

See
pattern sheet
for circle
templates



Round and round I go

Subtle earth tones complement the bright blue and greens of this quick-to-make cushion

Skill level



Finished size

Approx 46cm square (18in square)

Materials

- ◆ 30cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ yd) dark blue fabric
- ◆ 2 x 6in of dark green fabric
- ◆ 1½ x 11¼in of mid green fabric
- ◆ 2¼ x 9¼in of light green fabric
- ◆ 10 x 6in cream fabric (fabric A)
- ◆ 15 x 5in beige fabric (fabric B)
- ◆ 3¼ x 4¼in dark beige fabric (fabric C)
- ◆ 8½ x 4¼in light brown fabric (fabric D)
- ◆ 13 x 5in tan fabric (fabric E)
- ◆ 5 x 19in mid brown fabric (fabric F)
- ◆ 12 x 8in brown fabric (fabric G)
- ◆ 20in square backing fabric (will not be seen)
- ◆ 20in square wadding
- ◆ 19 x 30in fabric for cushion back (this could be pieced from scraps of the other fabrics)
- ◆ 1m (1½yds) of ½in wide bias binding in three shades of blue
- ◆ Invisible thread
- ◆ 50cm cushion pad

Where to buy

Similar fabrics are widely available from quilt fabric shops, or try our advertisers' mail order services. The dark blue highlight and binding fabric are hand-printed Hungarian blue fabric, available from Kekfest Cotton at www.kekfestocotton.co.uk or call 01463 713206 for more information.

Preparation

All measurements include ¼in seam allowances, unless otherwise stated. Wash and press all fabrics before cutting out. Press after each seam is stitched.

Designed and made by
Gillian Cooper

John Lewis

This plump cushion would look good on any sofa. The piecing is based loosely on log cabin, so it is quick to make and forgiving of any errors – just trim to a square at the end. Change the colour scheme to suit your own décor. To keep the impact of the cushion, use tones of one colour and a contrasting one to highlight in smaller amounts.

PIECING

- From the dark blue fabric, cut a rectangle $5\frac{3}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ in. From the dark green fabric, cut a rectangle $2 \times 5\frac{3}{4}$ in. Stitch together and press open.
- From fabric A cut a 4×6 in rectangle. Stitch to the bottom of your blue/green rectangle. This is shown as seam 1 as in Fig 1.
- From fabric G, cut a 2×4 in rectangle. From fabric F, cut a piece 3×4 in. From fabric E, cut a piece 5×4 in. Stitch these three rectangles together; shown as seams 2 and 3 in Fig 1. Stitch to the side of dark blue unit (seam 4). Attach the light green strip to the left hand side of your quilt.
- Cut a rectangle $3\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4}$ in from fabric C. Sew this to a $8\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{4}$ in rectangle cut from fabric D. This unit is then sewn to the bottom of the quilt (seam 7 in Fig 1). Attach the mid green strip to the bottom.

5 From fabric G, cut a rectangle $5\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ in. From fabric F, cut a piece $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ in. Stitch together then attach to the left hand side of the quilt (seam 10 in Fig 1).

6 Cut a rectangle $7\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{3}{4}$ in from fabric E and another rectangle $4\frac{3}{4} \times 9$ in from fabric F. Stitch together then join to the bottom of your quilt, with the fabric E piece at the left hand side (seam 12 in Fig 1).

7 From fabric B, cut a piece $1\frac{1}{4} \times 14\frac{1}{4}$ in and from fabric A, cut a piece $2\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$ in. Join together lengthwise, then attach

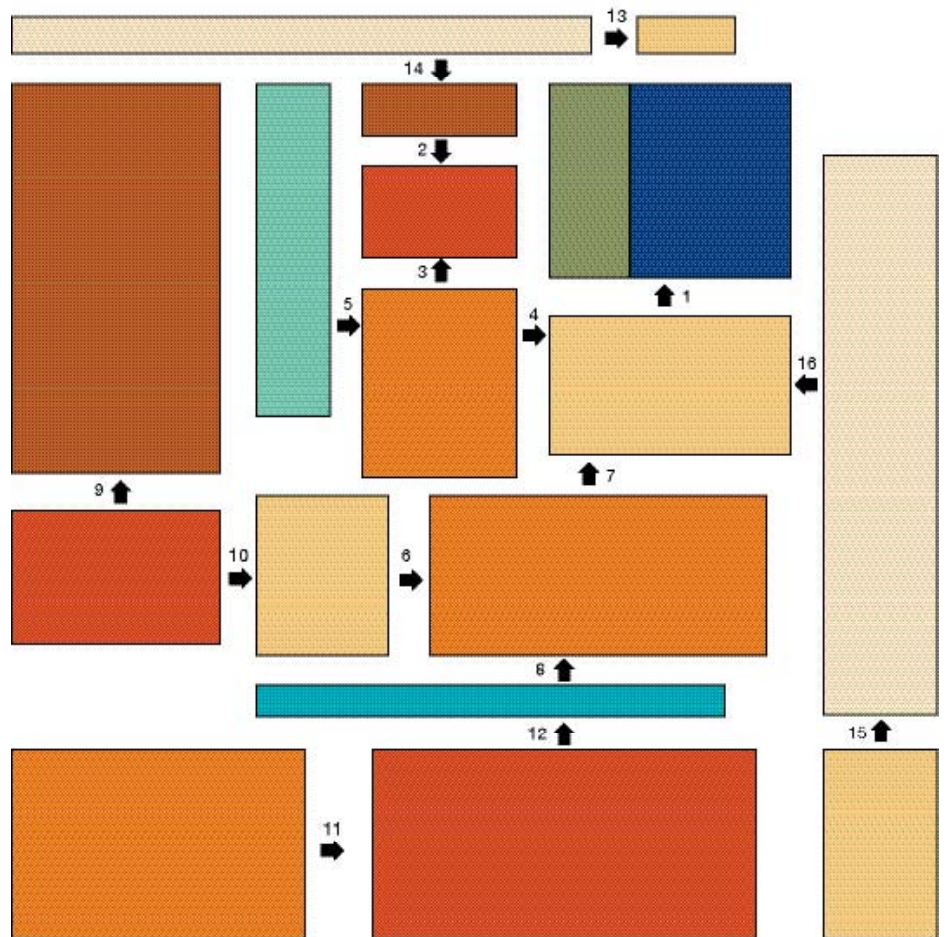


Fig 1 Piecing diagram

to the top of your quilt (seam 14 in Fig 1).

8 Cut a rectangle $13\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ in from fabric B and another $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ in from fabric A. Stitch together, press open then attach to the right hand side of your quilt top (seam 16 in Fig 1).

QUILTING

1 Press the quilt top. Layer with the backing fabric on the bottom, wadding in the middle and the quilt RS up on top. Tack or pin together.

2 Gillian simply quilted in the ditch around each of the rectangles, using invisible thread. If desired, you could add hand-sewn stipple stitches on some of the rectangles to add variety.

3 To make the circles, Gillian used a dinner plate, a salad plate and a side plate. Put the largest plate on the quilt top in the right position then pin the light blue bias tape around it. You will need to pin at least every inch. Fold the final tip of the bias tape under to give a neat join. Using a zig zag or blind hemming stitch, machine the circle in place, stitching both the inner and outer edges.

4 Add the middle circle in the same way, using your mid size plate, lining up the circle with the edge of the larger one.

5 Finally, add the smallest circle in the same way using the darkest bias tape.

FINISHING

1 Trim your cushion to 19in square. Cut the fabric for the cushion back in half to give two pieces 19×15 in. Hem one edge by folding the edge under and top stitching.

2 Overlap the back pieces face down, with the hemmed edge on the bottom in the middle, to give a 19in square. Put the cushion top face up on top. Pin together, then stitch round the edge using a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ in seam.

3 From the remainder of the dark blue fabric, cut strips $2\frac{1}{2}$ in wide on the bias. Join these strips, using a diagonal seam to make a strip 80in long. Press the strip lengthways in half, wrong sides facing. Pin the raw edges along the edges of the quilt top, curving around the corners to echo the circles on the quilt top. Stitch in place with a $\frac{1}{2}$ in seam allowance. Using a $\frac{1}{2}$ in seam allowance makes the binding rather tight, giving an effect a bit like piping. Turn the binding to the back of the quilt and slipstitch neatly in place by hand.

4 Put the cushion pad inside your striking new cover and sit back and enjoy. ♦

