American Patchwork & Quilting

1 MILLION

PILLOWCASE CHALLENGE

Pattern 24

Project: Pillowcase with X-Block Band

FABRICS are from the Welcome to Bear Country collection by The Berenstains for Moda Fabrics (modafabrics.com).

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Materials
- 18x22” piece (fat quarter) light print No. 1 (blocks)
- 4—18x22” pieces (fat quarters) assorted prints Nos. 2—5 (blocks)
- 3⁄8 yard print No. 6 (band)
- 7⁄8 yard print No. 7 (pillowcase body)

Finished pillowcase: 30x20” (fits a standard-size bed pillow)
Finished block: 5” square

Quantities are for 44/45”-wide, 100% cotton fabrics.
Measurements include 1⁄4” seam allowances for pieced blocks and 1⁄2” seam allowances for pillowcase construction. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Cut Fabrics
From print No. 1, cut:
- 96—1 3⁄4” squares
From each of four assorted prints (Nos. 2—5), cut:
- 8—3” squares
From print No. 6, cut:
- 1—5 1⁄2x40 1⁄2” strip
From print No. 7, cut:
- 1—25 3⁄4x41” rectangle

Assemble Blocks
Use a 1⁄4” seam allowance for the following steps.

1. Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of each print 1 3⁄4” square. (To prevent fabric from stretching as you draw lines, place 220-grit sandpaper under each square.)

2. For one block you will need twelve 1 3⁄4” marked squares and four matching print 3” squares.

3. Align a marked print square with opposite corners of a print 3” square (Diagram 1; note direction of drawn lines). Sew on drawn lines; trim excess, leaving a 1⁄4” seam allowance. Press open attached triangles, pressing seams toward triangle.

4. In same manner, add a third marked 1 3⁄4” square to a remaining corner, again noting direction of drawn line. Stitch, trim, and press as before to make a unit (Diagram 2). The unit should be 3” square including seam allowances.

5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 to make four units total.


7. Repeat steps 3–6 to make eight blocks total (two blocks from each of the four assorted prints).

Assemble Band
Use a 1⁄4” seam allowance for the following steps. Sew the blocks together in a row (Band Assembly Diagram). The pieced row should be 5 1⁄2x40 1⁄2” including seam allowances.

1. Fold print 25 3⁄4x41” in half to form a 25 3⁄4x20 1⁄2” rectangle. Sew together long edges and one pair of short edges to make pillowcase body. Turn right side out and press flat.

2. Referring to Diagram 4, slide pillowcase band over pillowcase body with pieced strip facing pillowcase body; align raw edges and pin. Using 1⁄4” seam allowance, sew through all layers.

3. Press pillowcase band open, pressing seam allowance toward pillowcase body. Topstitch on pillowcase body 1⁄2” from band edge to secure seam allowance and complete pillowcase (Diagram 5).
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DIAGRAM 1

DIAGRAM 2

DIAGRAM 3

BAND ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM

DIAGRAM 4

DIAGRAM 5