

38"x 38"

LEAVES OF GREEN

BY SUSAN BRUBAKER KNAPP

FABRIC

Block backgrounds, border rectangles & squares	solid light blue	1-1/4 yard
Border rectangles	solid medium blue	1/4 yard
Leaves	25 different greens	4" x 8" each
Circles	5 pinks (lightest pink, light pink, pink, medium pink and dark pink) 2 oranges 3 yellows	4" x 8" each 4" x 8" each 4" x 8" each
Backing fabric	solid light blue	1-1/8 yard fabric at least 40-42" wide
Binding fabric	solid medium blue	1/3 yard*

^{*} This is enough for a double straight-grain binding; you will need more fabric for a bias binding.

OTHER MATERIALS

Batting (I used Quilters Dream, Request loft)

Machine piecing thread (I recommend Aurifil Cotton Mako No. 50). I used #2805.

Hand appliqué thread (I recommend Aurifil Cotton Mako No. 50) in colors to match your appliqué pieces. I used #2860 (green), #2120 (yellow), #2425 (pale pink), #2588 (dark pink), 1133 (orange).

Machine quilting thread (I recommend Aurifil Cotton Mako No. 28.) I used teal #1148.

Mechanical chalk pencil (for tracing appliqué shapes)

Appliqué pins, quilting straight pins, and basting safety pins

Appliqué needles

Light box (or brightly-lit window)

Clear, medium-weight upholstery vinyl, 7" square

Fusible adhesive (if you want to do fusible appliqué)

Perfect Circles by Karen Kay Buckley (if you are doing needleturn appliqué, I recommend using these)

DIRECTIONS



Please read all the directions before you start!

Cut the fabric pieces

- **1.** From the solid light blue fabric, cut 25 A squares 6-1/2" x 6-1/2" for the block backgrounds.
- **2.** From the solid light blue fabric, cut 4 B squares 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" for the border corners.
- **3.** From the solid medium blue fabric, cut 12 C rectangles 6-1/2" x 4-1/2" for the border.
- **4.** From the solid light blue fabric, cut 8 D rectangles 6-1/2" x 4-1/2" for the border.



Cut the appliqué pieces If you are doing fusible applique:

Trace the shapes onto fusible adhesive, iron them to the wrong side of the fabric, and cut them out on the line.

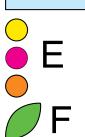
If you are doing traditional needleturn appliqué:

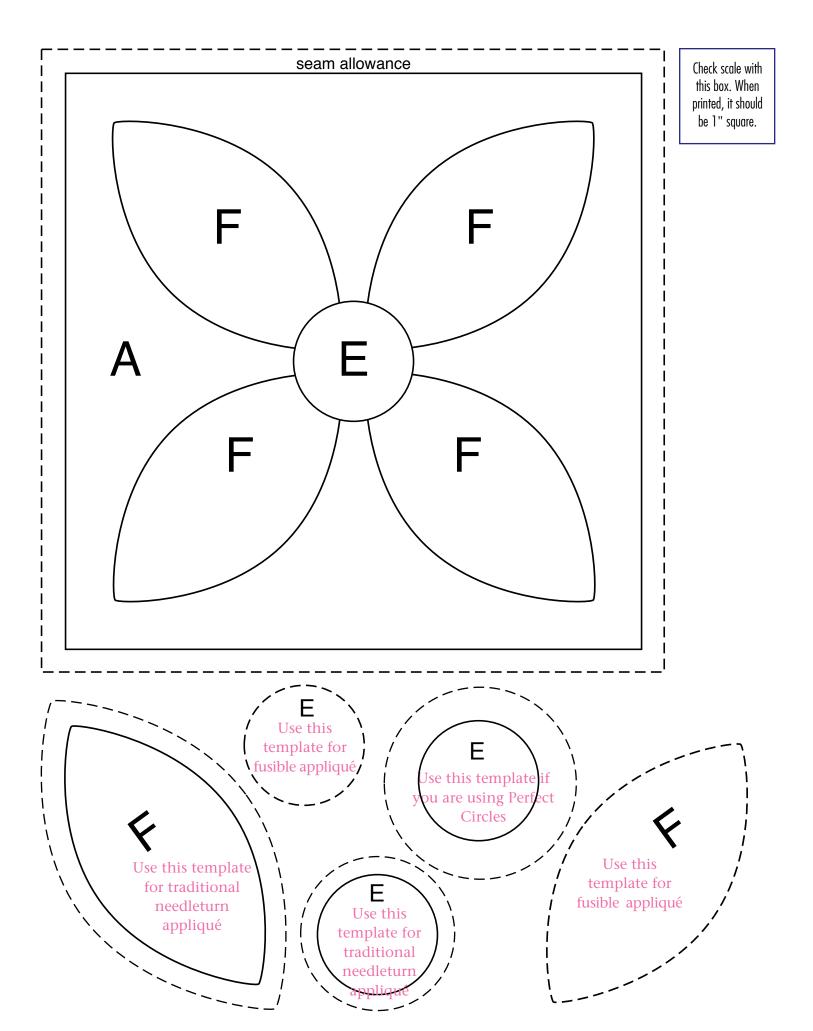
Use the template on the pattern page with the 3/16" seam allowance. See "Two methods" box.

If you are using Perfect Circles for the circles:

Trace the 2" diameter circles on the pattern page, and cut them out on the line. See "Two methods" box.

- **5.** From each of the three yellow fabrics, trace and cut 6 E circles.
- **6.** Trace and cut 6 E circles from the lightest pink, 5 from the light pink, 6 from the pink, 5 from the medium pink, and 5 from the dark pink.
- **7.** From each of the two orange fabrics, trace and cut 5 E circles.
- **8.** From each of the 25 green fabrics, trace and cut 4 F leaves. If you are doing hand appliqué, remember to leave a seam allowance.
- **9.** Cut backing fabric 42" x 42".
- **10.** Cut batting 41" x 41".
- **11.** Cut binding strips 2-1/2" wide; piece them together so they are about 162" long.





Prepare to appliqué

- **12.** Make the positioning overlay: Place appliqué block pattern on a light box or brightly lit window. Position upholstery vinyl on top. Use a permanent black fine-tip marker to trace the applique design onto the upholstery vinyl.
- **13.** Place each light blue background on a flat surface, and place the overlay on top, aligning the edges. Position each set of green leaves, and pin them in place.
- **14.** If you are using Perfect Circles, prepare the circles. **(See "Two methods" box for details.)**

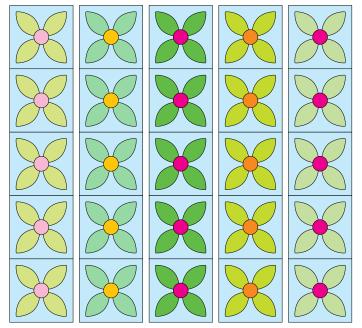
Appliqué the blocks

- **15.** Appliqué all the leaves to their backgrounds.
- **16.** Spread out all the blocks on a flat surface and arrange them in a pleasing manner. I arranged mine in vertical columns according to color.
- **17.** Position and pin the circles at the center of the leaves on each block, and appliqué them.

Assemble the quilt top

18. Sew each vertical column of five A blocks together using a 1/4" seam. (**See diagram 1.)** Press seams open (this eliminates excessive bulk on one side of the seam).

Diagram 1



- **19.** Position and appliqué the circles that fall on the seams between the blocks (**see diagram 2**). (Do the other circles after sewing on the border.)
- **20.** Sew the five vertical columns together.
- **21.** Make the borders: Pin and sew together B, C and D pieces (**see diagram 3**), using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press seams open. Make two of each of these units.

Two methods for making hand appliquéd circles

METHOD 1 – Traditional needleturn

Using a chalk marker (I like mechanical pencil type), trace the circles, leaving a 3/16" seam allowance around each. Cut them out, including this seam allowance. Position the circles under the overlay, pin, and appliqué in place.

METHOD 2 – Use Perfect Circles

If you use these mylar circles, you do not need to trace the outlines of the berries. Simply trace the template for the Perfect Circles method (on the pattern page) onto the fabric, and cut out the circles. Then follow the directions on the package to prepare the circles, pin them to the backgrounds and stitch them down. The time it takes to prepare the circles this way is made up because it takes far less time to appliqué them, and they truly will be perfectly round.

Curious about this process? I have a tutorial on my blog that shows you how: http://wwwbluemoonriver.blogspot.com/2007/12/perfect-circles.html (note that there is no "dot" after the www).

Diagram 2

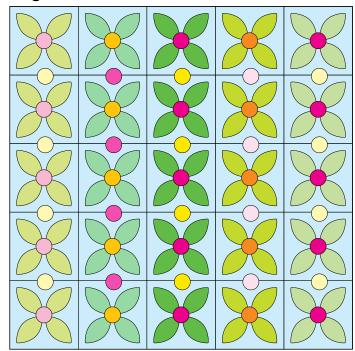


Diagram 3

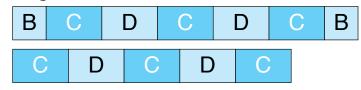
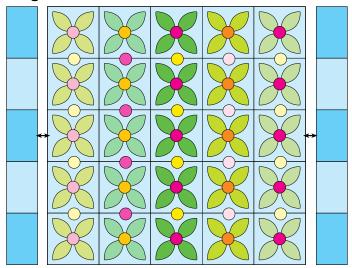


Diagram 4



- **22.** Align, matching seams, and pin the C-D units to the left and right sides. **See diagram 4.** Stitch together using a 1/4" seam. Press seams open.
- **23.** Align, matching seams, and pin the B-C-D units to the top and bottom. **See diagram 5.** Stitch together using a 1/4" seam. Press seams open.
- **24.** Position and appliqué the 10 circles that fall on the seams between the blocks and the border. **See diagram 6.**
- **25.** Press the whole quilt top.

Baste and quilt

- **26.** Layer the backing fabric, batting and quilt top and pin or thread baste.
- **27.** Hand or machine quilt. I used Aurifil Cotton Mako 28 teal thread to machine quilt around the appliqué pieces, and did an overall leaf design in the background. Remember to match your needle to your thread weight. I used a 80/12 topstitch needle for the 28-weight thread.

Bind and finish the quilt

28. Join the 2-1/2"-wide strips into one continuous piece for a double straight-grain binding. Fold strips in half lengthwise and press. Use this strip to bind your quilt. (Consult a general quilting text if this is your first quilt).



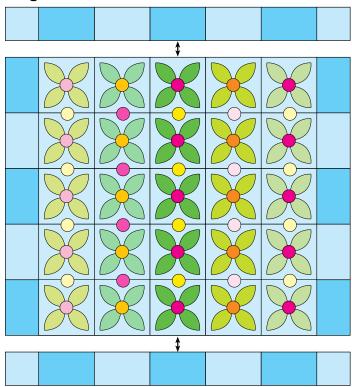
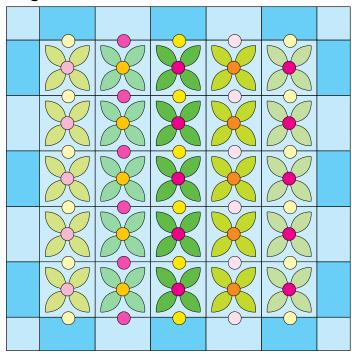


Diagram 6





© 2010 Susan Brubaker Knapp E-MAIL: susan@bluemoonriver.com WEBSITE: www.bluemoonriver.com BLOG: wwwbluemoonriver.blogspot.com **Susan Brubaker Knapp** is a fiber artist, quilt pattern designer, and quilting teacher who makes both art quilts and traditional quilts. Susan wrote a series of articles for *Quilting Arts* magazine in 2010 on thread sketching, and has made two DVDs with Quilting Arts on the subject. She is the author of *Appliqué Petal Party* (C&T, 2009).