

Taupe Inspirations

Modern Quilts Inspired by Japanese Taupes

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Exception: we grant permission to photocopy the patterns on pages 77-96 for personal use only.

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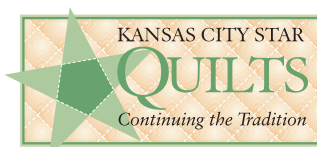
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The Quilter's Home Page

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Miss Maisie's Quilt

Lecien U.S.A asked me to design a quilt to showcase their latest Centenary collection. There was just one rule: the pattern must fit on two pages. So after a lot of thought I decided on one flower design and a very simple block. I called this quilt Miss Maisie's as our new baby had just been born when I designed it and Shirley had to sew it for me as I was just too 'baby busy' to get near my sewing machine. I spent lots of time jiggling Maisie and laying out the blocks while Shirley stitched.

Approximate finished size:
72" x 90" or 183cm x 229cm

Templates: page 96

The fabric used in this quilt is from the Lecien Centenary collection.

Fabric and Supplies

Block rectangles: at least 20 fat quarters or $\frac{1}{4}$ yard pieces of various colors
Scraps of fabric for appliqué flowers
Inner Border: 1 yard or $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards if you prefer not to have any joins
Outer Border: $1\frac{5}{8}$ yards or $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards if you prefer not to have any joins
Binding: $\frac{3}{4}$ yard
Backing: $4\frac{1}{2}$ yards
Batting: Full Size

Cutting

From your assorted Cobblestone fabric cut 68 rectangles $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ " and 8 rectangles 5" x $6\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Tip:

If you prefer not to make the decision about which fabrics will be the smaller rectangles at the end of the columns, then cut all your rectangles at $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ " and then trim 8 down later once you have decided on the exact layout.

INNER BORDER

Cut 2 strips $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $60\frac{1}{2}$ " for the top and bottom borders and 2 strips $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $72\frac{1}{2}$ " for the side borders. If you have chosen 1 yard of fabric for the inner border you will need to join $3\frac{1}{2}$ " strips to make the border lengths required.

OUTER BORDER

Cut 2 strips $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x $72\frac{1}{2}$ " for the top and bottom borders and 2 strips $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x $78\frac{1}{2}$ " for the side borders. If you have chosen $1\frac{5}{8}$ yards of fabric for the outer border you will need to join your $3\frac{1}{2}$ " strips to make the border lengths required.

BINDING

Cut 8 strips $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide by the full width of the fabric.

APPLIQUÉ

Using your preferred method, appliqué the flower design to seven of the large rectangles. You can choose to have a light background with a dark flower or a dark background with a light flower, or a mixture of both. Make sure that you leave at least $\frac{1}{4}$ " all the way around the edge for your seam allowance, as you do not want your appliqué to disappear into the seam allowance. I like to leave slightly more space at the top and bottom of the appliqué than at the sides. This is my personal preference, and you can make your flower lean over more or stand up straighter, depending how much space you like around your flower appliqué.

Remember to remove any paper pieces if you have used them in your appliqué before your quilt top is basted for quilting.



Miss Maisie's Quilt

Instructions

This is the really fun part of the quilt as you can layout all your rectangles in nine columns, using the photo on page 74 as a guide. Arrange them in a pleasing manner so that the first and last columns have eight large rectangles and the alternate columns have seven rectangles (including the appliqué blocks) and are offset with a small rectangle at each end. Place the applique flower rectangles so that they are evenly spaced over the quilt. I prefer not to have any flowers in the top and bottom row or the outside columns as these parts of the quilt can often be down the side of a bed or under the pillows.

Once you are pleased with the arrangement stitch the rectangles in the first column to each other making sure the raw edges are even and using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Press the seams all in one direction. Repeat for the next column and so forth until you have all the columns stitched.

Now sew the first column to the second column and so on until all of the columns are stitched together. I like to pin these before I sew so that the center of each block and the seam line of the next block all line up nicely. Press seams one side.

Your quilt should measure $54 \frac{1}{2}$ " x $72 \frac{1}{2}$ ". If you quilt does not measure this size, you will need to adjust the inner border to fit the size quilt you have made.

Sew the Inner Border side pieces your quilt first. Press the seams toward the borders. Next sew one Inner Border piece to the top of your quilt. Press the seam toward the border. Repeat for the bottom Inner Border piece.

Your quilt should now measure $60 \frac{1}{2}$ " x $78 \frac{1}{2}$ ".

Sew the Outer Border side pieces to each side of the quilt top. Press the seams toward the outer border. Sew one Outer Border to the top of your quilt. Press the seam toward the border. Repeat this for the bottom Outer Border piece.

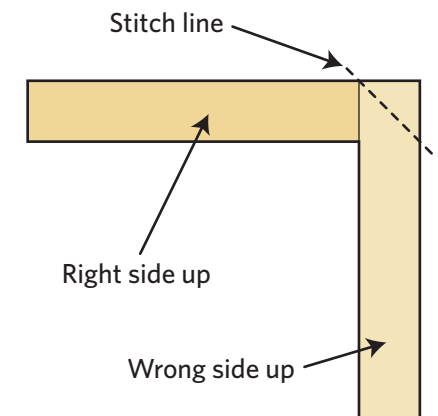
Your quilt should now measure $72 \frac{1}{2}$ " x $90 \frac{1}{2}$ ".

QUILTING

Baste and quilt your quilt as desired. My quilt was long arm quilted with a dragonfly and swirl meander pattern. I like the way the dragonflies look like they are visiting the flowers on some blocks.

BINDING

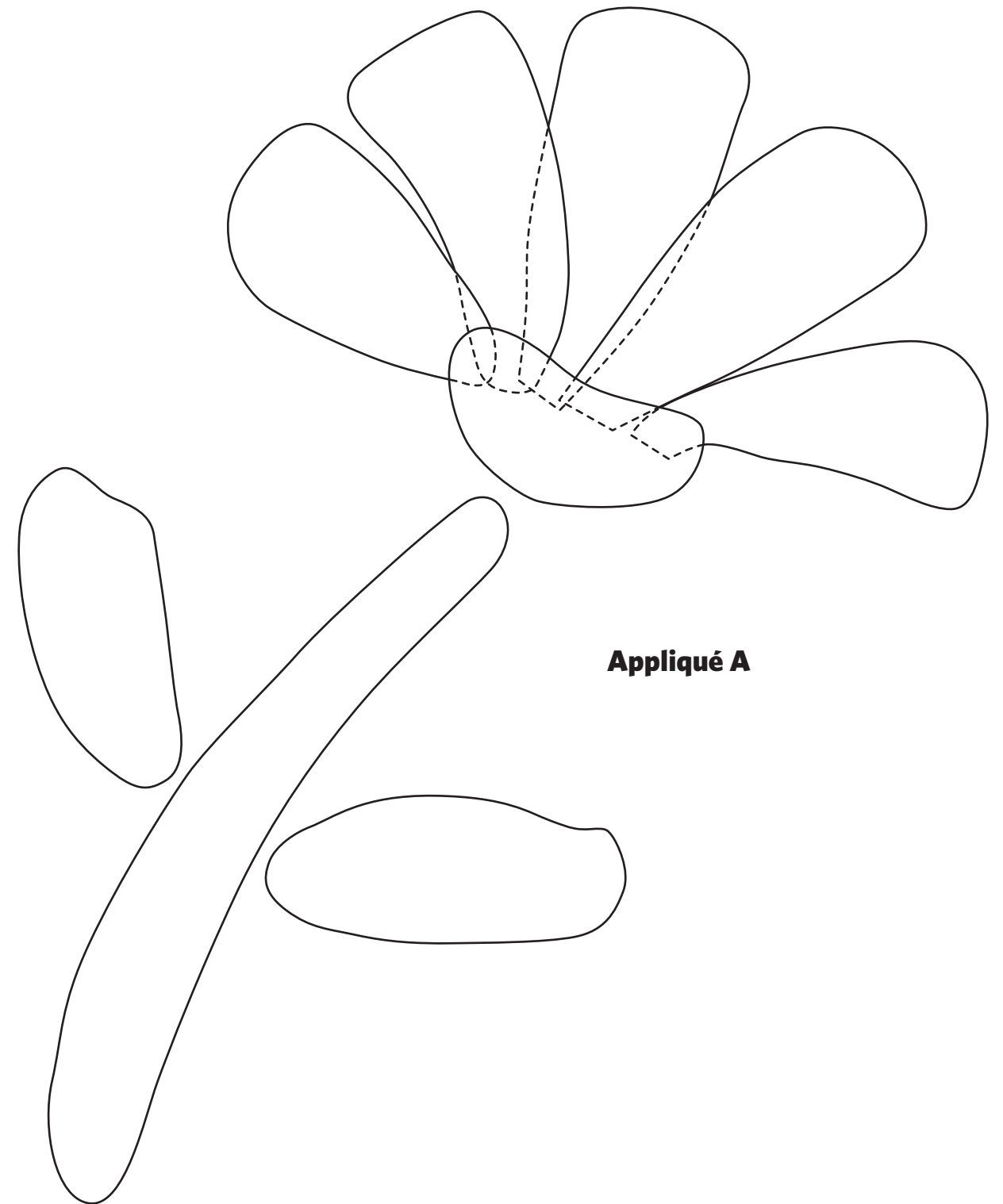
Trim the selvedge from the 8 binding strips. Lay your first strip right side up. Place your second strip right side down at right angles and stitch across the diagonal as shown below.



Repeat this until you have all eight pieces sewn into one long strip. Trim the seam allowances to $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press the seams open.

Press the binding in half with wrong sides together down the length of the binding, so that the edges meet and the strip now measures $1 \frac{1}{4}$ " wide. Align the raw edge of your binding with the edge of your quilt and pin in place. With your walking foot stitch the binding to the quilt. Fold the binding over to the back of your quilt and slip stitch the binding down along the stitch line on the back of your quilt.

Templates



Appliqué A