





- five $2\frac{1}{2}$ in squares to yield a total of 65 squares for the second border – 64 only are required.

From the off-white tone-on-tone print, cut:

- 64, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in squares for the second border.

From each of the cream tone-on-tone prints, cut:

- two $13\frac{1}{2}$ in squares for the centre block

- four $4\frac{1}{2}$ in squares for the Dresden Plate Flower blocks.

From the solid red fabric, cut:

- four $3\frac{1}{2}$ in strips for the second border
- six $2\frac{1}{2}$ in strips for the scalloped edging.

From the solid cream fabric, cut:

- eight $6\frac{1}{2}$ in strips for the fifth border.

DRESDEN PLATE CENTRE

Referring to diagram 1, sew the four $13\frac{1}{2}$ in cream tone-on-tone squares together to make the large background square for the quilt centre.

Trace around the large blade template 17 times with a pencil on the wrong side of the selected fabrics – make four blades out of the large red check fabric and one each from the 13 assorted prints – and cut them out on the lines. Using the photograph of the quilt as a guide, lay out the blades with long sides together, putting the four red check pieces towards the corners. When you are satisfied with the colour placement, sew them together with right wrong sides facing to create a circle and press the seams carefully in one direction.

Position the Dresden Plate in the centre of the cream background square and pin or thread-baste it in place.

Blanket-stitch the plate to the background square. Put the doily in the centre of the circle and machine-stitch around the edge in a neutral-coloured thread.

If you don't have a doily, trace the circle from the pattern sheet onto the paper side of the fusible webbing and cut it out roughly with craft

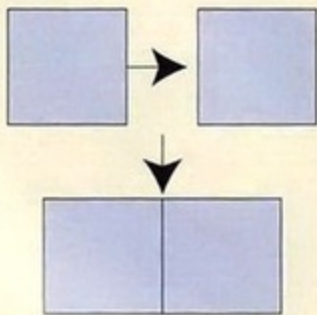


Diagram 1. Sew the cream tone-on-tone squares together to make the large background square for the quilt centre.

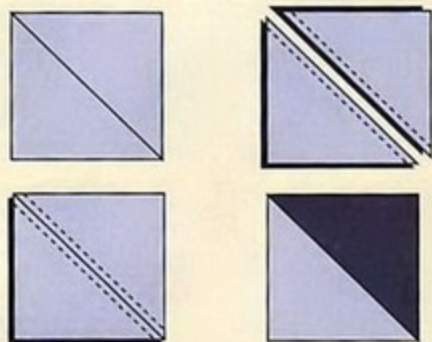


Diagram 2. Make half-square-triangle units and press the seams towards the darker print.

scissors. Then press the rough side of the webbing to the wrong side of your selected print with a hot, dry iron. When the piece is cool, cut it out on the drawn line and peel off the backing paper.

Fuse the circle over the centre of the plate and blanket-stitch around the edge. The completed centre should measure $26\frac{1}{2}$ in raw edge to raw edge.

FIRST BORDER

Stitch the $1\frac{1}{2}$ in x $26\frac{1}{2}$ in red check strips to either side of the centre block and press the seams outwards. Stitch two $1\frac{1}{2}$ in x $28\frac{1}{2}$ in red check strips to the upper and lower edges and again press the seams outwards. The top should now measure $28\frac{1}{2}$ in square raw edge to raw edge.

SECOND BORDER

Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ in off-white squares with a pencil and ruler. Pair them right sides facing with the $2\frac{1}{2}$ in assorted squares and sew $\frac{1}{4}$ in either side of the drawn line. Cut along the line to make two half-square-triangle units out of each, see diagram 2, and press the seams towards the darker print. Referring to diagram 3, arrange the half-square-triangle units together in sets of four, sew them together in pairs to form halves and press the seams in opposite directions. Then sew the halves together to make flying geese units, abutting the seams at the intersections. The completed units should measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ in raw edge to raw edge.

Using the photograph of the quilt as a guide make the border strips. For each side border, make two strips of seven flying geese units and for the upper and lower borders, make two strips of nine units. Press the seams in one direction and join them to the quilt top. Pin-mark the borders and the quilt top in halves and quarters and stitch the borders to either side matching the pins. Press the seams towards the quilt centre. In the same way, pin-mark



the quilt top and the upper and lower border strips and join them together. The quilt top should now measure $32\frac{1}{2}$ in raw edge to raw edge.

THIRD BORDER

Sew the $3\frac{1}{2}$ in x $32\frac{1}{2}$ in red strips to either side of the quilt top, pin-marking the quilt top and border strips carefully as before, and press the seams outwards.

In the same way, join the $3\frac{1}{2}$ in x $38\frac{1}{2}$ in strips to the upper and lower edges and press them as before. The quilt top should now measure $38\frac{1}{2}$ in raw edge to raw edge.

FOUR BORDER

Hour Glass Blocks

A total of 20 blocks is required. With diagram 4 as a guide, lay out four $9\frac{1}{2}$ in assorted half-square triangles for each block and join them in pairs, pressing the seams in opposite directions.

Then sew the pairs together abutting the seam intersections.

Make four strips with five blocks each and press the seams in one direction.

Join a strip to either side of the quilt top and press the seams inwards.

Dresden Plate Flower blocks

A total of four blocks is required.

Join the $4\frac{1}{2}$ in cream tone-on-tone squares together in the same way as for the centre block.

Trace around the small blade template 32 times in pencil on the wrong side of the selected fabrics, then cut them out on the lines.

With the photograph of the quilt as a guide, lay out eight blades for each flower long sides together.

When you are satisfied with the colour placement, sew them together right sides facing to create a circle and press the seams carefully in one direction.

Baste the flowers in place ensuring the blades don't encroach into the seam allowances and in the same way as before, blanket-stitch around them. Prepare the four flower bases and stems for fusible webbing appliqué as before. Put the stem in place, then position the base over it and fuse them in position. Blanket-stitch all four flowers in two strands of neutral-coloured thread, and the green for the stems. Join a Dresden Plate Flower block to either end of the rest of the Hour Glass block strips and press the seams outwards. Sew the strips to the upper and lower edges of the quilt top and press the seams inwards. It should measure $58\frac{1}{2}$ in raw edge to raw edge.

FIFTH BORDER

Stitch the $6\frac{1}{2}$ in solid cream strips into pairs and press the seams in one direction. Then crosscut two $6\frac{1}{2}$ in x $58\frac{1}{2}$ in strips and two $6\frac{1}{2}$ in x $70\frac{1}{2}$ in strips. Sew the $2\frac{1}{2}$ in red strips together end to end then crosscut four $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x $58\frac{1}{2}$ in strips. Trace the scalloped edge from the pattern sheet onto the paper side of the fusible webbing, overlapping the scallops until you have a $58\frac{1}{2}$ in length of them. Trace a total of four scalloped lengths and cut them out roughly, then fuse them to the wrong side of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x $58\frac{1}{2}$ in red strips and cut

them out on the lines. Peel the paper backing off two of the scalloped lengths and fuse them to the $6\frac{1}{2}$ in x $58\frac{1}{2}$ in cream strips. Sew the borders to either side of the quilt top, pin-marking the quilt and borders in halves and quarters, and press the seams outwards. Take the paper backing off the other red scalloped lengths, then pin-mark them and the other border strips, then matching the pins, fuse them to the borders. Join the borders to the upper and lower edges of the quilt top, pin-marking them as before and ensuring the ends of the scallops don't go past the scallops on the side borders. Blanket-stitch around the curved edges of them in red thread.

BACKING

Cut the backing fabric into two equal lengths, trim off the selvages and join them together side by side to make the backing larger than the quilt top. Then press the seam open carefully. Lay the backing right side down and smooth out any creases working from the centre out, then tape it down with masking tape. Lay the batting on top, then the well-pressed quilt top right side up. Secure the layers with safety pins at 4in intervals for quilting by machine or by thread-basting if you are going to hand-quilt. Machine-stitch in the

ditch in all the seams and around the centre Dresden. The centre background can be quilted in diagonal lines 2in apart. Natalie machine-quilted a stipple design in cream thread. Trim the batting and backing $\frac{1}{2}$ in beyond the quilt top.

BINDING

Cut $3\frac{1}{2}$ in assorted print strips varying in length and join them end to end with straight seams to make four $3\frac{1}{2}$ in x $74\frac{1}{2}$ in binding strips. Fold them in half lengthwise with wrong sides facing and raw edges even and press the fold gently. Sew the binding to either side on the front of the quilt top with right sides facing and with all raw edges even, then trim the length of it level with the batting and backing. Fold the binding over and slip-stitch in place so that it covers the machine-stitching at the back of the quilt. Repeat the process for the other two sides but let them hang over at each end. Next, first fold each end back on itself and tuck it in, then fold the whole strip over and stitch it in place, securing both ends under as well.

Your quilt is now complete, except for labelling it with your name and the date for future generations.

Natalie Ross can be contacted by phone on (02) 4341 0545. ■

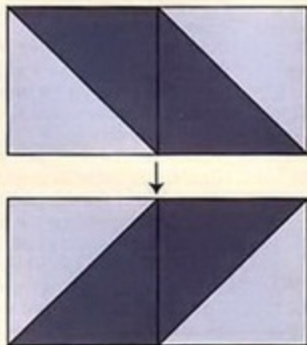


Diagram 3. Arrange the half-square-triangle units in sets of four and join them together.

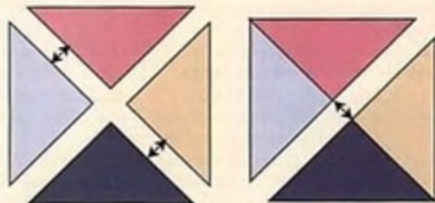


Diagram 4. Hour Glass block construction.