

moda

BAKESHOP

Original Recipe



Clermont Farms Quilted Tote Bag by Glenn Dragone

This Americana themed, multipurpose tote is suitable for the pool, the green market, or a fun day trip.

Ingredients:

- 1 Clermont Farms Jelly Roll by Minick & Simpson
- 1 yard Clermont Farms solid navy
- 1 yard cotton batting

Instructions:

Front Panel

Step 1: Cut Squares 2 ½" x 2 ½"

Choose four strips of fabric from the jelly roll. I used the dark blue paisley, the white and blue tossed plums, the blue with white sprays of flowers, and the dark blue lattice with roses. The fabric width is

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already 2 ½”, so simply lay out each strip on your cutting board, measure out 2 ½” across the length, and cut away.



Using my patterns, cut 12 squares of the dark blue paisley, 12 squares of the white and blue tossed plums, 6 squares of the blue with white sprays of flowers, and 6 squares of the dark blue lattice with roses.



Step 2: Layout Your Panel



Step 3: Sew the Squares Together

Sew right sides of two squares together using a ¼” seam allowance. You can chain piece if you like. Use a dry iron or finger press your seam allowances to the darker side. Keep the layout photo as a handy reminder. Sometimes distractions come up and those tiny squares get jumbled up.



Now sew the completed set of two squares into blocks of four. Make sure your seams interlock. I rub my fingers together over the joining seam prior to sewing. If they are locked in, you will be able to feel a smooth connection. Gently pull the two pieces apart to see if the join is locked. The locked joints will yield a sharp intersecting point on the face. Again press the seams to one side after finishing.

Join the three sets of blocks across into three rows. Press the seams to one side for each row.

Join the three sets of blocks across into three rows. Press the

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Finally, join the three rows together. It is a good idea to pin the joins for the final row of sewing to keep the intersections aligned.



Voila! The Front Panel is complete.



Step 4: Add a Border

Measure the length of the left side of your panel (mine was 12 1/2"), and cut a solid red strip from the jelly roll the same size. Now cut the strip in half lengthwise. I ended up with two strips measuring 12 1/2" x 1 1/4". With right sides together, sew the left and right borders to your panel. Now repeat these steps for the top and bottom borders of your panel.



Back Panel

Repeat the steps for the front panel to create your back panel. I chose different fabrics, and used the lighter blue paisley, the white and blue tossed miniatures, the light blue and white rose, the lighter blue lattice with roses, and solid cream for the border. Cut 12 squares of the paisley, 12 squares of the miniatures, 6 squares of the roses, and 6 squares of the lattice.



Here is the layout for the Back Panel.

Side Panels

Measure the sides of your front and back panels. They should be approximately the same size, but no worries if they are a bit off, we are going to trim the pieces before construction. For each side, choose four strips of fabric from the jelly roll, and cut to the larger measurement (better too big than too small). The fabrics I chose are pictured. Straight stitch these four strips together to create the side panel. Repeat these steps to create your second side panel. I chose to use the red paisley and the tossed plum on beige for both. The variation is in the colors of the blue and white roses and lattice with roses. In one panel I used the lighter blue and in the other the darker.

Side Panel One



Side Panel Two





Bottom Panel

Measure the bottom of your front and back panels. Choose four strips of fabric, cut to the larger measurement, and straight stitch together. Pictured are my selections.



Quilting

Now the fun begins! We are going to treat each of the five panels as if they are mini quilts. Cut a piece of the 1 yard of solid navy so that it is 1" larger on all sides of your first panel to be quilted. Then cut a piece of cotton batting the same size. Make a quilt sandwich by positioning your solid navy face down on your mat, followed by the batting and the panel face up. Secure your sandwich with pins. Quilt your panel, as you like. I used a simple "stitch in the ditch" approach with each panel. Sandwich and quilt the rest of your panels.



After you finish quilting, trim up each panel. This is the point where you can ensure the pieces are all the same size.



Binding

Decide which edge you would like to be the top of your front, back, and side panels because we are about to give them a nice finish. Measure the top of the panel you are working on and cut a piece of solid navy to fit its width. My first panel measured 13 1/2", so I cut a strip 13 1/2" x 2 1/2".

Now press that strip in half, and sew the raw edge to the raw edge of the panel like a quilt binding. After adding the binding, turn the strip and hand stitch binding to the back lining.

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Repeat for the three remaining panels. The bottom panel does not need to be bound because it will be sewn to the body of the tote bag on all four sides.



Handles

Cut two strips of solid navy to 21" x 4". This will yield a handle approximately 8" in height from the top of the bag. Fold each strip in half lengthwise and press. Open up each strip and fold the sides to meet in the middle. The pressed fold will help to gauge the center.



Cut two strips of batting to 21" x 1" and tuck it inside flush against one side. Sew the open side closed. To keep it balanced in appearance, sew another line down the opposite side.



Measure 3" from each end of the top front and top back panels. Pin the handle so the end of the handle meets the bottom of the solid border. Make sure the handles are not twisted prior to sewing. Simply hold it up and you will see if it is not correct. Using a "stitch box", sew each handle to the top of your panel.

Construction

We are going to put the bag together using a binding to join and hide the exposed seams. Choose eight strips from the jelly roll, or use solid navy if you want the inside of the tote bag to be all one color.

(Before continuing read "Option" at the end of the instructions. It may be of interest.)



Start by sewing the front panel to the bottom panel. Measure the edge of the bottom panel lengthwise. Cut a binding strip the measure length by 2 1/2". Press the strip in half. Sew it to the edge of the bottom panel. Place the bottom panel on top of the front panel with the sewn binding on the bottom.



Turn the two panels over so the lining side of the front panel is now facing you. Reach under and turn the binding around to the lining side of the front panel. Pin the binding to the lining side for sewing.



Sew both pieces together on the lining side. Take your time and make sure you are sewing through both panels.



When you finish and open it up, you will see that the two panels are now joined and the binding covers the seam.

Now assemble the back panel to the bottom using the same procedure.



Pictured is the front panel attached to the bottom with the back panel ready to be assembled.



Next add the two side panels.

We are almost done. Take a breath, you are doing great!



Now it is time to make this guy into a real tote. In order to sew the side seams to the bottom, twist the side panel and place it on the one side of the bottom panel. Add the binding as you did before. You will be constructing the balance of the seams working in a clockwise fashion.

After all of the pieces are joined with seams your new tote is done. Your tote is completely washable. Since it is quilted, each wash will enhance your design.

Option

If you would like your bag to stand up in a more uniform manner, add the seams to the outside of the panels instead of the inside. The photo shows the bag inside out. You will see it stands up proud and tall. By adding the seams to the outside, the bag is able to stand on its own. The seams on the inside give the face side a clean look. You are the designer. It is all up to you.

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Yield:



1 tote bag. Measures 13"W x 13"H (excluding handles) x 7"D.
Machine washable.

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