# Quilting/Embroidery <br> Embroidery Quilting a <br> Large Quilt <br> August I7, 2022 

## Supplies

- Approximately 4 yards of Assorted Quilting Cotton Prints cut into twenty four $21 / 2$ strips or
- "Jelly Roll" of fabric (will make a larger quilt than the one shown)
- Quilters Select Thread for Piecing and Quilting
- 54" x 75 " Cotton Batting (Full Size)
- 1 yard Floriani Fusible Power Mesh
- 4 yards Backing Fabric
- Baby Lock Vesta Sewing Embroidery Machine
- Optional: Baby Lock $1 /{ }^{\prime \prime}$ " foot with Guide BLSO-QGF
- Optional: Baby Lock Walking Foot for Vesta
- Embroidery Quilting Design (Vesta built in design used in video)
- Rotary Cutter, Mat and Ruler
- Scissors for Cutting Batting
- Transparent Tape and Marker for marking hoop
- Non-slip Shelf Liner to aid in hooping


## Instructions

## Create the Quilt Block

This technique will work with any quilt composed of blocks sewn together. Make the quilt shown in the video from simple $6^{\prime \prime}$ blocks that can be pieced from $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ strips. Strips can be purchased pre-cut and including an assortment of matching colors called a "Jelly Roll". Each Jelly Roll usually contains about 40 strips and will make a larger quilt than the one shown. If
not using a pre-cut pack, cut $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ strips from a variety of fabrics. The number of strips required depends on the size of quilt desired. Each $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ strip makes two blocks.


From a folded strip that is $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ wide and the width of the fabric (at least $40^{\prime \prime}$ ) cut three $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ squares and two $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ by $61 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ rectangles. Put aside two of the $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ squares to use as centers for other blocks. To assemble, using a $1 / 4$ " seam throughout, sew two $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ squares on either side of one 2 $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square of a different color. Press the seams outward. Sew the $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ by $61 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ rectangles on either side of the three square unit. Press the seams outward. The quilt shown in the video has 48 blocks sewn into eight rows of twelve blocks and creates a quilt $48^{\prime \prime}$ by $72^{\prime \prime}$. The quilt can easily be made larger by adding more blocks.

After piecing, sew blocks into eight strips of twelve blocks each. Sew the first two strips together for a set of two blocks by twelve blocks.

## Prepare the Quilt for Embroidery Quilting

The quilt is embroidery quilted through the top layer and batting only. The batting is trimmed to a manageable size and re-joined as the quilting progresses using Floriani Fusible Power Mesh. In the video, a section of batting $30^{\prime \prime}$ by $75^{\prime \prime}$ was cut off one side of the batting (dashed line on illustration right). Label the remaining batting to identify the cut edge and set aside. Layer the set of two by twelve blocks onto the strip of batting. The strip set should be about $3^{\prime \prime}$ from ling edge and centered top to bottom (peach rectangle on illustration right).


Select a quilting design and thread the machine with a thin thread through the needle. The bobbin thread will not show in the finished quilt, so use either embroidery bobbin thread or piecing thread in light color. Hoop the quilt with the narrow edge of batting on the right side of the hoop.

## Hoop and Embroider The First Strip



Hoop this piece starting in the upper right corner. Hoop the first piece and place on the machine. Check and see if the embroidery design will quilt the area. Re-hoop if necessary and when it works, embroider the first hooping. Don't remove the embroidery from the hoop. Use transparent tape and a marking pen to identify the location of the embroidery within the hoop. Use these marks on future hoopings to place the quilt within the hoop. Remove the tape when the project is complete. Hoop for the next section using the marks on the hoop to aid in placement. Use the trial feature on the machine to place the design next to the previous quilting to create a continuous design. Continue quilting the entire first strip.

## Hoop and Embroider the Rest of the Quilt

Attach the next section of the quilt to the first quilted section. This section can be either a single row of blocks or a double row. Lay the next section on top of the first with right sides together and aligning all blocks just as you would when joining the sections together. Pin and sew the sections together through both layers of fabric and the batting. Open the section out and press the seam. Flatten into position on the batting and pin if necessary. Continue hooping and quilting with embroidery.


Continue attaching additional sections as each section is completed. Cut a second section of batting off the same edge as the first. Label the remaining batting as before and set aside. Re-attach the cut edges of the batting by abutting them on a flat, heat-resistant surface such as an ironing board. The edges should meet with no gaps and no overlap. Cut 3 " wide strips of Floriani Fusible Power Mesh over the join and press. Continue with the embroidery quilting and joining process until the entire quilt is quilted.

## Add the Backing and Quilt the Top and Backing Together

Trim the batting around the edge of embroidery quilted quilt two inches from the outside raw edge of the top layer of fabric. This will fill the two-inch fold over binding. For a fold over binding, create a quilt back with enough fabric all around the edges to fold forward. Measure the width and length of the quilt from the trimmed edge of the batting through the center of the quilt. For a two-inch wide edge, the backing fabric will be at least this measurement PLUS 6 ". (If using a thicker batting, add 7 ".) Ideally, the backing should be larger this to make layering easier. For this quilt, two $60^{\prime \prime}$ pieces of $42^{\prime \prime}$ wide fabric sewn together along the selvedge edge was sufficient. Check you quilt measurements to create your back. Embroider a quilt label on the backing if desired.

Layer the quilted top centered on the backing. Use safety pins to secure the two layers together. Use multiple safety pins with a minimum of one per block. Thread the bobbin with thread to match the needle thread. Sew down the row of blocks through all the layers of the quilt. Use a walking foot for a straight stitch or a simple decorative stitch (a stitch without sideways or reverse motion is suitable for use with a walking foot), quilt through all layers between the quilted strips to secure the layers together.


Trim the backing fabric $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ away from the edge of the batting. Use a straight edge such as a piece of cardboard or a ruler to fold the backing to the front. Fold raw edge of the backing under $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ and pin to quilt edge covering the raw edge of the quilt. Pin and stitch down, stopping $1 / 4$ from each end. Use a straight stitch or a simple decorative stitch to stitch the folded edge down. Repeat for all four sides. The corners can be folded straight or mitered as shown in the photo.


