

Seasons Greetings

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This dramatic quilt features a cardinal and poinsettia panel surrounded by elegant metallic fabrics. It will make the perfect holiday quilt, finishing at about 73" x 93".

This pattern assumes a 1/4" seam allowance. All strips are cut by the WOF (Width of Fabric) except for the border strips which are cut by the LOF (Length of Fabric.)

This pattern uses:

- (1) panel, trimmed to 23-1/2" x 43-1/2".
- 1/3 yard red tone on tone, cut into (4) 2-1/2" wide strips. Sew these end to end, mitering the join if you prefer. From that long strip, cut (2) strips that are 27-1/2" long and (2) strips 43-1/2" long. These are the first border strips.

1-1/2 yard ivory tone on tone

Cut (5) 3-1/2" wide strips. Sew these end to end, mitering the join if you prefer. From that long strip, cut (2) strips that are 47-1/2" long and (2) strips 33-1/2" long. These are the second border strips. Save the leftover fabric for use in the checkerboard border.

Cut (6) strips 1-3/4" wide. Sew these end to end, mitering the join if you prefer.

Cut (1) strip 5" wide. Cut (2) 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" squares from that strip, then cut the remainder of the strip into (2) 2-1/2" wide strips the long way for use in the checkerboard border.

Cut (6) strips 2-1/2" wide for use in the checkerboard border.

1/2 yard black holly

Cut (7) strips 2-1/2" wide for use in the checkerboard border.

2/3 yard green tone on tone

Cut (1) strip 5-1/2" wide. Cut (2) 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" squares from that strip, then cut the remainder of the strip the long way into (2) 2-3/4" wide strips.

Cut (5) strips 2-3/4" wide. Sew these end to end, mitering the join if you prefer.

2-3/4 yards border—remember, these strips are cut by the LENGTH of the fabric

The border has three parts: a 4" wide poinsettia strip, a 2-1/2" wide ivory strip and a 2-1/2" wide black holly strip. Cut a 9" border strip 1/4" to the left side of the poinsettia strip and 1/4" to the right side of the ivory strip. You will be able to fussy cut the border into (4) 9" strips. Save the remaining black holly strip to use in the binding.



1-3/4 yard black cardinals

Cut (9) strips 6-1/2" wide for use in the outer border. Sew these end to end, mitering the join if you prefer.

First Border

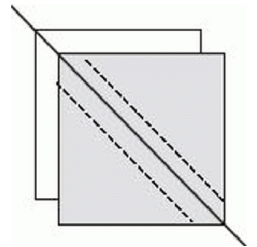
Mark the center of the top on all four sides and the center of the Red tone on tone strips. Sew the 43-1/2" long Red strips to both sides of the top, matching centers. Sew using a walking foot if you have one. Press to the border. Repeat this process with the 27-1/2" long top and bottom Red strips. Press to the border.

Second Border

Using the 3-1/2" wide Ivory tone-on-tone strips and again matching centers, sew a 47-1/2" long strip to both sides of the top. Press to the border. Repeat this process with the 33-1/2" long Ivory strips sewn to the top and bottom of the top. Press to the border.

Third Border

To make the Half-Square-Triangle (HST) blocks, place a 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" Ivory square right sides together with a 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" Green square. Draw a line on the diagonal. Sew 1/4" on both sides of the center diagonal line. Cut on the center line and press to the dark. Square this block up to 4" x 4". Make (4) HST blocks. These will be used in the corner of the border.



Sew the long 1-3/4" wide Ivory strips to the long 2-3/4" wide Green strips. Press to the dark. From this two-part strip, cut (2) strips 53-1/2" long and (2) strips 33-1/2" long. Sew a HST to both ends of the 33-1/2" long strips, orienting them so the light part of the HST faces the light part of the strip as shown below.



Sew the 53-1/2" long border strips to the sides of the top, taking care to match centers and placing the light side of the strip to the inside. Press to the border. Sew the strips with the HST's at both ends to the top and bottom of the top, again taking care to match centers and placing the light side of the strip to the inside. (left)

Press. Your top should now measure 40-1/2" x 60-1/2" .

The Checkerboard Border

Sew the 2-1/2" wide Ivory strips to the 2-1/2" wide Black Holly strips. Press to the dark. Cross cut these two-part strips every 2-1/2" to make 108 two-part blocks. Use these blocks to make a four patch like this one.

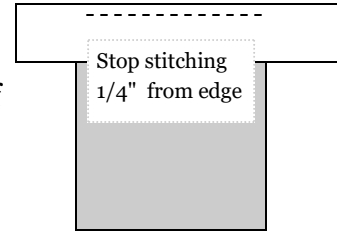


Sew two groups of 10 four-patch blocks in a row, rotating the dark square to get the checkerboard effect. Sew these rows to the top and bottom of the quilt top, taking care to match the centers. Use lots of pins to keep things straight.

Repeat this process with two groups of 17 four-patch blocks sewn to the sides. Press to the border.

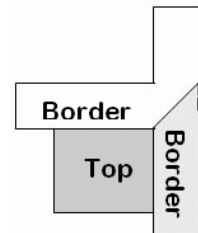
The Fussy Cut Border

Cut two of the fussy cut border strips 80" long. Mark the center of these strips and a point $34\frac{1}{4}$ " on both sides of the center mark. Match the center of the border with the center of the quilt top and the two points with the corner of the sides of the quilt top. Pin the border to the quilt top between the two marks, easing to fit if necessary. There will be a LOT of leftover border. You will use this extra to miter the border later on. Sew the border to the quilt top, *stopping $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge*. Repeat this process with the other side border.



Mark the center of one of the wide border strips and a point $24\frac{1}{4}$ " on both sides of the center mark. Match the center of the border with the center of the quilt top and the two points with the corner of the top of the quilt top. Pin the border to the top between the two marks, easing to fit if necessary. Sew the border to the top, stopping $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge. Repeat this process with the bottom border.

You now have a top with a lot of wavy arms:-)) Take this to your ironing board and press the seam toward the border. Fold one arm at a 45 degree angle so it makes a perfect mitered corner and press it in place. Unfold the corner carefully and pin the border along the pressing line.



The pressing line is now your stitching line. Sew from the corner of the top to the edge of the border. Open up your border and check. If it looks great, continue with the other four corners. If not, pick it out and fix it. Press this seam open. Press the strip to the border.

Final Border

Your top should now measure 61" x 81". If it does not, measure your quilt top through the center and use that measurement to size the length of the outer borders. Forcing a quilt top to match two identically cut strips will force the top to remain square.

Matching the center of the border strip and the center of the quilt top and using a walking foot if you have one, sew a 81" outer border strip to both sides of the top. Press to the border.

Repeat this method using a 73" outer border strip. Press to the border.

You are done!

Give your top one final press, then quilt as desired. Use the strip leftover from fussy cutting the border fabric as the binding. Don't forget to add a label.

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