

Basket

by Nannette Holmberg

Flowers



BASKET OF FLOWERS, 38½" x 36½", by Nannette Holmberg. Quilted by Vicki Westmoreland.

A basket of flowers is a welcome addition to any room. Fill this basket with the colors of the season or adapt it to your favorite color palette. For more detailed information on making quilts, see the AQS Quiltmaking Essentials & Tested Tips at www.AmericanQuilter.com.

Getting started

The B patch template is given as ½ of the pattern piece. Trace the pattern, including the pleated bias placement lines, onto tracing paper. Flip the tracing, align the dashed lines, and trace only the outline and

horizontal (red) placement lines. Following figure 1, draw additional placement lines 3" from and parallel to the left-leaning and right-leaning bias placement lines.

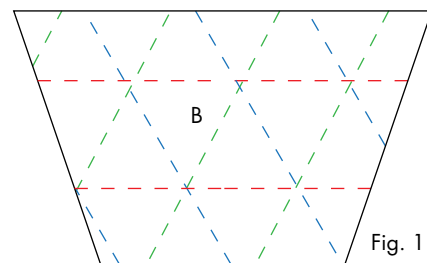


Fig. 1

The C patch template is given in 2 parts for each half of the pattern piece. On tracing paper, trace part 1, align the dashed lines with those on part 2, and trace to complete half of the handle. For the other half, flip the tracing, align the center dot-dash lines with those on part 1 and trace, align the dashed lines with those on part 2, and trace to complete the handle.

The D and E patch templates are also given as ½ of the pattern piece. Working one at a time, trace each onto tracing paper, flip, align the dashed lines, and trace the other half.

Preparing the appliqué

Allowing at least ½" around each piece, trace the appliqué pieces onto the paper side of the fusible web. For B, also trace the bias placement lines.

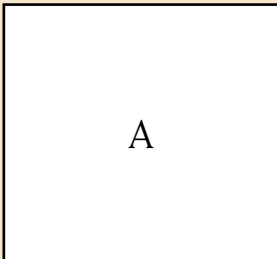
Cut out each shape with roughly ⅛" to ¼" margin all around. Following the manufacturer's directions, fuse the shapes to the wrong side of the fabrics. Cut out on the drawn lines.

For B, using a pencil or your favorite fabric marking tool, lightly trace the bias placement lines onto the right side of the fabric.

Attach a pleating or ruffler foot to your sewing machine and set it to pleat every sixth stitch. Shorten your machine's stitch length to 2.0, or 13 stitches per inch. Run the chocolate Blooming Bias through the foot, bypassing the side guide so that the stitching is centered on the bias. Repeat with the cinnamon bias. *Tip: If you do not have a pleating attachment, machine sew a long basting stitch down the middle of the bias. Pull on a basting thread to loosely gather the bias by hand.*

Assembling the appliqué center

Removing the backing paper as you go, first place piece B on

FABRIC & CUTTING REQUIREMENTS		Skill level: Easy
Quilt size: 38½" x 36½"		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements are based on 40" fabric width. • Strips are cut from selvage to selvage unless otherwise noted. • An extra 2" has been added to the length of the border strips to allow for adjustments.
Textured, cream colored cotton – 1 yard	• 1 A	
Light print – ⅓ yard	• 1 B	
Dark gold print – scraps	• 5 F, 1 J, 2 K, 1 P	
Tan dot print – scraps	• 8 G	
Rust print – scraps	• 8 G, 1 O, 1 P	
Light plaid – scraps	• 9 H	
Light gold print – scraps	• 7 I	
Brown print – scrap	• 1 Q	
Green print – scraps	• 9 L, 8 M, 2 N, 2 Nr	
Dark green print – ⅓ yard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • border 1 top/bottom, 2 strips 1¾" x 35" • border 1 sides, 2 strips 1¾" x 30½" 	
Dark brown print – ⅞ yard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • border 2 top/bottom, 2 strips 3½" x 41" • border 2 sides, 2 strips 3½" x 33" • 1 C, 1 D, 1 E 	
Binding – ½ yard	• 5 strips 2¼" x 40" for 160" of continuous binding	
Backing – 1¼ yards	• 1 panel 40" x 43"	
Sleeve – ⅓ yard	• 1 strip 9" x 38"	
Batting	• 40" x 43"	
SUPPLIES: 2 yards fusible web, 1 yard tearaway stabilizer, 3 yards ⅝" wide chocolate color Chenille-It™ Blooming Bias™, 15 yards ⅝" wide cinnamon color Chenille-It Blooming Bias* OPTIONAL SUPPLIES: sewing machine pleating or ruffler foot		
* Blooming Bias is available at www.FauxChenille.com and at many quilt shops.		
ROTARY CUTTING Rotary dimensions include seam allowances.		
		
30½" x 28½"		

A, 4½" from the bottom edge and centered left to right. Cut to fit and place cinnamon pleated bias pieces on the placement lines on B. Pin to secure. Following the Appliqué placement diagram, place in order: C, D, and E.

Following the Appliqué placement diagram, and the Basket of Flowers quilt photo, place the leaves, flower petals, and flower centers. Cut pieces of chocolate pleated bias ½" longer than needed for the flower stems. Pin in place and tuck ¼" of each end under other appliqué pieces. Fuse the entire piece according to the manufacturer's directions.

Place the block right-side up on tear-away stabilizer. Using a matching thread, stitch down the middle of the pleated bias strips. Using a decorative stitch or zigzag and matching thread, stitch

all around the appliqué pieces. Carefully remove the stabilizer.

Adding the borders

Press the quilt center well. Measure the vertical length of the quilt through the center and cut 2 dark green border #1 strips to this measurement. Sew them to the sides of the quilt. Press all seam allowances away from the quilt center. Measure the width of the quilt through the center, including the side borders you just added. Cut 2 strips this length and sew them to the top and bottom of the quilt.

Measure and sew dark brown print border #2 strips to the quilt in the same manner

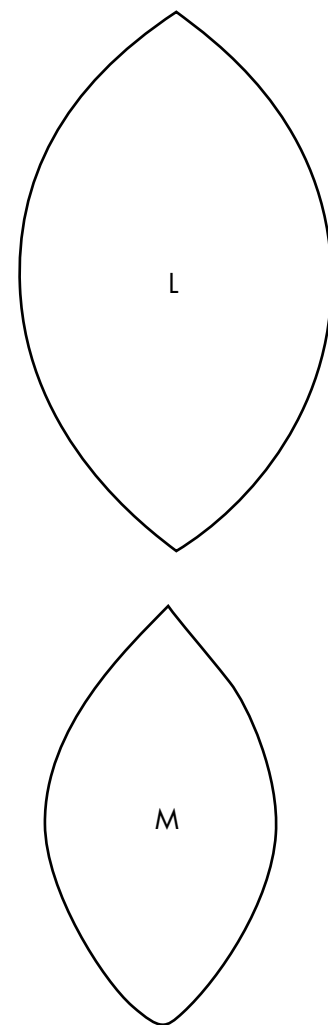
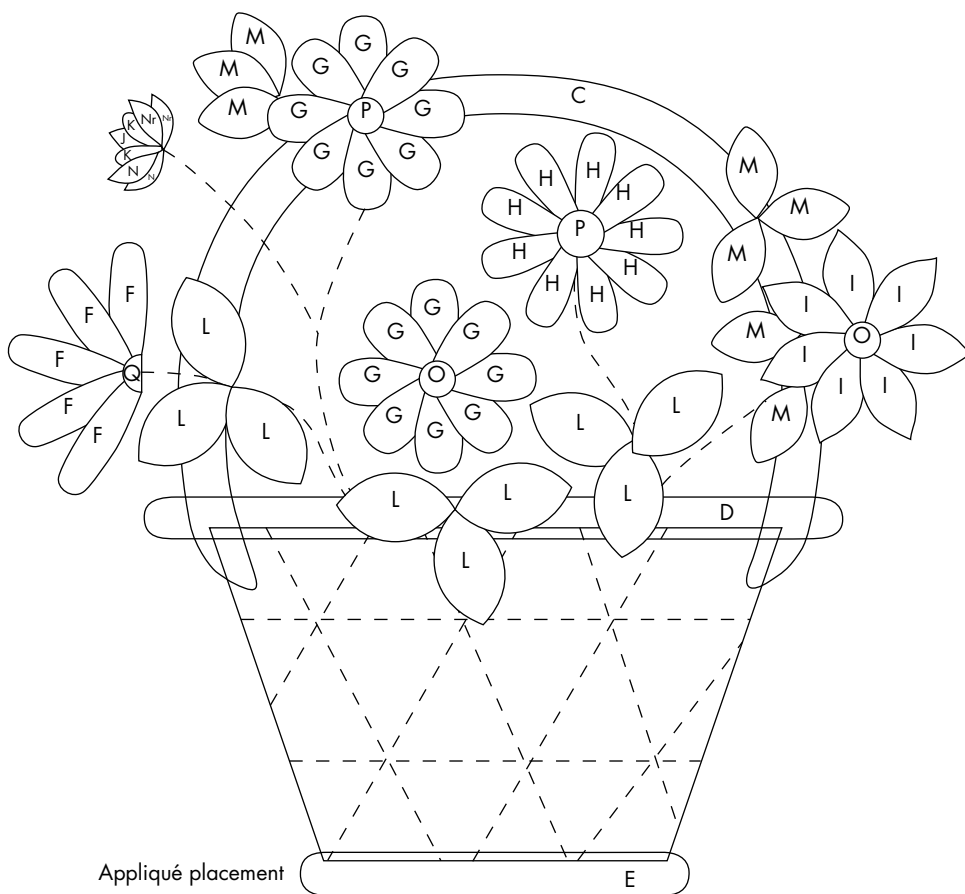
Cutting pieces to fit as you go, place the cinnamon pleated bias over the seams between the dark green and brown borders. Stitch through the middle of the bias.

Quilting and finishing

Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top. Baste the layers together. First quilt around the basket, handles, and flowers. Quilt the background with freeform leaves, flowers, and tendrils, echoing the shapes in the basket. Stitch down the center of the bias. Quilt a flowing leaf design in the border.

Sew the binding strips together to make 160" of continuous binding. Finish the edges of your quilt with double-fold binding. Using a stiff bristle brush, fray the edges of the pleated bias. Be careful not to brush too vigorously.

To display your quilt, make a sleeve and sew it to the back of the quilt.



Appliqué placement

