



Easy Patchwork Quilt

By Alicia Sledge



Materials

- Cotton or similar fabric with pre-printed squares or other geometric shapes
- Backing fabric
- Batting, padding or thin felt (1mm thick or less)
- Sewing thread to match fabric or a colour that won't show)
- Needle (size 10 or 12 embroidery)
- Pins
- Scissors

Instructions

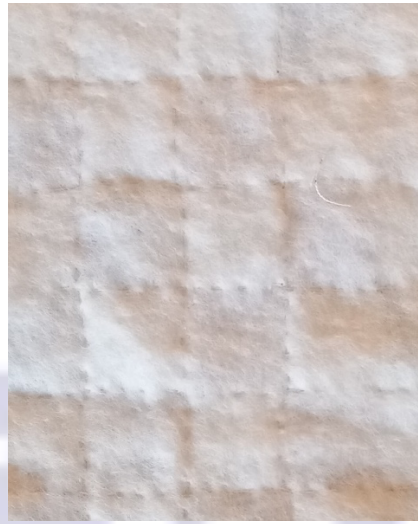
1. Start by deciding how big you want your finished quilt to be. If the pattern on the fabric does not exactly fit the size of your bed it is better to err on the large size to allow for the slight gathering as the quilt is stitched. Cut the patterned fabric to size adding ¼” all around to allow for hemming.
2. Cut the batting/felt padding to the size of your finished quilt – DO NOT add extra for hemming.
3. Pin the batting to the back of your patterned fabric.
4. Using tiny running stitches, sew along the lines of the fabric pulling it slightly to create a puckered effect as you stitch. *(Do not pull too much – you should only create a slight puckering of the fabric which will become more visible as more lines are stitched.)* Add occasional back stitches to help hold the ‘puckers’ in place.



A selection of fabrics that could be used for this project

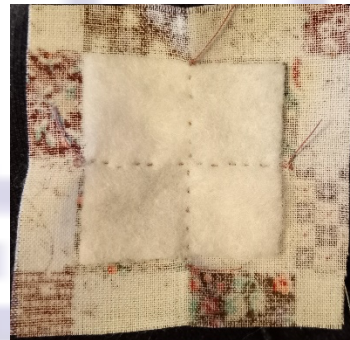


*Patterned fabric:
showing stitched lines*



*Back of patterned fabric: showing
stitched lines through padding.*

5. Once all the lines of the pattern have been stitched, cut backing fabric to the same size as the top (patterned) fabric. *(This is because your stitched top may be slightly smaller than the original size of fabric you cut out.)*
6. Pin the backing fabric to the right side of the top fabric and stitch the pieces together around the sides allowing a small gap in one side for turning inside out. *(Try not to sew any of the padding into the hem.)*
7. Turn your quilt right sides out and sew up the opening using tiny overcast stitches.
8. To enhance the ‘puffs’ of the quilt, stitch through all layers of the quilt at each intersection of the squares (or whatever shape you have chosen).



*The same technique could be used for cushions or pillows.
(Here you can see the stitching on the front and back of a cushion.)*

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