Your Heart Touches Ours Tote
Skill Level: Intermediate



'Your bravery and service of country
led you to offer all to show you care.
We wanted to let you know we love you
and you were not alone out there.

Your heart has touched so many others
and kept their hopes and dreams alive.
Without courageous people like you
our great nation could not survive'.

With unending gratitude,
we dedicate this quilt to you.

Legacy™ by Pellon® presents 'Your Heart Touches Ours' (Quilted Tote), designed by Alexandra Henry for Quilted in Honor, an initiative created to support Operaton Homefront. The block was designed so that when blocks are sewn together, they create a second heart in between each heart. Sections on the block's outer rows are removed so that the main heart touches the edge on each side. Detailed instructions for piecing the blocks are included in this project that will help more inexperienced quilters have success. If you prefer foundation piecing, the 'Your Heart Touches Ours' quilt has foundation pieced blocks. Alexandra's website is http://www.artbyalexa.com

Fabrics Needed



Fabric A - Island Batik KP02-1US	1/2 yard
Fabric B - Island Batik US03-2	1/4 yard (width of fabric)
Fabric C - Island Batik US08-5	3/8 yard
Fabric D - Island Batik US02-2	3/4 yard
Fabric E - Island Batik US07-6	3/4 yard

Materials Needed

Pellon® TP971F Fusible Thermolam® Plus	1 yard
Pellon® SF101 Shape-Flex®	3 yards
Thread	

Tools Needed

Sewing machine and related supplies
Rotary cutter and related supplies

Graphic Artist Alexandra Henry

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Cutting Instructions

All strips are cut width of fabric.

Fabric A	Cut six 1-1/2″ strips for blocks. Cut one 1-7/8″ strip for blocks. Cut two 2-1/2″ strips for blocks.
Fabric B	Cut four 1-1/2″ strips for blocks. Cut one 1-7/8″ strip for blocks.
Fabric C	Cut one 2-1/2“ strip for strap. Cut six 1-1/2″ strips for blocks. Cut one 4-1/2“ strip for blocks.
Fabric D	Cut two 2-3/4″ strips for border. Cut one 2-1/2“ strip for border. Cut one 5″ x 19″ rectangle for bottom. Cut one 19-1/2″ x 19″ square for lining pocket.
Fabric E	Cut one 19″ x 37″ rectangle for lining.

Subcutting Instructions

After cutting the pieces, place them in a baggie and mark.

Fabric A

Cut eight 1-3/4″ squares from the 1-7/8″ strip.
Cut eight 4-1/2″ x 1-1/2″ rectangles from 1-1/2″ strips.
Cut fifty-six 1-1/2″ squares from 1-1/2″ strips.
Cut forty-four 2-1/2″ x 1-1/2″ rectangles from 1-1/2″ strips.
Cut eight 4-1/2″ x 2-1/2″ rectangles from 2-1/2″ strips.
Cut four 2-1/2″ squares from a 2-1/2″ strip.

Fabric B

Cut eight 1-3/4″ squares from the 1-7/8″ strip.
Cut forty 1-1/2″ squares from 1-1/2″ strips.
Cut forty 2-1/2″ x 1-1/2″ rectangles from 1-1/2″ strips.

Fabric C

Cut sixteen 4-1/2″ x 1-1/2″ rectangles from the 4-1/2“ strip.
Cut ninety-six 1-1/2″ squares from 1-1/2″ strips.
Cut eight 2-1/2″ x 1-1/2″ rectangles from 1-1/2″ strips.

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Block Instructions

Step 1. After making each set of units, place the units in a baggie and mark the baggie for easy sorting in later steps. All seam allowances are 1/4" unless otherwise indicated.

Half Square Triangles (HST) - Make sixteen

Step 2. Place one fabric A 1-7/8" square right sides together with one fabric B 1-7/8" square. Have the lighter fabric on top.



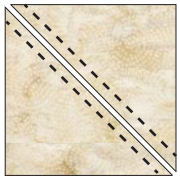
Step 3. Draw a line diagonallly from upper left to lower right.



Step 4. Stitch 1/4" on either side of the drawn line.



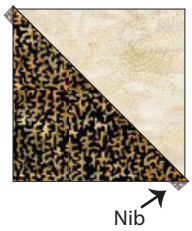
Step 5. Cut on the drawn line.



Step 6. Open the HST unit and press toward the darker fabric.



Step 7. Cut the two nibs off the HST unit.



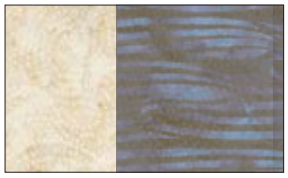
Repeat these steps until sixteen HST units are made. Set aside in a baggie for a later step.

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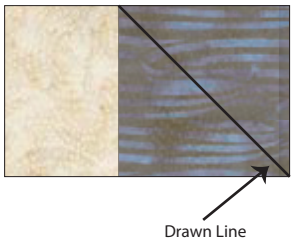
Flying Geese Units - Make thirty-two A/C and eight C/A

Step 8. Place one fabric A 2-1/2" x 1-1/2" rectangle right sides together with one fabric C 1-1/2" square as shown.

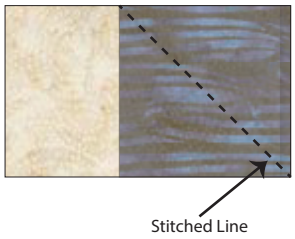


NOTE: If using a striped fabric, double check before sewing to make sure stripe is oriented properly.

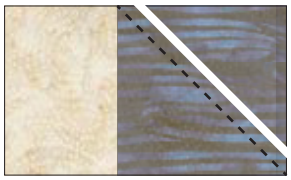
Step 9. Draw a line on the fabric C rectangle from upper left to bottom right.



Step 10. Stitch on the drawn line.



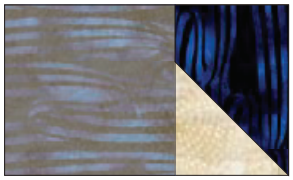
Step 11. Trim seam allowance to 1/4".



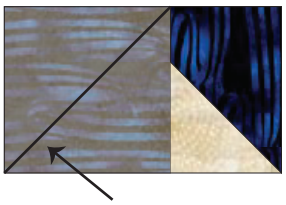
Step 12. Open the fabric and press in direction of the arrow.



Step 13. Place one 1-1/2" square fabric C right sides together with the flying geese unit as shown.

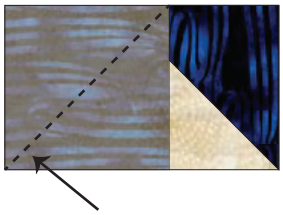


Step 14. Draw a diagonal line from upper right to lower left as shown.



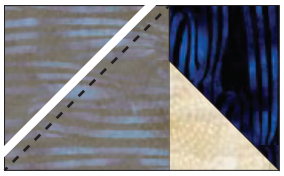
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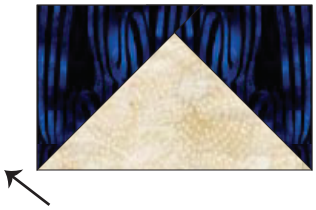
Step 15. Stitch on drawn line.



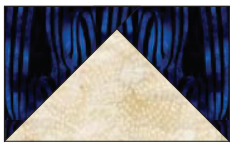
Stitched Line

Step 16. Trim the seam allowance to 1/4".

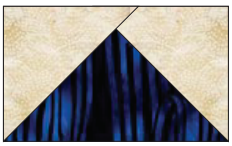




Step 17. Open the fabric and press in direction of the arrow.



Make thirty-two

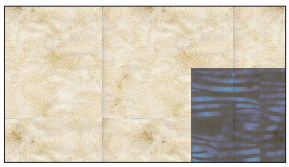


Make eight

Step 18. Repeat these steps to create thirty-two flying geese units with the base from fabric A and the wings from fabric C. Create 8 with the base from fabric C and the wings from fabric A. Place in a baggie and set aside.

Half Snowball Unit - Make eight

Step 19. Place one fabric C 1-1/2" square in the lower right corner of one fabric A 4-1/2" x 2-1/2" rectangle.

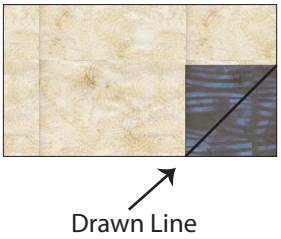


NOTE: If using a striped fabric, double check before sewing to make sure the stripe is oriented properly.

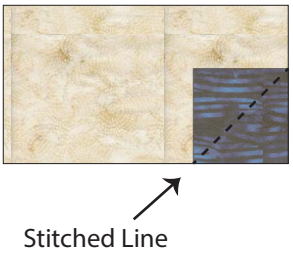
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Step 20. Draw a diagonal line on the fabric C square from upper right to lower left.



Step 21. Stitch along drawn line.

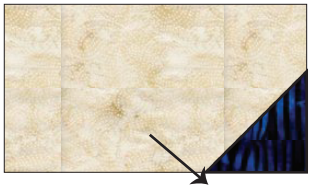


Step 22. Trim seam allowance to 1/4".

HINT: For extra stability while ironing, open and press the piece before trimming the seam allowance. Fold it back down before cutting.



Step 23. Open fabric piece and press in direction of arrow.

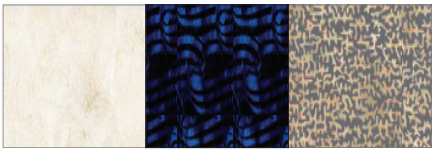


Step 24. Repeat Steps 19 through 23 with one fabric C 1-1/2" square and the bottom left corner.

Repeat these steps to make eight of this unit. Place in a baggie and mark.

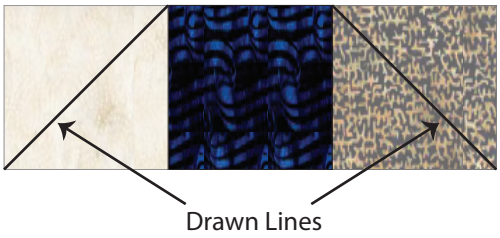


Step 25. Place one each fabric A and fabric B 1-1/2" squares right sides together with one fabric C 4-1/2" x 1-1/2" rectangle as shown. Make eight of this unit.

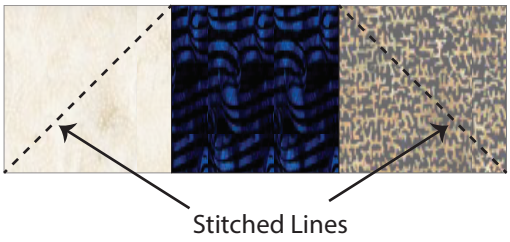


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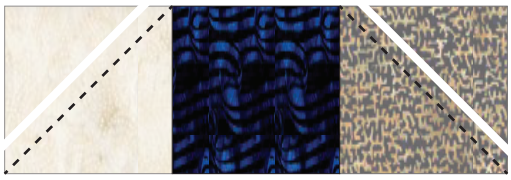
Step 26. Draw diagonal lines from the upper inner corners of the 1-1/2" squares to the bottom outer corners as shown.



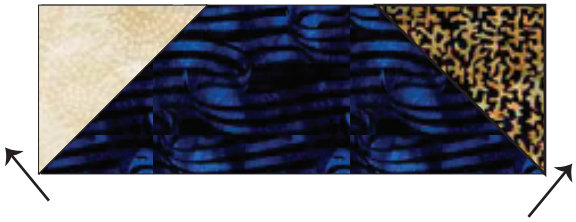
Step 27. Stitch on the drawn lines.



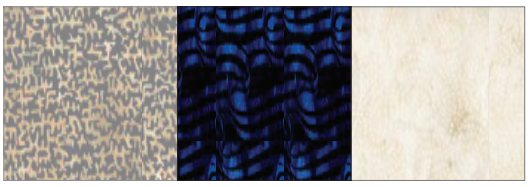
Step 28. Trim seam allowances to 1/4".



Step 29. Open the pieces and press in direction of the arrows.



Step 30. Repeat Steps 25 through 29 with the positions of the fabric A and fabric B 1-1/2" squares reversed as shown in the photo. Make eight of this unit.

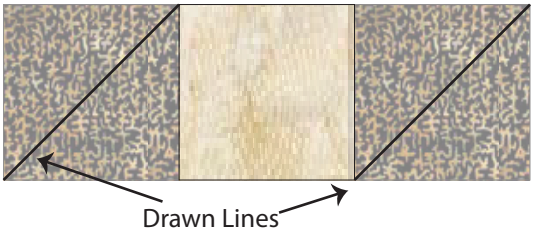


Step 31. Place these sixteen units in a baggie and mark as 'outside edge heart pieces'.

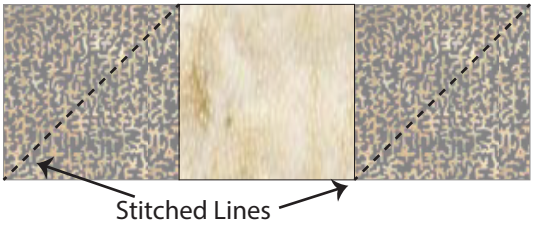


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Step 32. Place one fabric B 1-1/2" square on each end of one fabric A 4-1/2" x 1-1/2" rectangle with right sides together. Draw diagonal lines as shown. Make four of this unit.



Step 33. Stitch on the drawn lines.



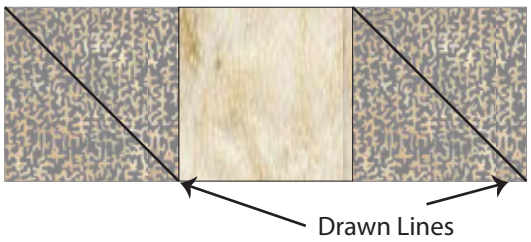
Step 34. Trim seam allowances to 1/4".



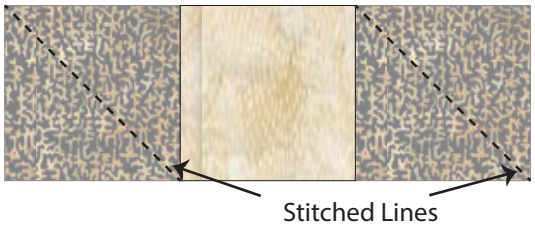
Step 35. Open pieces and press in direction of arrows.



Step 36. Place one fabric B 1-1/2" square on each end of one fabric A 4-1/2" x 1-1/2" rectangle with right sides together. Draw diagonal lines as shown. Make four of this unit. These four units will be the mirror image of the four made in Steps 32 through 36.



Step 37. Stitch on the drawn lines.



Step 38. Trim seam allowances to 1/4".



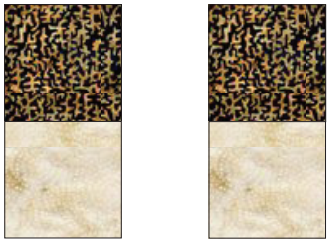
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Step 39. Open pieces and press in direction of arrows.

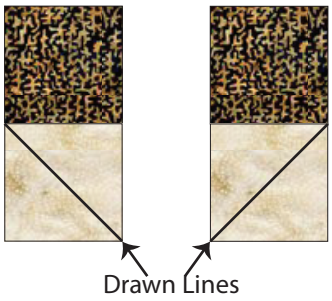


Place these eight units into a baggie and mark it 'block outer column'.

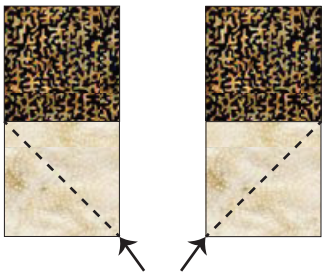
Step 40. Make both mirror images at the same time by placing one each fabric A 1-1/2" square right sides together with one each fabric B 2-1/2" x 1-1/2" rectangle as shown. Make twelve of each of these units.



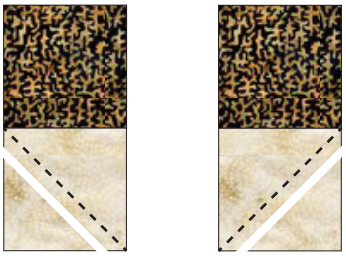
Step 41. Draw a diagonal line through each unit as shown at right. The two drawn lines are mirror images of each other.



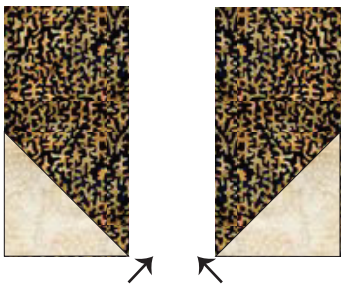
Step 42. Stitch on the drawn line for both units.



Step 43. Trim seam allowances to 1/4".

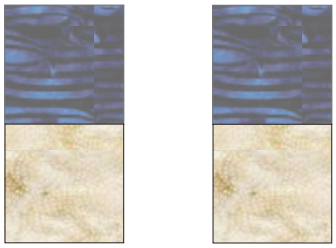


Step 44. Open fabric pieces and press in direction of arrows. Place these twenty-four units into a baggie and mark it 'below outside heart edge pieces'.

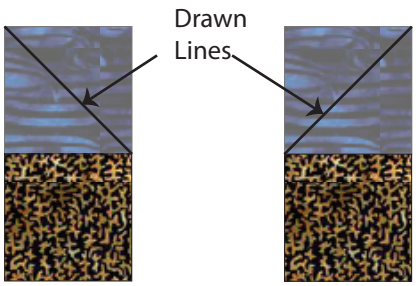


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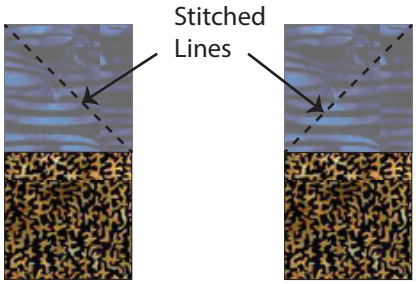
Step 45. Make both mirror images at the same time by placing one each fabric C 1-1/2" square right sides together with one each fabric B 2-1/2" x 1-1/2" rectangle. Make eight each of these units.



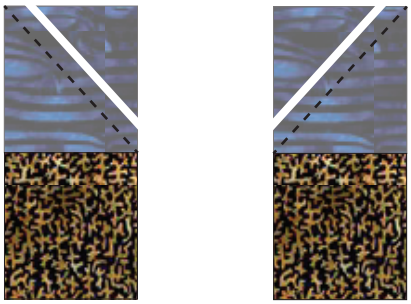
Step 46. Draw a diagonal line through each unit as shown at right. The two drawn lines are mirror images of each other.



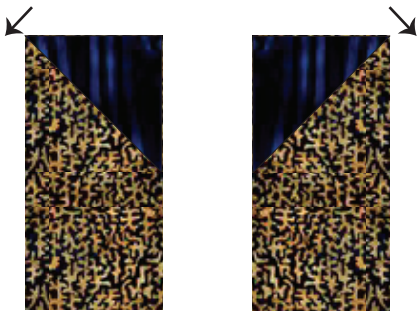
Step 47. Stitch on the drawn line for both units.



Step 48. Trim seam allowances to 1/4".

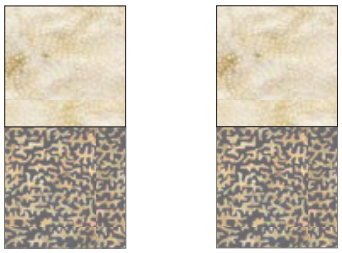


Step 49. Open fabric pieces and press in direction of arrows. Place these sixteen units into a baggie and mark it 'lower heart pieces'.

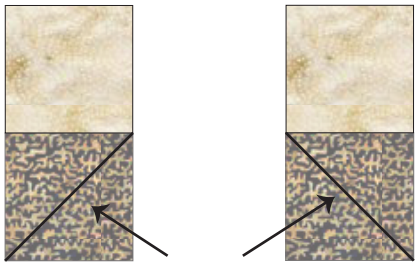


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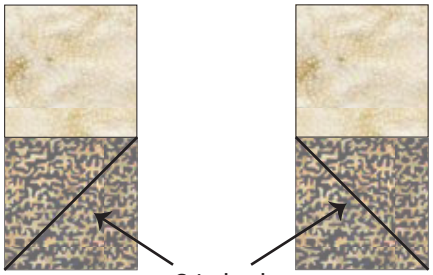
Step 50. Make both mirror images at the same time by placing one each fabric B 1-1/2" square right sides together with one each fabric C 2-1/2" x 1-1/2" rectangle. Make four of each of these units.



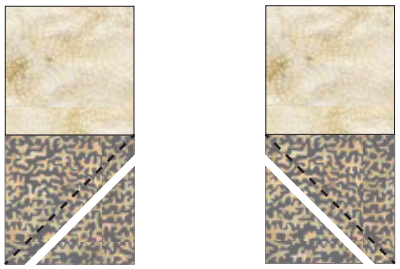
Step 51. Draw a diagonal line on each unit as shown at right. Drawn lines are mirror images of each other.



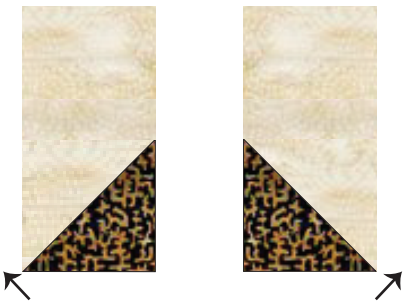
Step 52. Stitch on the drawn lines.



Step 53. Trim seam allowances to 1/4".



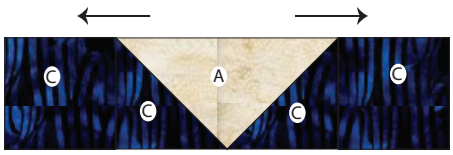
Step 54. Open pieces and press seams in direction of arrows. Place these eight units in a baggie and mark it 'lower border row'.



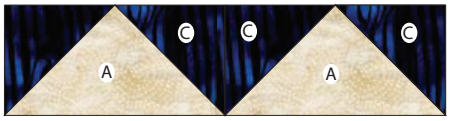
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Building The Blocks

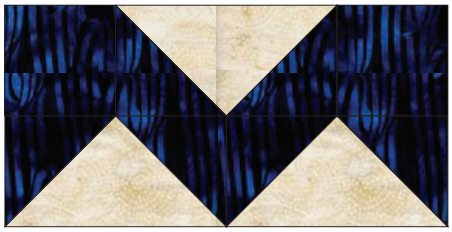
Step 55. Sew one fabric C 1-1/2" square on each side of one fabric A/C flying geese unit as shown. Make eight of this unit. Press seams in direction of arrows.



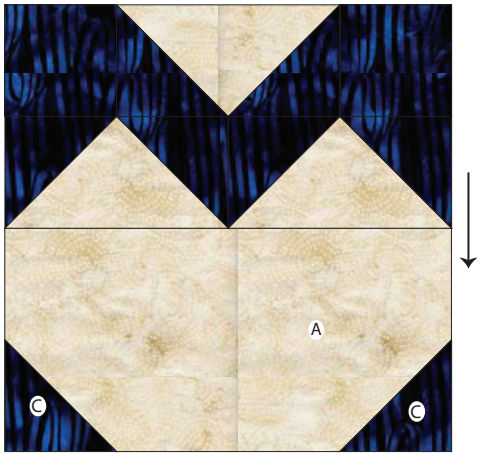
Step 56. Sew two fabric A/C flying geese together as shown. Make eight of this unit. Press seam open.



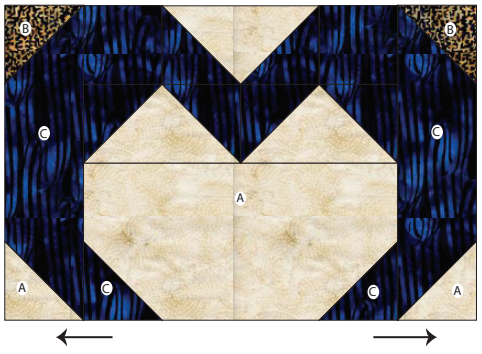
Step 57. Sew the two units created in Steps 55 and 56 together as shown. Press seam open. Make eight of these.



Step 58. Sew the half snowball units to the sections created previously in Step 57. Press seam in the direction of the arrow.

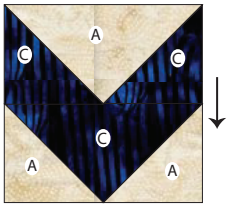


Step 59. Sew one each of 'outside edge heart pieces' as shown to each side of the block section. Press seams in the direction of the arrows.

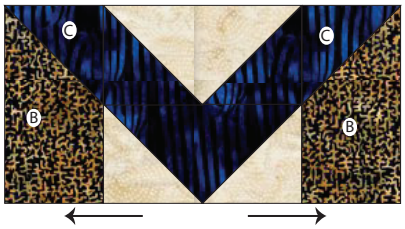


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Step 60. Sew one A/C flying geese unit to one C/A flying geese unit as shown. Press seam in direction of arrow. Make eight of this unit.



Step 61. Sew one 'lower heart piece' as shown to each side of the unit sewn previously in Step 60. Press seams in direction of arrows. Repeat for all eight units.



Step 62. Sew one 'below outside heart edge piece' as shown to each side of the section sewn previously in Step 61. Press seams in direction of arrows. Repeat for all eight units.



Step 63. Sew the two sections together as shown. Press seam open. Repeat for all eight sections. These will now be called the 'block base'.



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Step 64. Sew one fabric A/B HST on each end of four of the 'block outer column' unit as shown. Align the piece B fabrics as shown. Press seam allowances in direction of arrows.



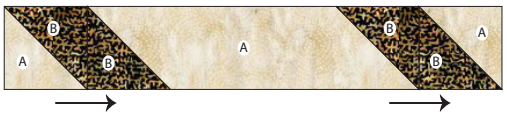
Step 65. Sew the unit made in Step 64 to the right side of the block base as shown. Press seam in direction of arrow. Repeat for a total of four blocks.

Two of these four blocks are finished. Set them aside for a later step. The remaining two blocks are called Block A.



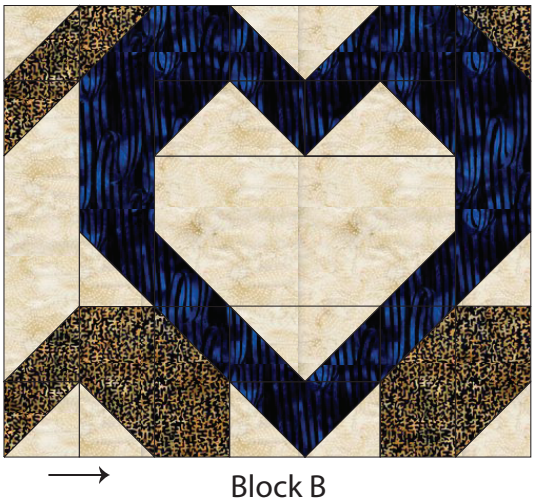
Block A

Step 66. Sew one fabric A/B HST on each end of the remaining four 'block outer column' units as shown. Align the piece B fabrics as shown. Press seam allowances in direction of arrows.



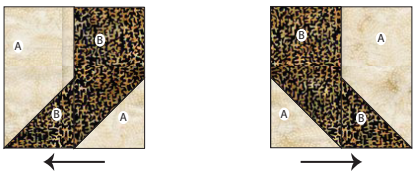
Step 67. Sew the unit made in Step 66 to the left side of one of the remaining four blocks as shown. Press seam in direction of arrow. Repeat for a total of four blocks.

Two of these four blocks are finished. Set them aside for a later step. The remaining two blocks are called Block B.



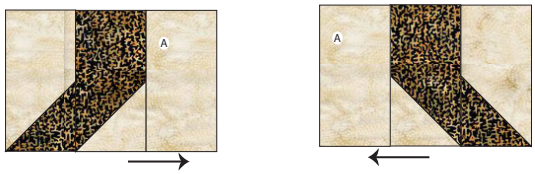
Block B

Step 68. Sew one 'below outside heart edge piece' to one 'lower border row' unit as shown. Press seams in direction of arrows. Make four of each unit.

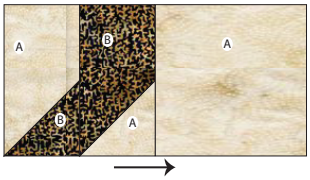


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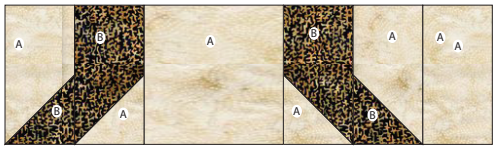
Step 69. Sew one fabric A 1-1/2" x 2-1/2" rectangle to two each of the units made in Step 68 as shown. Press seams in direction of arrows.



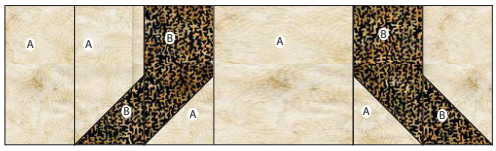
Step 70. Sew one fabric A 2-1/2" square to each of the remaining four units from Step 68. Press seams in direction of arrows.



Step 71. Sew the units made in Steps 69 and 70 as shown. Press seams in direction of arrows. There will be two of each sections.

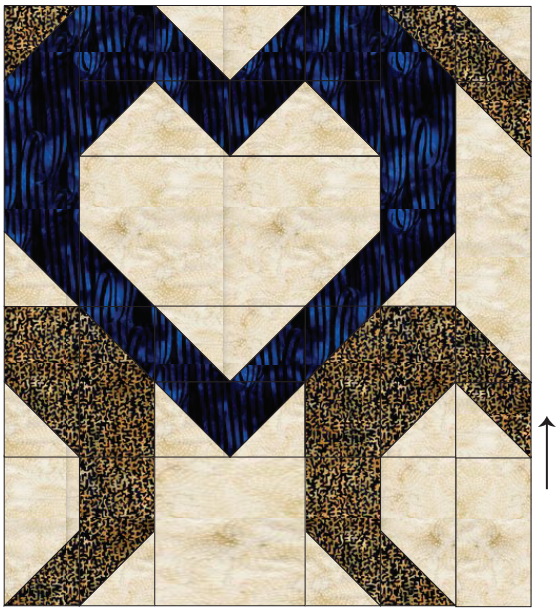


Section A



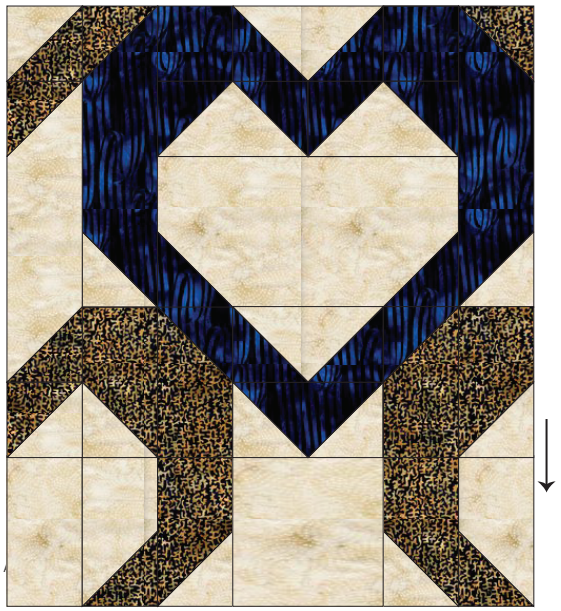
Section B

Step 72. Sew one Section A to Block A as shown. Press seam in direction of arrow. Repeat for a total of two block units.



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Step 73. Sew one Section B to Block B as shown. Press seam in direction of arrow. Repeat for a total of two block units.



Step 74. Sew two each of the block units together as shown. Press seams in direction of arrows. Make two of each.



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Step 75. Sew the four blocks together as shown for the tote front. Press seam open. Repeat with the other set of blocks for the tote back.



Constructing the Tote

Step 76. Cut four 2-3/4" x 14-1/2" rectangles from the fabric D 2-3/4" strips. Sew one rectangle to each side of the tote front and tote back. Press seams towards the rectangles.



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Step 77. Cut two fabric D 2-1/2" x 19" rectangles. Sew one rectangle each to the top of the front and back of the tote. Press seams toward the rectangles.



Step 78. Sew the fabric D 5" x 19" rectangle to the bottom of both the front and back of the tote. Press seam toward the rectangle.

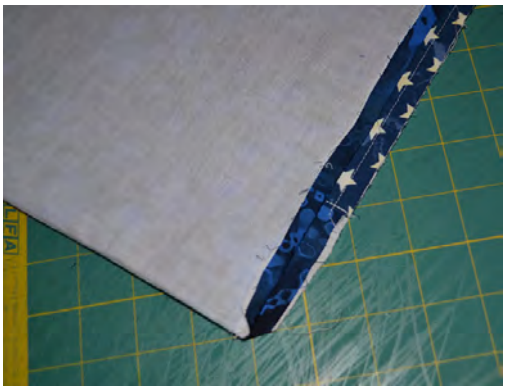


Step 79. Cut one 19" x 37" rectangle of Fusible Thermolam® Plus. Fuse the Fusible Thermolam® Plus to the wrong side of the tote, following manufacturer's instructions.

Step 80. Cut two 19" x 37" rectangles of Shape-Flex®. Fuse one rectangle of Shape-Flex® to the Thermolam® Plus, following manufacturer's instructions.

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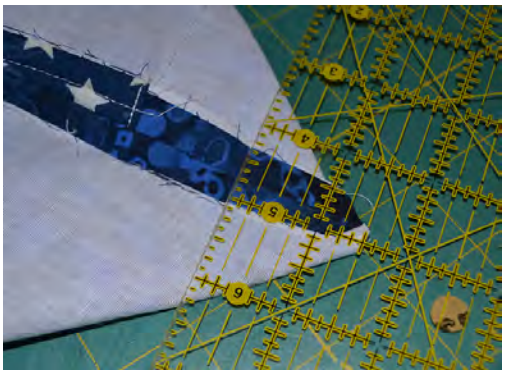
Step 81. Place the front and back of the tote right sides together, aligning the raw edges. Stitch the side seams using a 1/2" seam allowance. Press seams open.



Step 82. Place one side seam of the tote flat as shown. The length of the side seam should be against the center of the bottom of the tote.



Step 82. Place a ruler 1-1/2" from the point of the tote. Draw a line across the point of the tote on that 1-1/2" line.

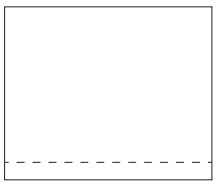


Step 83. Stitch on that line, backstitching at the start and stop. Trim seam allowance to 1/4".



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Step 84. For the pocket, cut one 19-1/2" x 19" rectangle of Shape-Flex®. Fuse the Shape-Flex to the wrong side of the fabric D 19-1/2" x 19" rectangle following manufacturer's instructions. Fold in half along the 19-1/2" side with wrong sides together. Stitch the side opposite the fold using a 1/4" seam allowance.



Step 85. Turn the pocket right side out. Press. Topstitch along the folded edge.



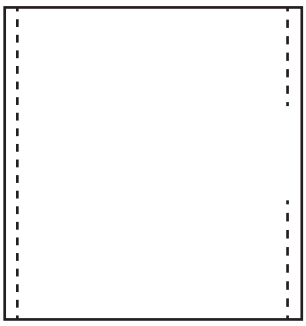
Step 86. Fuse the remaining 19" x 37" rectangle of Shape-Flex® to the wrong side of the 19" x 37" rectangle of lining fabric following manufacturer's instructions.

Step 87. Place the top of the pocket 6" down from the raw edge of the top of the lining, aligning the side raw edges of the pocket with the sides of the lining. Baste the pocket along the sides. Stitch one row down the center of the pocket to make two pockets.

Step 88. Stitch across the bottom of the pocket from side edge to side edge.



Step 89. Repeat Steps 81 through 83 for the tote lining to create gussets. Leave a 4" gap on one side of the tote lining for turning in a later step.



Step 90. Place the tote exterior inside the tote lining, with right sides together. Align the top raw edge and match the side seams. Stitch using a 1/4" seam allowance.



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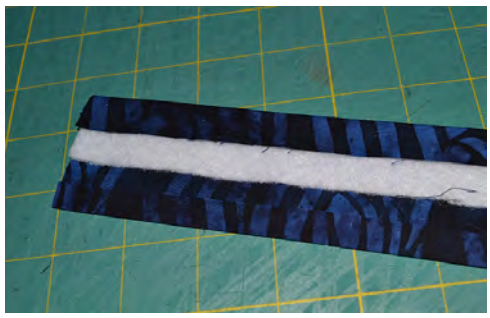
Step 91. Turn the tote right side out through the opening in the lining. Press the seamline. Slipstitch the opening in the lining. Tuck the lining down into the tote bag pushing out the corners.



Step 92. Measure and cut the desired length of the strap plus 3".

Step 93. Fold one long side in 1/4" and press. Fold the long side in 1/2" and press.

Step 94. Cut one strip of Fusible Thermolam® Plus the same length as the strap (the fusible can be cut in several sections). Place it inside the 1/2" fold and fuse following manufacturer's instructions.



Step 95. Fold the 1/4" side over the strap with wrong sides together. Fold the ends in 1/4". Topstitch three rows of stitching along the length of the strap.



Step 96. Place each end of the strap inside the tote top approximately 1-1/2" in from the edge. Stitch a box shape to secure the strap.

Step 97. Topstitch around the top of the tote using a 1/4" seam allowance.

Step 98. Sew a small piece of Velcro®in the center of the top of the tote to make a closure for the tote.



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