

Quilt for All Deurstikwerk vir Almal

CUTTING MAT CARRY BAG

COMPILED BY LINDA VENTER FOR BERNINA RSA 2024

This challenge is an individual project, and all participants will be required to do one section of the bag per month, using the patchwork/quilting technique specified in the monthly challenge.

The final challenge will require that you assemble the Cutting Mat Carry Bag and finish it off with binding.

The quilting may be done on your domestic machine or using a quilt frame.

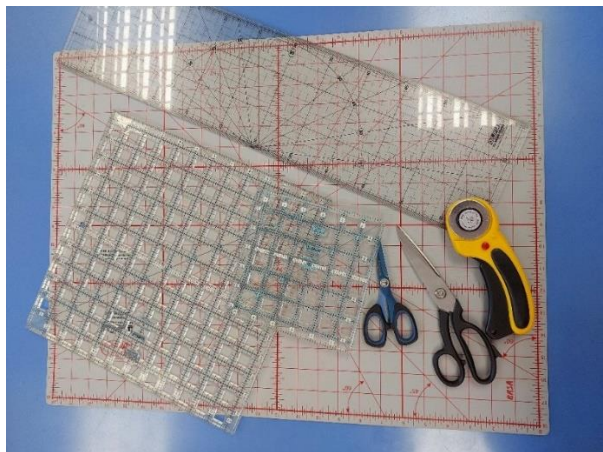


Participants must post a photograph of the monthly patchwork row, and a short description on how they implemented the patchwork technique, on the [Quilt for All / Deurstikwerk vir Almal](#) Facebook page.

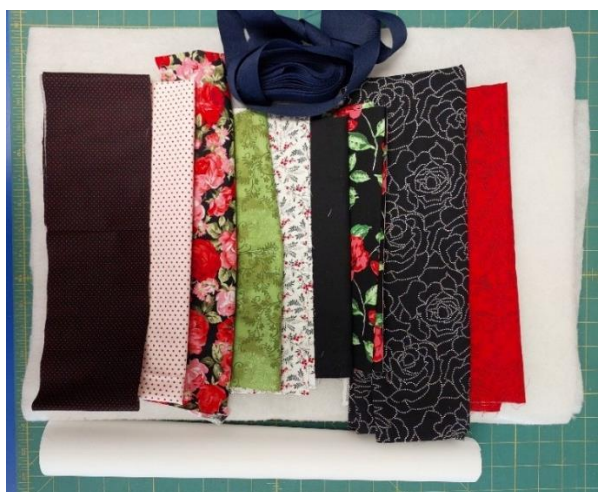
If you are not a Facebook user, you can email the pictures and a short description of your monthly progress to lorette@berninasa.com and she will post it to Facebook on your behalf.

The Cutting Mat Carry Bag has been designed for a 24" x 18' cutting mat, which is the medium size mat and the most popular size to take to patchwork and quilting classes.

The bag also has various pockets, using different patchwork techniques, to hold your cutter, scissors, rulers, etc. so that you have all utilities in one bag to take to classes.



Fabric requirements



We all have some cut off fabrics from previous quilt projects and this is the ideal opportunity to use those scraps.

- You will need a good selection of scrap fabrics or 25cm of 4 to 6 different fabrics.
- For the bag and the backing, you will need 20" x 50" in basic fabric and 24" x 54" backing fabric.
- Batting for the bag and pockets.
- Appliqué paper.
- As an optional extra, you can use webbing for the handles of the bag, or you can make your own strap for the handles.

We will make use of a selection of presser feet:

- Patchwork; walking foot; free motion quilting foot, ruler foot, etc.
- Coordinating threads in the colour of your choice.

Challenge #5: Foundation paper piecing technique



Block size – 6" x 6" or 8" x 8".

Foundation paper piecing is a piecing technique that uses paper as a foundation to stabilize the quilt block as it is constructed. Once you complete the block, you remove the paper.

Foundation paper piecing is also referred to as the paint-by-numbers of quilting. You use a paper template to outline which fabric goes where and then stitch both the paper and the fabric together along the stitching lines. Remove the paper and you have a perfectly pieced block!

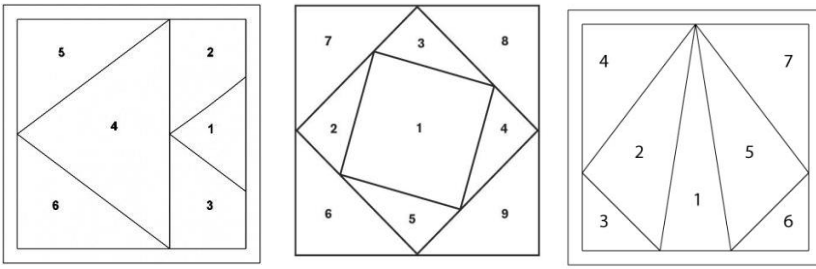
This technique can help you achieve complicated patchwork designs such as pictures, with perfect results.

It is also a very accurate way of stitching the seams in patchwork.

You will need the following apparatus for foundation paper piecing:

- Paper – you can use ordinary computer printing paper or even the paper cover from the ream of paper.
- Patterns for the blocks that you want to piece.

You will find a lot of free foundation paper piecing templates on Pinterest, or you can purchase patterns from Esty, etc.

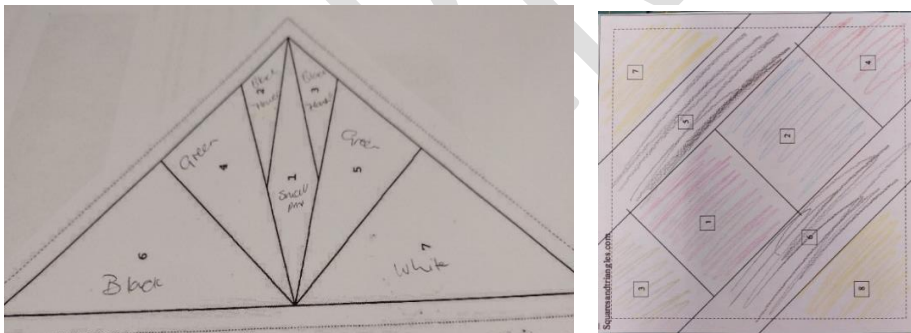


Always best to add the ¼" seam allowance on the outside edges of the paper template. See illustration in the centre, which has no seam allowances added on the outside of the block. In this case, you will have to add the seam allowance when you square the block.

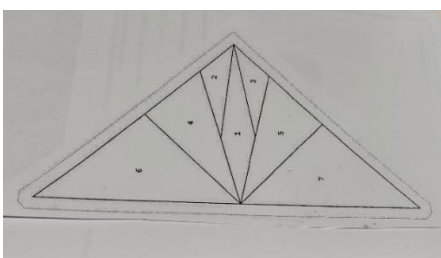
You will need:

- Rotary cutter, cutting mat, and a ruler with markings.
- Paper scissors for trimming the paper patterns.
- Tweezers for pulling out the little bits of paper that remain in the stitching lines.
- Patchwork presser foot.
- Finger press or an iron and ironing board close by your workstation, as you will need to iron each seam that you stitch.
- Fabric – it can be small pieces of scrap fabric.
- Sewing thread.

It makes it easier if you take the pattern and use colour pencils and colour the sections according to your fabrics that you want to use. This will also give you a good idea of what the finished block will look like.



Download or scan your pattern. Once you open it on your computer, you can enlarge or reduce the size on screen, to the size block that you require.



Procedure

- Place colour 1 on the wrong side of the paper template, with the wrong side of the fabric facing the paper. Ensure that the fabric is big enough to cover the area of colour 1 on the template. You can pin in place if required.



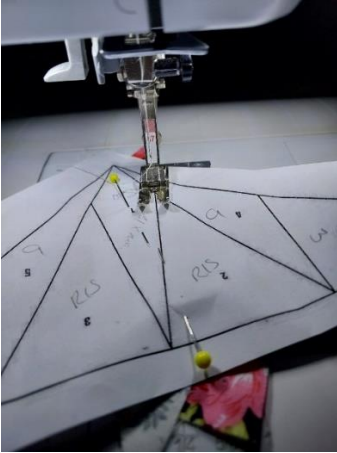
- Place the second colour on top of colour 1 with right sides together. Make sure that it will be big enough when you fold it back after stitching, so that it covers the colour 2 section on the template. Pin in place.



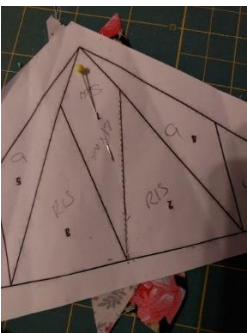
- Use a small stitch length – we used stitch length 1.7
This will help to perforate the paper template for easy removal.



- Turn the paper with the markings facing and sew on the line between section 1 and 2.
- Start sewing a few stitches before the actual stitching line and sew a few stitches past the end of the stitching line.



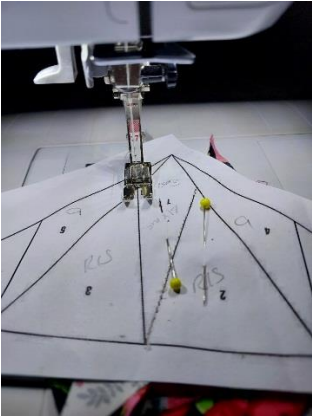
- Fold the paper section back from the stitching line, and make sure that both fabrics are lying under the paper. Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ ".



- Fold colour 2 back and iron carefully.
- Place colour 3 with right sides together on colour 2. Ensure that the fabric is big enough to cover section 3 on the paper template once it is stitched and folded back.



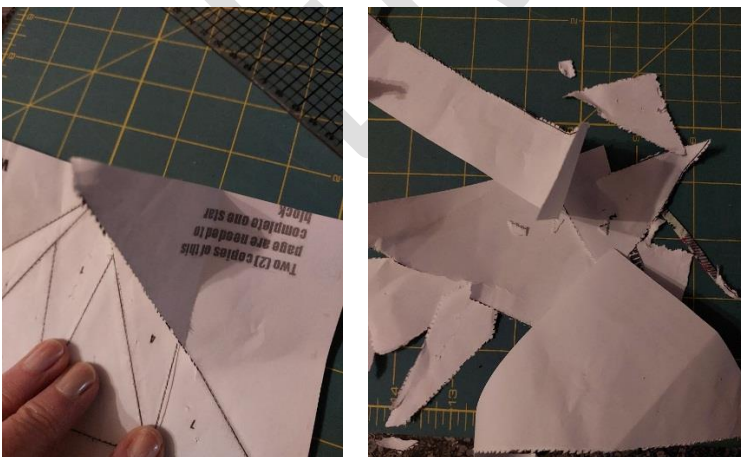
- Turn the paper over and stitch on the line between section 1 and 3.



- Fold the paper section back and trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam as with colours 1 and 2.



- Fold colour 3 back and iron carefully.
- Repeat all the steps above for each colour until all the colours are sewn.
Do not forget to trim and press each seam.
- Trim the excess fabric to the same size as the paper template.
- Carefully tear the paper away, and take care not to distort the stitches.



- Use the tweezers to remove any small sections of paper that did not tear away properly.
- Repeat the complete process for as many blocks as required.
- Place these blocks in various ways, until you are satisfied with the results.

Once you have placed your blocks, look through your cell phone camera, as this will give you a better image of the row of blocks.

- Sew all the blocks together, using a ¼" seam allowance.
- Press the seams.
- Sandwich the block and quilt as desired.



- Bind all 4 sides of the block.



Well done you have made it once again!!

Now you are ready for the next challenge!

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