, is a good introduction to transfer printing using a new product, Bubble Jet Set 2000. The mini quilt uses simple foundation pieced blocks and Seminole borders. If you prefer, the entire quilt can be made using traditional hand piecing methods.

Finished size: 9 x 18in (22 x 45cm)
Skill level: Intermediate



Materials

Based on 115cm width fabric

- ❖ 15cm* yellow print
- ❖ 40cm* raspberry (this is also used for the backing)
- ❖ 1 fat eighth of light pink fabric
- ❖ Scraps of check and berry fabrics
- ❖ Grease proof paper or thin Vilene for foundation piecing
- ❖ 25 x 50cm of 2oz polyester wadding
- ❖ Stranded yellow embroidery cotton (for tea cup handles)

Optional items:

- ❖ Bubble Jet Set 2000 (this needs freezer paper)
- ❖ 2 novelty teapot buttons
- ❖ 23cm (9in) heart wire hanger

* Fat quarters can be used if you are prepared to join strips for the Seminole border.

Transfer Printing

There are several methods for transferring images and text onto fabric. The main advantage with using Bubble Jet Set 2000 is that the fabric remains soft after printing (unlike some other methods which plasticise the fabric). Full instructions are provided with the medium.

Following the manufacturer's instructions apply the lettering which is shown full size on page 24 to an A4 sized piece of pink fabric.

Ensure that the lines of wording are well spaced out along the length of the fabric. Alternatively the words can be embroidered.

Foundation piecing

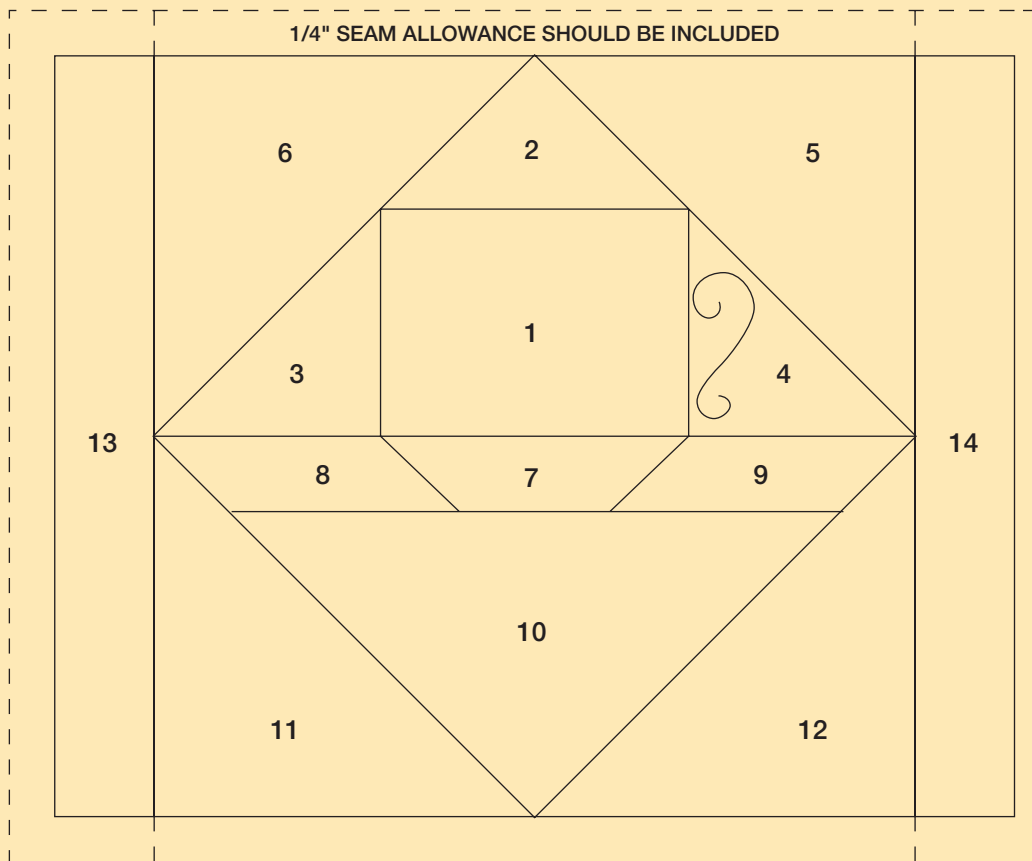
1 Refer to the block layouts in Fig 1 and 2 and using foundation piecing techniques, sew two teacup blocks and one central block. Ensure that $\frac{1}{4}$ in seam

TIPS

I used a Preston script with a 28 point size, but experiment with different fonts if you have a computer. If you do not have access to a computer and printer, many copy shops will be able to print the prepared fabric for you.



Photograph by Jonathan Farmer



allowances are included at the edge of the block.

Construction order of the teacup block

- Join blocks 1 to 6 (block A)
- Join blocks 7 to 10 (makes block B)
- Join block A to B
- Add strips 13 and 14

Construction order of the central block

- Join blocks 1 to 3 (block A)
- Join blocks 4 to 6 (block B)
- Join blocks 7 to 9 (block C)
- Join block A to B and B to C
- Add strips 10 and 11

2 From the pink transfer printed fabric, cut four strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ x $5\frac{1}{4}$ in, making sure that each line of text is centred in the strip. Sew the strips between the foundation pieced blocks as shown in the photograph.

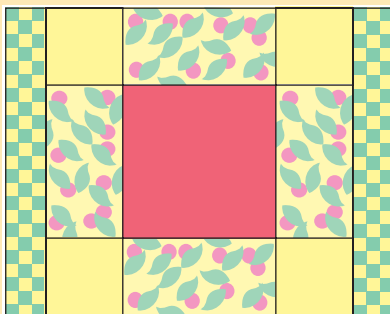


Fig 1. Teacup foundation block

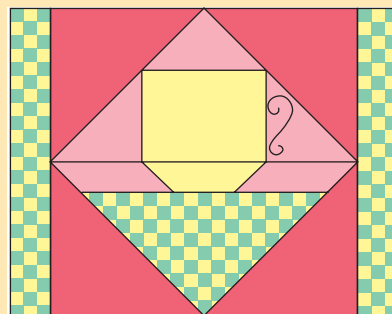


Fig 2. Central foundation block

Seminole border

1 Cut $1\frac{1}{4}$ in strips of yellow and 2in strips of raspberry fabric from the full width of fabric. (One and a half widths will be needed to make all the borders). Join the strips lengthways. Press.

2 Using a rotary cutter and mat, cut the sewn strip into sections $1\frac{3}{4}$ in wide. As shown in Fig 3, sew each

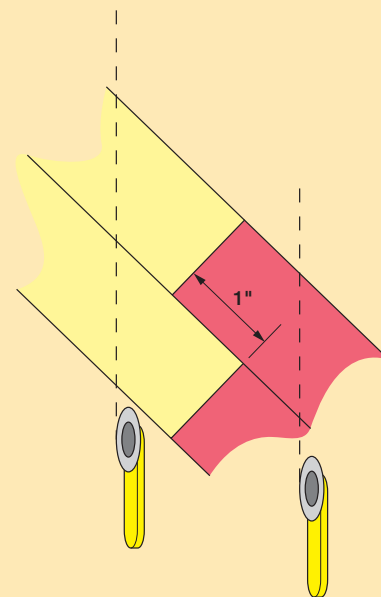
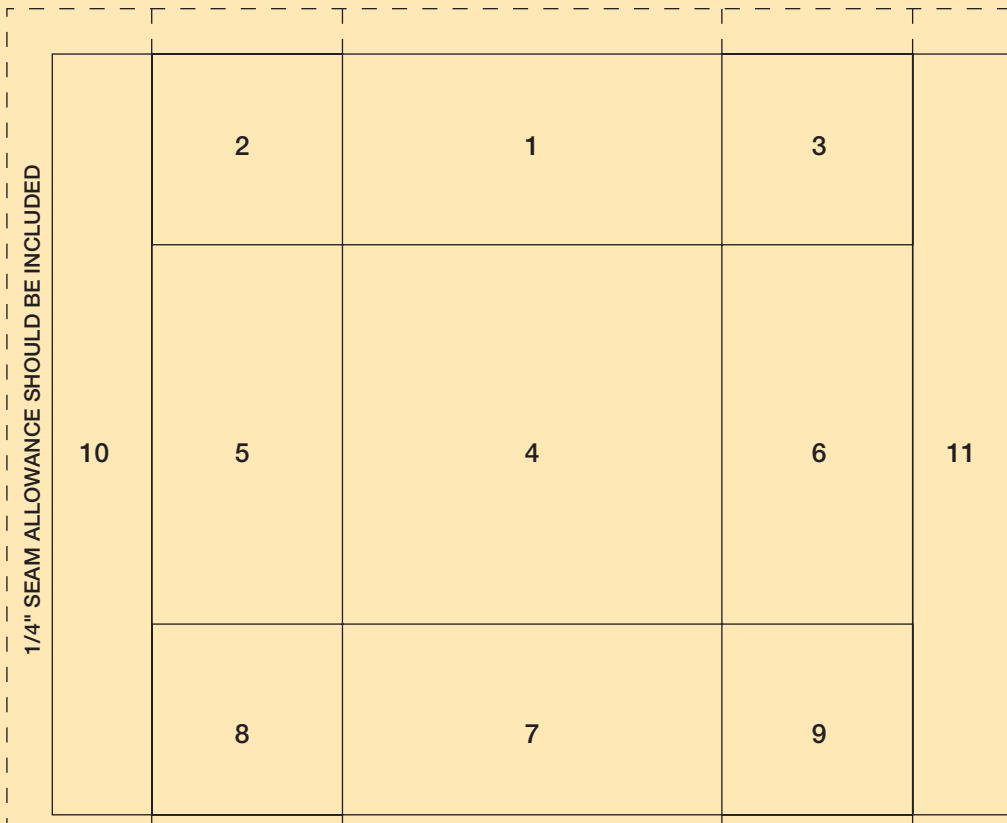


Fig 3. Seminole piecing and cutting

If Friends like you ..

all had Friends like me ..

What would get made

except Quilts and Tea!

section to its neighbour allowing a 1in offset. Make two Seminole strips consisting of eleven sections and two consisting of four sections. Press and trim the strips to 1½in wide.

3 Sew the Seminole strips to the border, centring triangles and attaching 1½in square corner blocks of berry fabric.

Finishing

1 Using a backstitch and three strands of stranded cotton, embroider handles to the teacups.

2 Cut the wadding slightly larger than the panel. Cut the backing fabric to the size of the panel plus 1½in all round. Make a quilt sandwich, pin and tack the layers.

3 Using a toning thread, machine quilt along the major seam lines and any minor seams required for

definition. Remove the tacking. Trim wadding to the same size as the front panel taking care not to cut the backing fabric. Trim backing to 1in larger than the front panel all round. Fold backing fabric over to the front to create a neat roll hem. Slip stitch in place, folding the corners neatly.

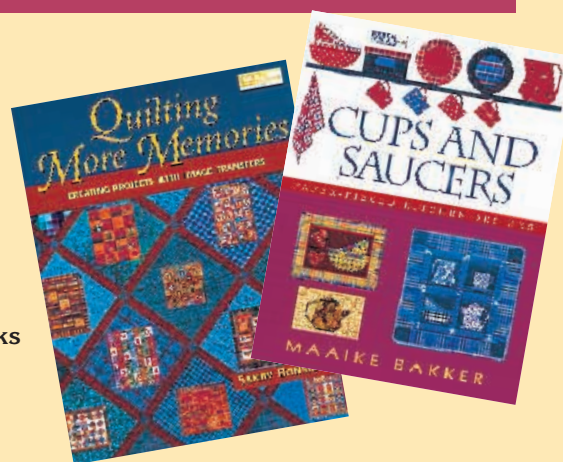
4 Sew on the teapot and teacup buttons. Attach the wire hanger using a narrow ¾in casing stitched to the back of the quilt. Add a quilt label (the Bubble Jet Set medium could be used to produce your own).

Suggested additional project

Reduce the size of the teacup or the central foundation block to a 3½in square and mount in a 3in square aperture three-fold card. This makes a lovely surprise for a tea-loving friend.

Suppliers

- Talisman Buttons tel 01474 822960
Teapot and teacup buttons. Ceramic (pink, blue or yellow) are £1.00 each, metal are 50p each and plastic (blue only) are 40p each.
- Homespun Hearts tel 01684 642901 or order from their website at www.homespunhearts.com
Wire hangers in a variety of sizes
- Rio Designs, Flint Cottage, Treacle Lane, Rushden, Buntingford SG9 0SL tel orders 01763 288234, email orders bjssales@riodesigns.co.uk or via the website at www.riodesigns.co.uk
Mail order supplier of Bubble Jet Set 2000, £17.45 by post or £12.45 at shows. Each customer also receives a list of Frequently Asked Questions and a sheet of tips from quiltmaker Caryl Bryer Fallert. Freezer paper is also available at 50p/m plus postage from Rio Designs.



If you have enjoyed this project, read the reviews of these two books on page 58.