

Quilts That Care

By Marie Duncan, Husqvarna Viking Education Creative Coordinator

Whether it is for your child, grandchild, a Grandma or Grandpa or for those in need, this is a quilt that can be made quickly and is filled with batting to keep the body warm and love to warm the heart. It is a perfect quilt for a group that wants to make quilts in quantity for those in need. Currently, those in New Orleans and the other affected states, will welcome the warmth in air conditioned shelters, or on cool autumn nights to come. Make some in “cool” kid prints, and some from cozy flannel. How about soft, traditional prints for comforting, romantic dreams of better times to come. Don’t forget the guys! Plaids, “manly” prints or even trucks and such for the little men. The fabric doesn’t matter, the love that goes into the quilt along with the batting does. Go to www.husqvarnaviking.com, Free Design, and download the Free Design for October 2005. It is a quilt label for you to embroider, and sign yourself or have all those who work on the quilts sign. Be sure to use a permanent marker to make the signatures washable.

Each step is separate unto itself. If you are working with a group, divide up and let a few people work on each step, assembly line style. If you are doing it by yourself, why not make one for that special person in your life, and one for someone in need.

Sizes given are for a “small” twin size, or cot size approximately 72” X 42”. It’s perfect for a single person or small child to cover up and cuddle up. Adjust the size as needed by lengthening the strips, and adding additional strips.



Sewing Supplies:

Two yards 44" wide cotton or flannel for backing

Four strips cotton fabric for quilt top 11" x 72"

Cotton or polyester batting 44" x 72"

Sewing Thread

Solid color "scraps" for the labels

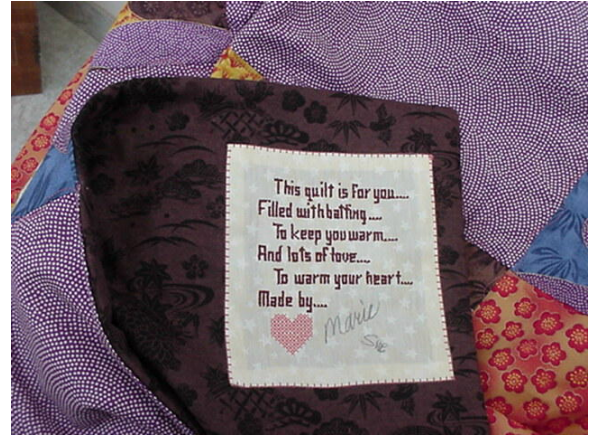
40 wt. Rayon Embroidery thread

Bobbin thread

Inspira Tear-A-Way Light Stabilizer

1. Embroider the Label:

It means so much to the people making the quilts, and the recipients, to make a "love" label for the quilt. If it is a grandchild, they will know in the years to come, that Grandma made this quilt for them. If it is a lonely child in a shelter somewhere, knowing that all these people cared enough to make them this warm, cozy quilt can make all the difference in the world! Embroider the label, which is the "Free Design" for October, 2005, and then sign it!



Hoop the fabric with Inspira Tear-A-Way Light Stabilizer and embroider the label. Tear off the excess stabilizer. Set aside to sign yourself or have everyone else sign with a permanent marker.

After the label has all the signatures, square it off, leaving approximately 1" of fabric all the way around. Turn under 1/4" and press. Sew the label onto the backing fabric using a straight stitch or a decorative stitch. Position in a corner, 2" in from the raw edges.

2. Prepare the fabric:

Do whatever cutting is necessary for the strips and batting.

The quilt should use the backing fabric as is, but be sure it is squared off.

3. Piece the top:

Sew the four strips together to form a piece 42 1/2" x 72". This is slightly smaller than the batting and backing to allow for "inaccurate sewing" that may result by volunteers.

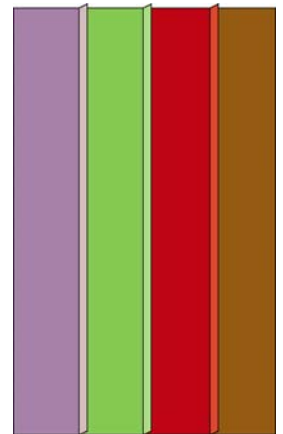
Accuracy isn't as important as enthusiasm. We'll fix it!

4. Press:

Press the seams to one side. Which side doesn't matter.

5. Cut:

Cut the pieced top into six strips 11" to 12" wide. Measure the length of your quilt to determine the precise size. Because of variations in cutting, you may or may not have exactly 72".



6. Sew:

Alternating the colors each time, re-sew the strips

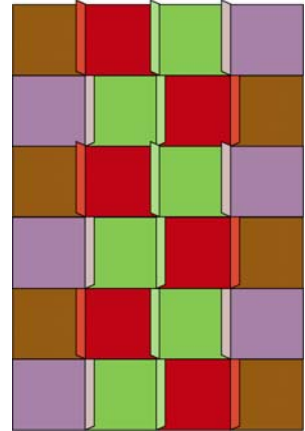
7. Make the Sandwich:

Place the backing and pieced quilt top right sides together on a large, flat surface.

Place them on top of the batting. Pin.

8. Sew the Sandwich:

Straight stitch around the quilt guiding the edge of your presser foot along the edge of the quilt top. Remember, the batting and backing will be a little larger. Leave a 6" opening for turning.



9. Turn the Sandwich:

Trim off the excess fabric and batting and clip the corners. Turn and press.

10. Quilt the Quilt:

Select a “friendly” stitch for quilting like a serpentine. If the line isn’t perfect, no one will know! Attach a Dual Feed Foot. Quilt down the seams of the quilt.