
Rex Quilt

pattern by tara faughnan

finished block size: varies / cover quilt: 46: w x 48" h



MATERIALS:

- Template plastic or posterboard
- Fine tip marking pencils for light and dark fabrics
- Hand sewing needles (sharps or embroidery size 6-9)
- Thread conditioner
- 50wt thread or finer in colors to match appliqué

Optional but recommended:

- Thimble
- Large square ruler

FINISHED SIZE:

variable

WELCOME!

We have been so impressed with the prolific amount of finishes this season! We wanted to finish with a project you could take your time with this summer while exploring hand appliqué. Whether you make a pillow or an entire quilt, this skills form this block will surely carry on in future projects.

QUILT MATH

I realize doing quilt math is not everyone's cup of tea! If you wish to use the measurements for the background of the cover quilt, I have provided that on page 2 under the CUTTING FABRIC section. I am not giving the exact color placement of the appliqué pieces as this leaves room for your own creativity and color choices to come into play!

But, be aware that if you make a large quilt, some yardage will be dedicated to creating the background of the quilt, and there will be no leftover yardage for the appliqué pieces. With this in mind, be sure to prep by purchasing additional fabric for your project.

VALUE/ COLOR ADDITIONS

Adding or removing color, will greatly customize your project. You can go with a monotone background with just one color or do what I have done and varied the background with several different colors.

The value of your chosen color will adjust the impact of the applique pieces. A lighter value will make them pop, while a darker value will make them melt into the background.

This is your time to shine, play with your palette, pull from past palettes, and take your time.

TIPS

- Use a size 6-9 Sharp or Embroidery needle. Bigger needles are sometimes easier to use if you are new to handwork, but I prefer a size 8-9.
- Match thread color to appliqué piece to help hide the stitches.
- Use 50 wt or thinner thread. Cotton or polyester are fine.
- Use beeswax or other thread conditioner to help prevent thread tangles.
- Thread should be about 18" in length.
- If you are new to appliqué, it can be helpful to finger press the seam of the appliqué piece under along the drawn line. This allows you to easily fold the seam allowance under as you are sewing.
- Knot the thread on the end you cut from the spool. This helps to prevent knots.
- If possible, use a walking foot while basting. This will help to prevent the appliqué pieces from shifting.
- Applique stitches should be somewhere between 1/8" and 3/16".
- If you have ever done hand binding, you have done the appliqué stitch! It is the same stitch.

CUTTING FABRIC

Determine which colors will form the background of the design, and which will be the appliqué pieces. If you wish to make a small quilt like the cover sample, follow the measurements below. Otherwise, create your own design on graph paper and use those measurements to create the layout of the background. There are 3 different appliqué pieces with different widths. To get the best use of the fabrics, follow the cutting instructions below.

For the background:

1. Cut fabrics 16 ½" in height by desired length.
2. Fold each piece in half horizontally and press with an iron to mark the middle line.

Measurements for cover quilt (measures 46" w x 48" h finished):

- Cut Piece 1 at: 16 ½" by 17 ½"
- Cut Piece 2 at: 16 ½" by 25"
- Cut Piece 3 at: 16 ½" by 4 ½"
- Cut Piece 4 at: 16 ½" by 25"
- Cut Piece 5 at: 16 ½" by 21 ½"
- Cut Piece 6 at: 16 ½" by 33"
- Cut Piece 7 at: 16 ½" by 13 ½"

3. Sew the background pieces in each row together using a ¼" seam allowance. Press seams to the side or open as desired.

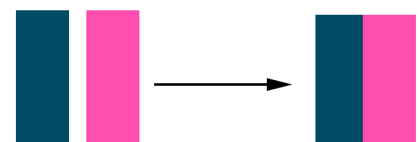
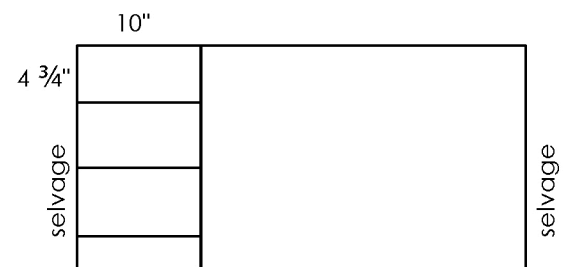
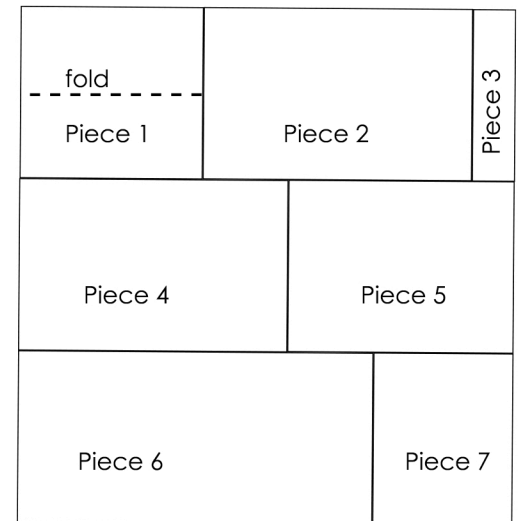
For the appliqué pieces:

1. Cut strips 10" across the fabrics (not selvage to selvage).
2. Sub cut the 10" strip into 4 ¾" pieces.

NOTE: Please sew one appliqué piece before you determine the seam allowance you prefer. All instructions are given for a ¼" seam allowance. If you prefer a slightly wider seam allowance cut all pieces 5".

For the 2 color appliqué pieces:

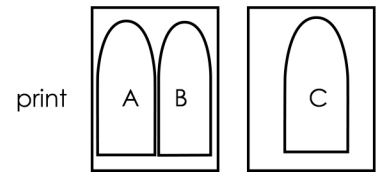
1. Cut strips 3-4" from two colors. This extra width allows for varying placement of the seam within the appliqué piece.
2. Sew the strips together and press seam open. Use a smaller than normal stitch length to prevent seam from coming apart when you appliqué the piece.



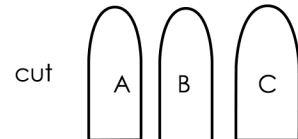
CREATING TEMPLATES

You can create templates from a wide variety of materials: Thick printer paper (like card stock), cardboard, poster board, plastic template material, file folders etc. The key is having a sturdy template that will not buckle.

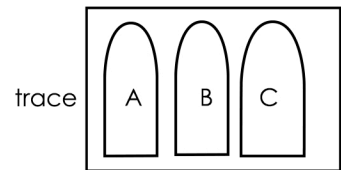
1. Print out templates on pages 8 to 9. If you have thicker printer paper, just print directly onto this. Otherwise follow steps 2 to 4 below.



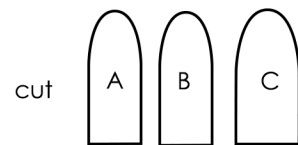
2. Cut out templates exactly on printed line.



3. Place templates on top of whatever template material you are using, and trace around the edges. Transfer all information to new templates.



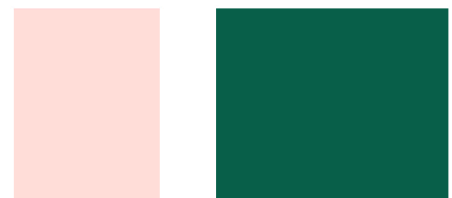
4. Cut out templates exactly on drawn line.



LAYOUT & MARKING FABRIC

Before you begin to sew, you must layout and baste the appliqué to the background. You can layout, baste and sew the appliqué pieces one at a time, but I prefer to do the entire layout for each section, and baste everything at the same time. This allows you more control in placement of the pieces, and saves a lot of time during the basting process. You may do the initial layout on the design wall, but steps 3 -7 should take place on a flat surface so you may pin the pieces to the background after you finish the final layout.

1. Lay out your background fabrics first and sew each row together with a 1/4" seam.



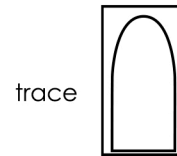
2. Place appliqué pieces on top of background fabrics and play with the arrangement of color until you are satisfied.



Now you must decide the width of the appliqué pieces. I recommend marking and cutting the pieces one at a time and placing them back onto the layout. At this point, take each background piece off the wall and continue on a flat surface.

LAYOUT & MARKING FABRIC CONTINUED

4. Place template on top of fabric and carefully trace along edges with a chalk pencil. Please note the marks are on the front of each piece (right side of fabric if using prints).



5. Trim fabric 1/4" away from drawn line all around. Place the appliqué piece back into the layout with all markings face up, and continue to mark and cut all pieces.



6. Determine whether you want the appliqué pieces to touch not only at the sides, but also at the tops of the arches.

7. Play with the length of the appliqué pieces. Some arches are short and do not reach the middle, and some arches are long and extend past the middle. Keep pieces at least 1/4" away from edge of background to allow for binding.



8. Trim appliqué pieces even with the edge of the background fabrics.

NOTE: All the appliqué pieces are longer than necessary to allow for variation in the length of the arch. Some pieces will hang over the edge of the background and can be trimmed as needed.



9. Once you are satisfied with the layout, proceed to basting.

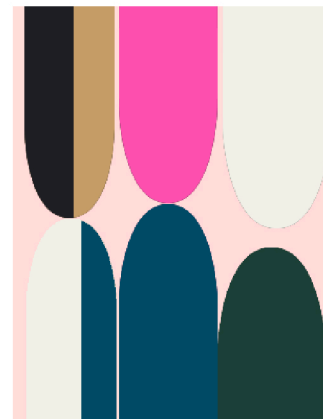
trim

BASTING

In order to keep the appliqué pieces flat and in place as you sew, you must baste them to the background first. Pin well and use the longest stitch length on your machine. I prepared one row at a time.

1. Pin appliqué pieces on top of background fabrics. In order to keep everything from shifting, pin every few inches on each piece. This part will use a lot of pins!

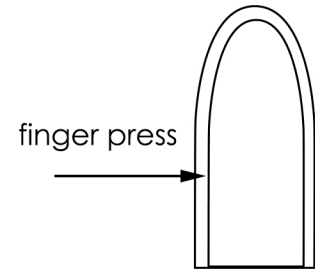
2. Carefully machine baste using straight lines as shown. 3 lines of basting per appliqué piece is sufficient. Make sure to stay about 3/8" to 1/2" away from drawn line. This will allow you to appliqué the edges of each piece while keeping the basting stitches in place.



SEWING

The hand appliqué stitch takes a little bit of practice, but if you have ever sewn on a binding by hand you have the basic stitch down already! The key to making your stitches invisible is to use a matching thread color, and to take small stitches just catching the edge of the appliqué piece.

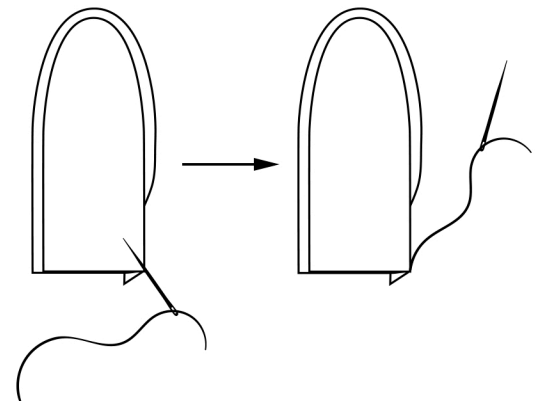
1. If you are new to appliqué, it can be helpful to finger press the seam of the appliqué piece under along the drawn line. This allows you to easily fold the seam allowance under as you are sewing.



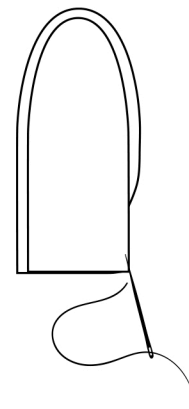
2. Cut a piece of thread about 18" from spool. Run the thread through thread conditioner and knot the end that comes off the spool.

3. Starting on the bottom of the arch, fold under the seam allowance and bring the needle from the back of the quilt and up through the appliqué piece. Try to catch just a few threads on the edge of the appliqué. Pull the thread through until the knot catches on the back.

If you are left handed, start on the left side of the appliqué. Righties, start on the right side of the appliqué piece.



4. Put the needle down into background and back up into appliqué, again just catching a few threads on the edge of the appliqué. Pull the thread through the appliqué until it is snug, but do not pull so hard that the fabric puckers.



5. Keep sewing one stitch at a time. Fold over about 1" of fabric at a time, and aim for stitches that are 1/8" - 3/16" apart.

SEWING CONTINUED

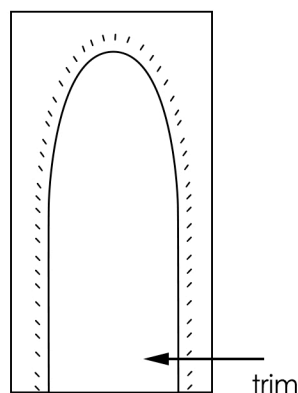
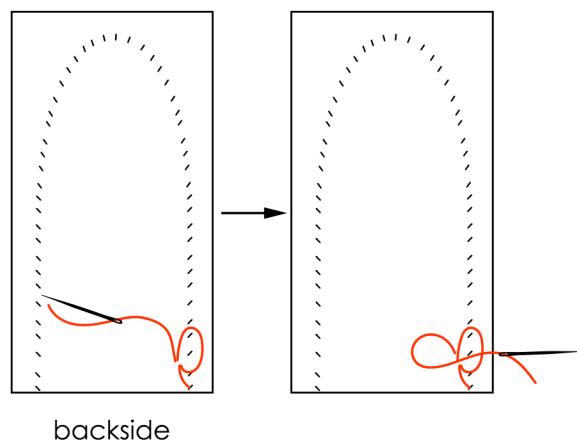
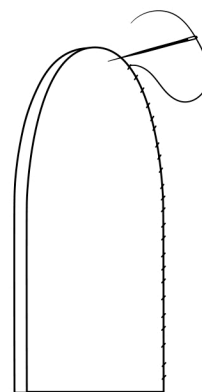
6. When you reach the tip of arch fold and stitch just a couple of stitches at a time. Use the tip of the needle to smooth any puckers in the folded under seam allowance.

7. Continue until you stitch down the entire appliqué piece. Put the needle down into the background fabric and pull the thread through to the back side of the work to create the knot.

8. Work the knot into the seam allowance area only using a modified backstitch (shown in red).

Put the needle down into the background fabric, come up about 1/16"- 1/8" away, put the needle back into the first hole and come up again, creating a backstitch. Pull the needle up to create a small loop. Put the needle back through the loop and tighten to create a knot. Cut thread leaving about a 1" tail.

9. Trim away the background fabric, 1/4" from sewn line.



THANK YOU!!

Thank you so much for being a part of the Color Collective! We hope you enjoy the process and we'd love to see what you make, so don't forget to post on Instagram and/or Facebook and use the hashtags #thecolorcollective, #rexquilt, or just tag us!

COLOR PALETTE

Kona solids

	Pepper		Bright Pink
	Spruce		Peach
	Balsam		Pink
	Glacier		Leather
	Cypress		Honey
	Honeydew		Khaki

ADDITIONAL colors you could add

	Black		Hunter Green
	Graphite		Olive
	Burgundy		Gold
	Spice		Curry
	Mango		Ivory

TEMPLATES

Note: Seam allowance is NOT included. Print at 100%.
Cut out along outer line.

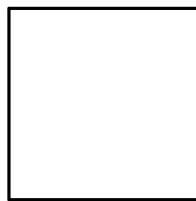


To ensure your printer is
printing to the correct size-
this square should measure 1"

Piece A
4 1/4" wide

TEMPLATES

Note: Seam allowance is NOT included. Print at 100%.
Cut out along outer line.



To ensure your printer is
printing to the correct size-
this square should measure 1"

Piece B
3 7/8" wide

Piece C
3 1/2" wide