

The quilt as shown is 58 by 75 inches. It could be made larger with the addition of larger borders.

The blocks are all 15 inches finished, and sashed with a simple 3 inch sashing of the leaf green and the background.

For the sample with the appliqued centre as shown in September - we used an older Nancy Crow fabric - a very dark blue which set off the pink shades we used for all the flowers in our garden.

The quilt would look equally well done with a large print in the centre and border, and the blocks in colours drawn from the centre print. Our second sample uses Botanica fabric by Lourdes Sanchez from Timeless Treasures Fabric - the fabric is a couple of years old, but we found a lovely selection at A Great Notion and it really asked to be made into this quilt (although instead of doing it with different blocks, we are using the Double Aster all around).

You could leave the centre blank and do some lovely quilting, or look for an appropriate pieced block - like the

iris iin one of the recent magazines, or you could even do some funky flower applique and wild colours in your blocks. Make it your own with a unique centre. Since several people have asked for the pattern for the magnolias, and I will have a rather general description of it soon with a pattern for the flowers.

Fabric Requirements:

We used a total of approximately 2.5 m for the background, but we were short and could not afford to make any mistakes. I would get an extra half metre at least to be on the safe side.

It broke down like this:

Border and binding 1 m (we seamed the borders)

Lattice - 24 inches (you have some left over bits of strips)

Centre - $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $33\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

The rest was used for the background of the blocks.

We used fat quarters of four shades of pink for the blocks, and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ metres of the green for sashing and the occasional block.

The centre is 15 inches by 33 inches finished, and you can do almost anything in the centre. I used some magnolia blossom blocks in the corners and created some appliques from pictures of magnolias I took in the spring. The blossoms were out on the trees before any leaves showed up! Some crayoning added a bit of shading to make the blossoms appear more lifelike.

Cut the sashing and borders first!

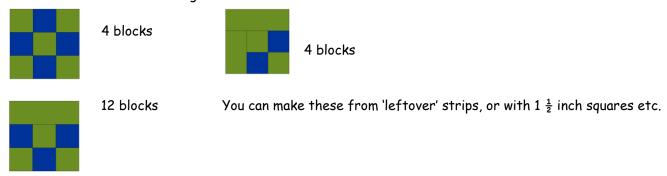
If you want the borders on the length of the fabric, so that there are no seams, cut an 80 inch piece of background fabric. Cut these lengthwise into $4 - 2\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips for borders, and $6 - 1\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips for the sashing. Cut $8 - 2\frac{1}{4}$ inch strips for binding (or whatever width you like for binding from the other piece). Use the remaining fabric from both pieces for the backgrounds and cornerstones.

Otherwise, cut 8 strips 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches crosswise for the border. You will need to cut 15 - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips from the background, and 30 - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips from the green. These don't have to be full width, but they must be at least 32 inches long.

Sew these strips into stratas, green - background - green. You will need 30 - 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch sections.



You will also need the following cornerstones



We put the sashing on as we finished each block - it was much easier to finish it up in the end.

Put the side borders on first, then the top and bottom.