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# Beach Ball Quilt & Tote Bag

✦ BY HOLLY DANIELS

*Beach days will soon be here. Make a blanket with a matching tote to carry it in and be ready when the long, warm days of summer come around.*

## PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

Quilt Size: 50" x 50"

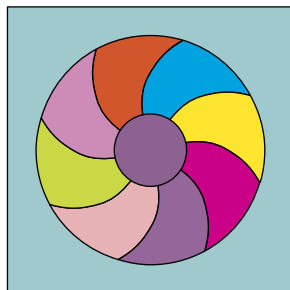
Tote Size: 18" x 18"

Block Size: 10" x 10"

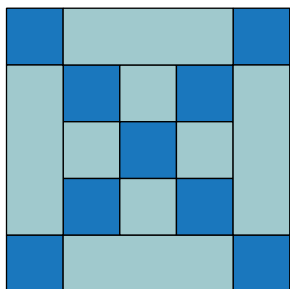
Number of Blocks: 14 Beach Ball;  
12 Nine-Patch in the Middle

## FABRIC & BATTING

- 1 2/3 yards total scraps tropical-colored prints
- 1/4 yard purple print
- 1 1/2 yards dark blue print
- 2 1/2 yards light blue print
- 2 squares muslin 20" x 20" for tote
- Backing 54" x 54"
- Batting 54" x 54" for quilt
- 2 pieces each batting 20" x 20" and 1 1/2" x 16" for tote
- 5 3/4 yards self-made or purchased binding



**Beach Ball**  
10" x 10" Block



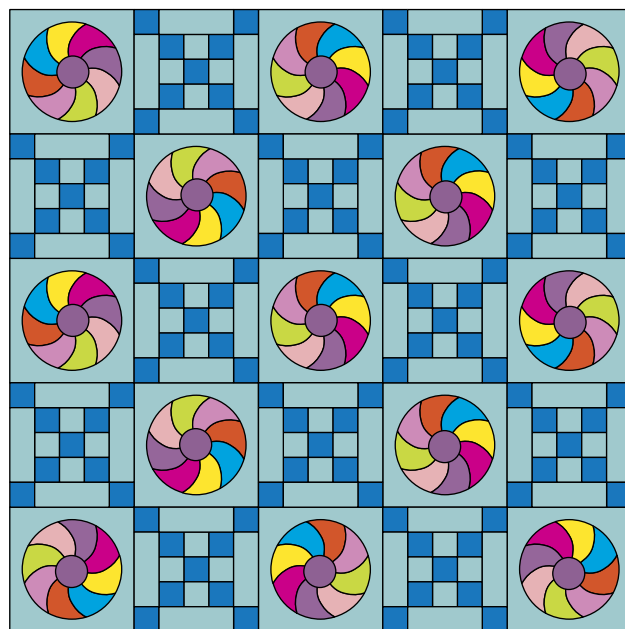
**Nine-Patch in the Middle**  
10" x 10" Block

## SUPPLIES & TOOLS

- Neutral color all-purpose thread
- Variegated rayon thread to match fabrics
- 5 yards fusible transfer web
- Basic sewing tools and supplies, water-erasable marker, safety pin, rotary cutter, ruler and cutting mat

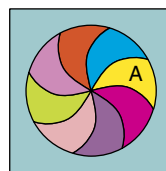
## Beach Ball Quilt

1. Cut 14 squares light blue print 10 1/2" x 10 1/2".
2. Prepare template for A wedge shape using pattern given.
3. Bond fusible transfer web to wrong side of tropical-colored fabrics following manufacturer's instructions.
4. Trace A shapes on the paper side of fabrics as directed on template for number to cut. Cut out shapes on traced lines. Repeat with purple print fabric and piece B. Remove paper backing.
5. Lay out eight A pieces on a square of light blue print to make a circular design as shown in Figure 1, overlapping wedges slightly as needed. Place a B circle on the center of the A circle; fuse shapes in place.
6. Using variegated rayon thread in the top of the machine and all-purpose thread in the bobbin, machine-zigzag or satin-stitch along curved edges between A shapes, around the B circle and on the outside curved edges of A. Repeat for 14 Beach Ball blocks. Set aside one block for tote bag.



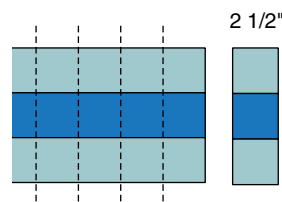
**Beach Ball Blanket**  
Placement Diagram  
50" x 50"

7. To make Nine-Patch in the Middle blocks, cut five dark and four light blue print strips 2 1/2" by fabric width. Sew a dark blue print strip between two light blue print strips with right sides together along length. Press seams toward dark blue print strip.



**Figure 1**

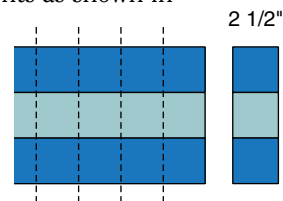
Lay out 8 A pieces on a square of light blue print to make a circular design.



**Figure 2**

Cut strip set into 2 1/2" segments.

8. Cut strip set into 2 1/2" segments as shown in Figure 2; you will need 12 light/dark/light segments.



**Figure 3**

Cut strip sets into 2 1/2" segments.

9. Sew a light blue print strip between two dark blue print strips with right sides together along length; repeat for two strip sets. Press seams toward dark blue print strips.

## Beach Ball Quilt & Tote Bag

10. Cut strip sets into 2 1/2" segments as shown in Figure 3; you will need 24 dark/light/dark segments.

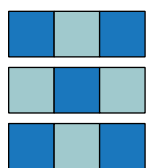
11. Join segments to make a Nine-Patch unit as shown in Figure 4; repeat for 12 units.

12. Cut two strips light blue print 6 1/2" by fabric width and four strips dark blue print 2 1/2" by fabric width. Sew a light blue print strip between two dark blue print strips with right sides together along length; repeat for two strip sets.

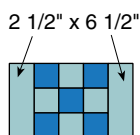
13. Cut strip sets into 2 1/2" segments; you will need 24 segments.

14. Cut four strips light blue 2 1/2" by fabric width; cut each strip into 6 1/2" segments. You will need 24 segments.

15. Sew a 2 1/2" x 6 1/2" light blue print segment to opposite sides of each Nine-Patch unit as shown in Figure 5; press seams toward strips.

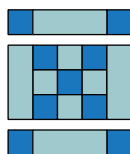


**Figure 4**  
Join segments to make a Nine-Patch unit.



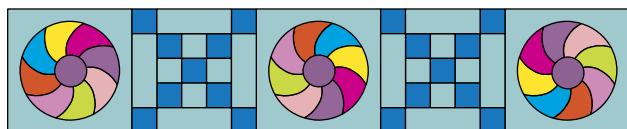
**Figure 5**  
Sew a 2 1/2" x 6 1/2" light blue print segment to opposite sides of each Nine-Patch unit.

16. Sew a dark/light/dark segment to opposite remaining sides of each Nine-Patch unit to complete Nine-Patch in the Middle blocks as shown in Figure 6; press seams toward segments.

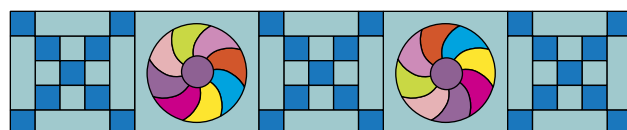


**Figure 6**  
Sew a dark/light/dark segment to opposite remaining sides of each Nine-Patch unit.

17. Join three Beach Ball blocks and two Nine-Patch in the Middle blocks to make a row as shown in Figure 7; repeat for three rows. Press seams in one direction.



**Figure 7**  
Join 3 Beach Ball blocks and 2 Nine-Patch in the Middle blocks to make a row; make 3 rows.



**Figure 8**  
Join 3 Nine-Patch in the Middle blocks and 2 Beach Ball blocks to make a row; make 2 rows.

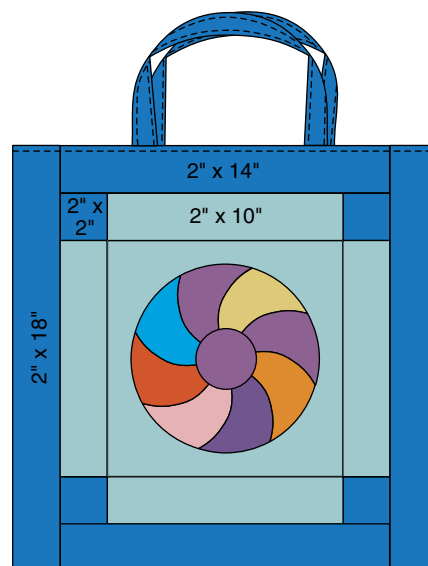
18. Join three Nine-Patch in the Middle blocks with two Beach Ball blocks to make a row as shown in Figure 8; repeat for two rows. Press seams in one direction.

19. Join the rows referring to the Placement Diagram for the arrangement of the blocks; press seams in one direction.

20. Sandwich batting between completed top and prepared backing piece. Pin or baste layers together to hold flat.

21. Quilt on marked lines and as desired by hand or machine. When quilting is complete, remove pins or basting; trim edges even.

21. Bind edges with self-made or purchased binding to finish.



**Beach Ball Tote Bag**  
Placement Diagram  
18" x 18"

## Beach Ball Tote

1. Cut one strip light blue print 2 1/2" by fabric width; cut strip into four 10 1/2" strips. Cut four squares dark blue print 2 1/2" x 2 1/2".

2. Sew two light blue print strips to opposite sides of the Beach Ball block set aside in step 6 of Beach Ball Quilt; press seams toward strips.

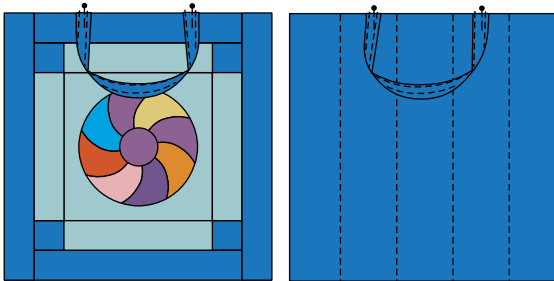
3. Sew a dark blue print square to each end of the remaining two light blue print strips; press. Sew one of these strips to each remaining side of the block; press seams toward strips.

4. Cut two strips dark blue print 2 1/2" by fabric width. Cut strips into two each 14 1/2" and 18 1/2" strips. Sew shorter strips to opposite sides of completed block and longer strips to remaining sides; press seams toward strips.

5. Layer one muslin, one 20" x 20" batting and bag front right side up; pin or baste layers together.

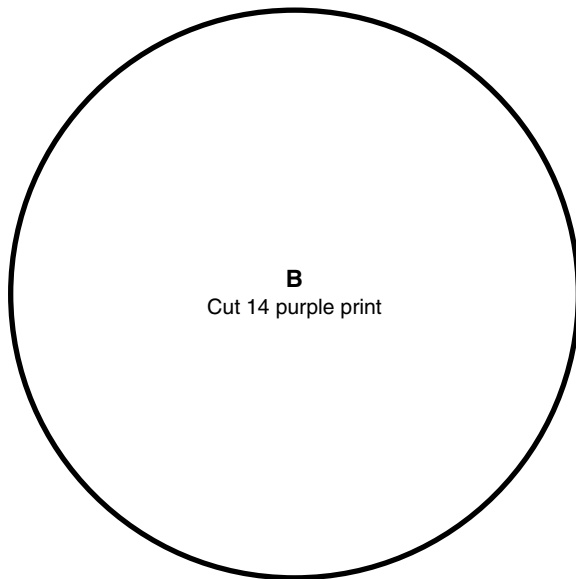
## Beach Ball Quilt & Tote Bag

6. Quilt layered block by hand or machine as desired. When quilting is complete, trim edges even; remove pins or basting.
7. Cut backing piece 18 1/2" x 18 1/2" from dark blue print. Layer one muslin, one 20" x 20" batting and the dark blue print square right side up; pin or baste layers together.
8. Quilt in a 2" grid by hand or machine. When quilting is complete, trim edges even; remove pins or basting.
9. Cut two pieces dark blue print 3 1/2" x 15". Fold each strip along length with right sides together; sew a 1/4" seam along length; turn right side out.
10. Insert 1 1/2" x 16" batting strips into each tube by attaching a safety pin to one short end and working batting through the tube; press flat. Topstitch 1/4" from each edge of each strip to complete handles.
11. Pin handles to quilted front and back pieces as shown in Figure 9. Machine-baste in place to hold.



**Figure 9**

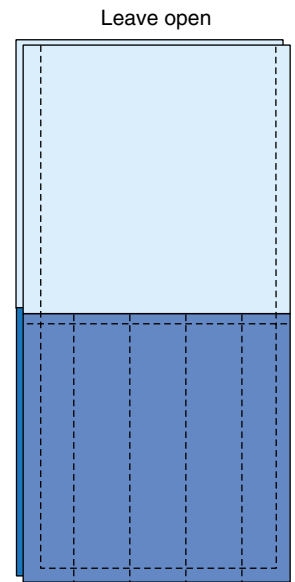
Pin handles to quilted front and back pieces.



12. Cut two squares light blue print 18 1/2" x 18 1/2" for lining. Place a tote front and one lining piece right sides together. Sew along top edge only, catching handles in seam. Repeat with tote back and second lining piece.

13. Open front and back tote pieces; layer right sides together as shown in Figure 10; sew on all sides except short end of lining. Turn right side out; press. Turn unstitched edges of lining under 1/4"; press. Machine-stitch closed. Tuck lining inside bag and attach with a few stitches through bottom corners of lining, catching seam allowances of bag front.

14. Topstitch 1/4" from top edge of bag to secure lining to finish. ✦



**Figure 10**

Open front and back tote pieces; layer right sides together. Stitch, leaving short end of lining open as shown.

