



Supanova Cushion

Foundation piecing – Helen Butcher

This stylish cushion is great project for practising your foundation piecing skills.

REQUIREMENTS

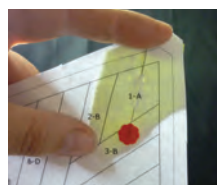


Size: 18" square

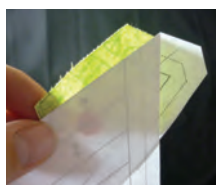
- 50cm Lime green (Fabric A)
- 15cm Black and green spot (Fabric B)
- Fat $\frac{1}{8}$ dark jade (Fabric C)
- Fat $\frac{1}{8}$ bright turquoise (Fabric D)
- 6" x 10" Bright green (Fabric E)
- 6" x 10" Pale cream (Fabric F)
- 20" Square wadding
- 20" Square thin cotton or muslin
- Foundation paper
- 20" Square cushion pad



illust. 1. Foundation piecing



a. Position fabric over piece 1A



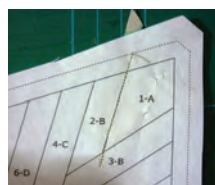
b. Fold paper pattern back



c. Trim fabric B piece



d. Place fabric B piece right sides together fabric A piece



e. Stitch seam



f. Finger press seam

illust. 2. Adding further strips



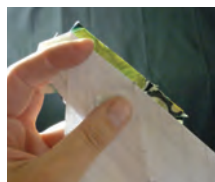
a. Ease paper away from stitching



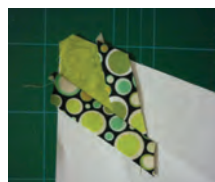
b. Fold paper pattern along seam line



c. Trim 3B fabric



d. Position right sides together



f. Open out and finger press seam

illust. 3. Completing block



a. Fold back pattern



b. Roughly draw shape on right side

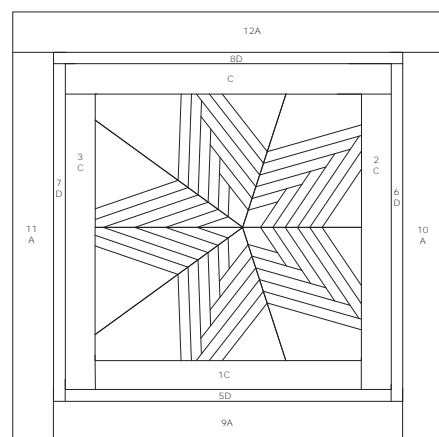


c. Open out and finger press seam

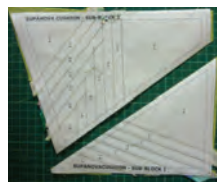
illust. 4. Piece remaining blocks



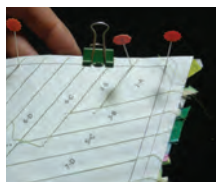
dia 1. Border assembly



illust. 5. Assembly



a. Trim edges to be joined



b. Pin and clamp edges



c. Remove paper from seam allowance only



d. Trim excess fabric at centre

Cutting

Cut across width of fabric

- From fabric A cut:
 - four, 2" x 19" strips – outer border,
 - two, 12" x 18½" rectangles.
- From fabric B cut:
 - two, 2½" strips – binding,
 - one, 1" strip sub cut into:
 - ten, 1" x 3½" strips.
- From fabric C cut:
 - four, 1¼" x 15" strips – inner border,
 - ten, 1" x 4½" strips.
- From fabric D cut:
 - four, 1" x 20" strips – middle border,
 - four, 1" x 20" strips sub cut into:
 - ten, 1" x 6" strips.
- From fabric E cut:
 - ten, 1" x 6" strips.
- From fabric F cut:
 - ten, 1" x 6" strips.

Foundation piecing

- 1a. Trace foundation patterns 1 to 6 given full size on *Pattern Sheet* onto foundation paper.
- 2a. Cut out on outside lines.
- 2a. Starting with block 2, cut piece of fabric A large enough to cover piece 1A plus seam allowance on all sides.
- b. Place fabric on unmarked side of pattern ensuring it covers all of piece 1A and pin in place from the printed side, *illust. 1a*.
- 3a. With marked side uppermost, crease and fold foundation paper back along line between pieces 1A and 2B, *illust. 1b*.
- b. Take one, 1" x 3½" fabric B strip and place it right side up over the piece 2B that you can see through the foundation paper.
- c. Trim fabric B strip so that it covers piece 2B plus ¼" seam allowance on all sides, *illust. 1c*.
- d. Holding fabric and paper, move trimmed

fabric B strip to the back so that it is right sides together with fabric 1A, *illust. 1d*.

e. Unfold paper and pin both fabric pieces to paper.

4a. Using short stitch length, stitch along line between pieces 1A and 2B, *illust. 1e*.

b. Start and stop stitching a few stitches beyond line at each end.

c. Remove pin, fold fabric B strip back and finger press seam, *illust. 1f*.

5a. Ease paper away from stitching where it crosses sewing line between pieces 1A and 3B, *illust. 2a*.

b. Place pattern fabric side down on work surface and crease and fold along line between pieces 1A and 3B, *illust. 2b*.

c. If necessary, trim excess seam allowance from exposed patches.

6. Repeat process described in steps 3 and 4 of trimming one, 1" x 3½" fabric B strip to fit piece 3B which you can see through folded foundation paper and stitch along line between pieces 1A and 3B, *illust. 2c*,

Cushion front



illustr. 2d and illustr. 2e.

7. Continue adding strips in similar manner in number order using fabric strip indicated by its letter on foundation pattern.

8a. Complete block by adding large sections of fabric A in same way by aligning fabric A along one edge and roughly drawing shape of A on right side of fabric, illustr. 3a and illustr. 3b.

b. Trim fabric A piece and holding it in place, carefully unfold paper pattern and stitch along sewing line as before.

c. Fold fabric A piece back and finger press seam, illustr. 3c.

d. Add second large section of fabric A in similar manner and press block.

9. Piece remaining blocks in same way, taking note of number and fabric order, illustr. 4.

Assembly

Joining blocks together

1a. Take blocks 1 and 2 and trim any excess fabric beyond edge of foundation pattern on sides to be joined only, illustr. 5a.

b. Place blocks right sides together, aligning corners and seam matching points by pushing pins through at right angles.

c. Clamp edges together with bulldog or

wonder clips to prevent any distortion, illustr. 5b.

d. Remove pins once seams are aligned.
e. Stitch seam.

2a. Gently remove paper from seam allowance *only* on both blocks, illustr. 5c.

b. Open out blocks and press seam towards block 1.

3a. Trim bottom edge of block 2 and corresponding edge of block 3.

b. Align edges and join blocks in same way.

c. Press seam towards block 2.

d. Set half block to one side.

4a. Join block 4 to block 5 and press seam towards block 5.

b. Complete second half block by adding block 6 and press seam towards block 6.

5a. Trim excess fabric on each half block along edge to be joined.

b. Join half blocks together in same manner.

c. Before opening out halves, trim excess fabric at centre to remove bulk where seams meet, illustr. 5d.

d. Take care not to cut too close to stitching line.

e. Press block.

6a. Square up centre panel so it measures 12" square.

b. Leave papers in place.

Quilting detail



Adding borders

1a. Take 1¾" fabric C inner border strips and add strips to centre panel in order, dia. 1.

b. Trim strips level with edge of centre panel before adding subsequent strips.

c. Press seams towards border strips.

2a. Add 1" fabric D strips followed by 2" fabric A strips in similar manner to complete cushion front.

b. Remove foundation papers from centre panel and press.

Completion

1a. Make quilt sandwich with cushion front, wadding and muslin squares.

b. Pin or baste layers.

2a. Quilt as desired.

b. Trim so cushion front measures 18½" square.

3a. Take 12" x 18½" fabric A rectangles and turn and stitch a double hem on one long edge of each rectangle.

b. Place cushion front on work surface right side down.

c. Place one backing rectangle on top, right side up, aligning raw edges on top, bottom and left hand side.

d. Add second backing rectangle on top, in similar manner, aligning raw edges on top, bottom and right hand side.

e. Hemmed edges should overlap at the centre by several inches.

f. Pin outer edges.

4. Double bind edges of cushion with 2½" strips fabric B strips.

5. Insert cushion pad.

Enjoy!

Contact

Helen designs and sells patchwork gifts as well as her own quilt and bag patterns. For more information visit her website www.littlepatchpockets.co.uk or email helen@littlepatchpockets.co.uk