

Apron Strings Quilt

Introducing Andover Fabrics new collection: Apron Strings by Karen Stephens of Speckled Hen Quilts

Quilt designed by Karen Stephens

Planning

Follow the quilting tradition of your mother or grandmother when you make this two-block design with Depression Era reproduction fabrics. Snowball and Nine Patch blocks combine in this pleasing wall quilt or bed topper. A fast corner piecing technique makes quick and easy work of the construction.

Quilt finishes 67" x 67"

16 Snowball Blocks: 9" x 9" 9 Snowball Blocks: 9" x 9" 4 Nine Patch Blocks: 6" x 6"

Fabric Requirements & Cutting Directions

Note: A fat ½th is an 18" x 20"-22" cut. Borders are cut the exact lengths required plus ¼" seam allowances.		4328-P	Fat ¹ / ₄ yard Purple Leaves(Snowball blocks, Nine Patch blocks)
		Cut (1)	9½" square
Fat 1/4 yard of each of the following fabrics		Cut (10)	3½" squares
(Snowball blocks, binding)			
From each, cut a 9½" square and 2½"-wide strips for binding		4328-R	Fat ¼ yard Red Leaves (Snowball blocks,
4325-B	Red Dots on Blue		Nine Patch blocks)
	Purple Dots on Black	Cut (1)	9½" square
-	Blue Posies	Cut (15)	3½" squares
4326-G	Green Posies		
4326-O	Orange Posies	1867-B9	½ yard Blue Dimples (inner border)
4327-B	Big Flowers on Blue	Cut (6)	$2\frac{1}{2}$ " x width of fabric strips, pieced to make the
4327-P	Big Flowers on Purple		following:
4329-G	Green Boxed Flowers		(2) borders 2½" x 55½"
4329-R	Red Boxed Flowers		(2) borders 2½" x 51½"
4330-N	Yellow Flowers & Red Lilacs		
4330-P	Pink Flowers & Purple Lilacs	1867-WW	7 1½ yards White Dimples (6" and 9"
4330-R	Blue Flowers & Red Lilacs		Nine Patch blocks, Snowball blocks,
			setting triangles)
4328-B	15/8 yards Blue Leaves (Snowball blocks,	Cut (3)	14" squares, cut in half twice diagonally to make
	Nine Patch blocks, outer border)		12 quarter-square triangles
Cut (4)	borders 6½" x 55½", cut lengthwise	Cut (2)	7¼" squares, cut in half diagonally to make
Cut (1)	9½" square		4 half-square triangles
Cut (10)	3½" squares	Cut (100)	3½" squares
Cut (20)	2½" squares	Cut (16)	2½" squares
4328-O	Fat ¼ yard Orange Leaves (Snowball blocks, Nine Patch blocks)	*Additional fabric required for backing.	
Cut (1)	9½" square	4326-B	41/4 yards Blue Posies (backing)
Cut (10)	3½" squares	Cut and piece to fit quilt top with 4" overlap on all sides.	

Making and Assembling the Quilt

- 1. Fast-45 Snowball Blocks. Lightly draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of 64 white Dimples 3½" squares. Align the square on the corner of a 9½" square, right sides together. Stitch just outside the diagonal line (Diagram 1). Press the square up to be certain that the little triangle matches the corner of the square. If it doesn't match exactly, restitch. Once it matches, trim the excess fabric from behind. Repeat on all 4 corners of the square. Make 16 Snowball Blocks like this.
- 2. Nine Patch Blocks. Refer to the Nine Patch Block Diagram. Join 5 leaf print 3½" squares and 4 white Dimples 3½" squares to make a block. Measure to be sure that the block is 9½" from raw edge to raw edge. If it is not, adjust stitching. Make 2 yellow blocks, 2 blue blocks, 2 purple blocks, and 3 red blocks. Likewise, join 5 blue leaf print 2½" squares and 4 white Dimples 2½" squares to make 4 Nine Patch Blocks that should measure 6½" from raw edge to raw edge.
- Refer to the Quilt Diagram throughout the assembly. Join the large Nine Patch Blocks, Snowball
 Blocks, and the white Dimples small corner triangles
 and large side triangles in diagonal rows. Join the
 rows.
- 4. Sew short blue Dimples border strips to sides. Sew long blue borders to top and bottom.
- 5. Sew blue leaf print borders to sides of quilt. Sew a 6" Nine Patch Block to each end of remaining borders. Sew to the top and bottom of the quilt.

Finishing the Quilt

- 6. Layer quilt with batting and backing. Quilt in the ditch around borders and block patches. Quilt around the printed motifs inside the Snowball Blocks. Quilt the wide border with a motif of your choice.
- 7. Join 2½"-wide strips cut from leftover fabrics to make a continuous binding that is approximately 7½ yards long. Bind with pieced binding to finish the quilt.

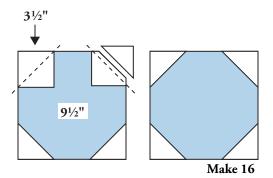


Diagram 1 – Snowball Block

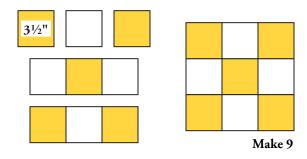


Diagram 2 – 9" Nine Patch Block

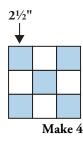
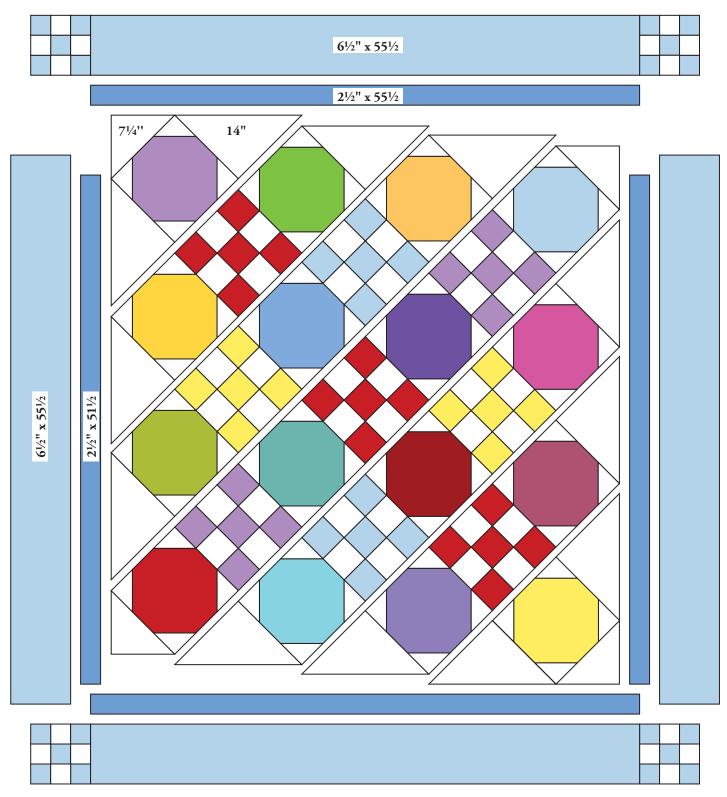


Diagram 3 – 6" Nine Patch Block



Quilt Diagram

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