

Friendship Quilt

An easy "quilt-as-you-go"
fat quarter quilt
Beginner Level



Girl Scout Brownie colorstory



Also available in
Girl Scout Basic colorstory!



40" x 54"

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Pattern by:

Amelie
Scott
Designs

Dear Girl Scout,

I'm glad you decided to make the Friendship Quilt. Sewing is a great skill to have, because you can make so many different things for your room and more. Plus, it is fun to get together with your friends and make cool stuff. I designed this quilt so you could make a neat looking quilt that's big enough to wrap up in. I'm also going to teach you a method called "quilt as you go," so your quilt can be sewn instead of tied. Isn't the fabric cute? I love the little owls. Have fun! -- Katie Amélie

Finished quilt size: 40" x 54"

Getting Started

Supplies

- 11 fat quarters of Robert Kaufman Girl Scouts® Fabric Collection (two must be the same)
- 1-2/3 yards backing
- 45" x 60" batting

- ½ yard fabric for binding
- A rotary cutter, mat, & ruler
- Safety pins (lots!)

Overview

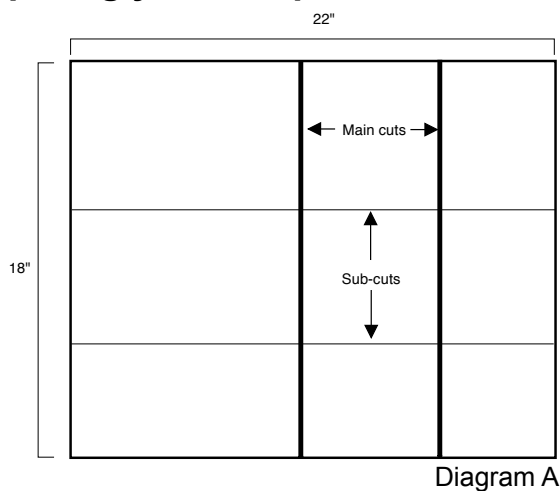
There are 6 easy steps to making this quilt:

1. Cutting the fabric
2. Sewing 5 blocks
3. Sewing blocks together to make 4 long strips
4. Setting up the backing and batting
5. Attaching the long strips to the quilt
6. Binding the quilt

Katie Tip: Quilters love to work with fat quarters. A regular quarter of a yard is 9" by the width of fabric (usually 44"). A fat quarter is a half of a yard (18" x 44") cut in half again (18" x 22"). Fat quarters are good because you can have 10" or larger squares, and not waste a lot of fabric.

For quilting, a rotary cutter is much easier than scissors. If you don't have your own, you can share with a friend.

Preparing your fat quarters



Pressing -- Iron all eleven fat quarters really well, so all the wrinkles are out.

Squaring the fat quarter -- You will work with one fat quarter at a time. Lay a fat quarter on the cutting mat so that the shorter side (about 18") is going up & down, and the longer side (about 22") is going left to right. See Diagram A.

Make sure the left side is even with the lines on your mat. If the fat quarter is not square, you may need to trim a tiny bit to straighten it up. If you need to do that, move your ruler to side of the fabric that needs to be trimmed, and line your ruler up with the lines on the cutting mat. Use your rotary cutter to trim off the excess fabric. Repeat this step until all fat quarters are square.

Reading the cutting diagrams

When you're cutting a fat quarter for a quilt, you will make two types of cut: the main cuts, and the sub-cuts. See Diagram A.

Main cuts -- You always make the main cuts first. Main cuts have dark lines that go top to bottom.

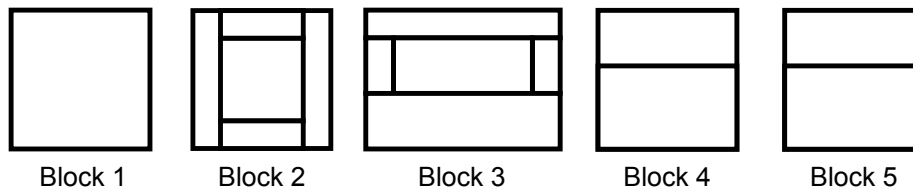
Sub-cuts -- These are extra cuts you make in the big pieces that you get from the main cuts. Sub-cuts always have lighter lines going left to right.

Always work with one main cut piece at a time when you're making sub-cuts.

Katie Tip: You can leave your main cut pieces with the long side running up and down the cutting mat, but I think it's easier to turn the main cut pieces so that the long side is running left to right. Then, I just move my ruler over however many inches the diagram shows for the sub-cut, and make the cut. That way, I don't have to reach so far up the cutting mat.

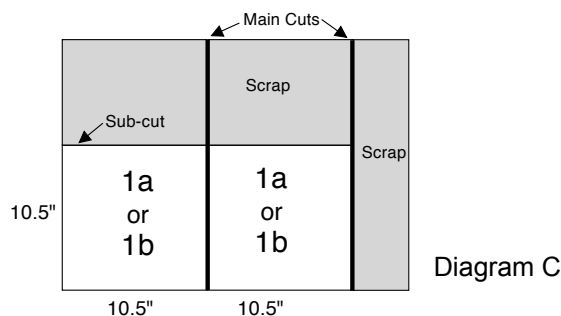
Step 1 -- Cutting the Fabric

The *Friendship Quilt* uses five different blocks. You will make 4 copies of each block, then arrange them like they are shown on the front cover.



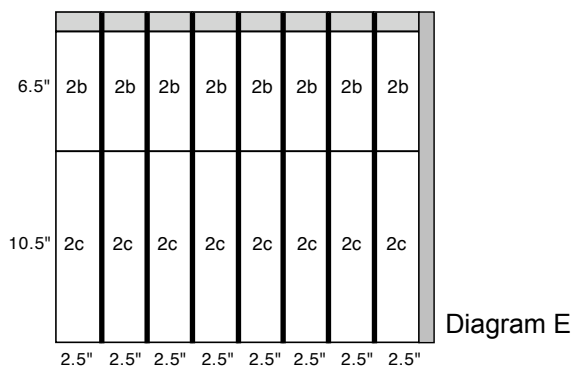
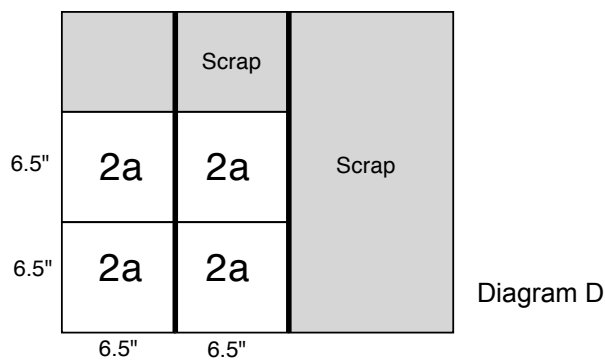
Cutting for Block 1

Take the two fat quarters, and cut as shown in Diagram C. Pin label 1a on the brown owl squares, and label 1b on the light owl squares. Set these squares aside.



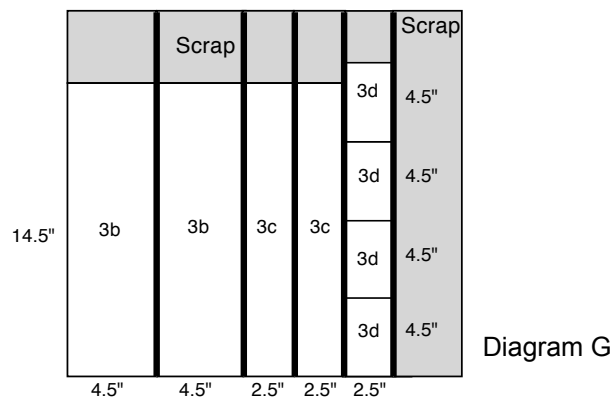
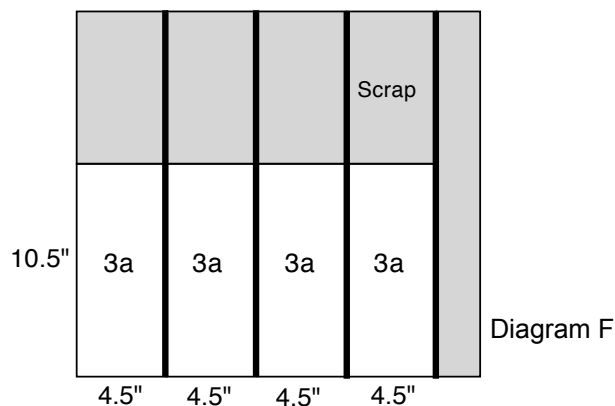
Cutting for Block 2

Diagram D shows how to cut the center square, and Diagram E shows how to cut the other pieces for the block. Pin labels to the pieces, set them aside.

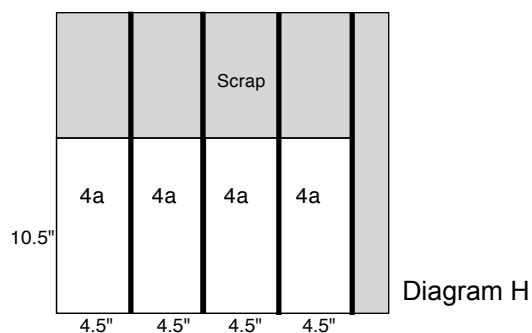


Cutting for Block 3

Diagram F shows how to cut the center rectangle. Cut **two fat quarters** as shown in Diagram G. Pin labels to the pieces, set them aside.



Cutting for Block 4

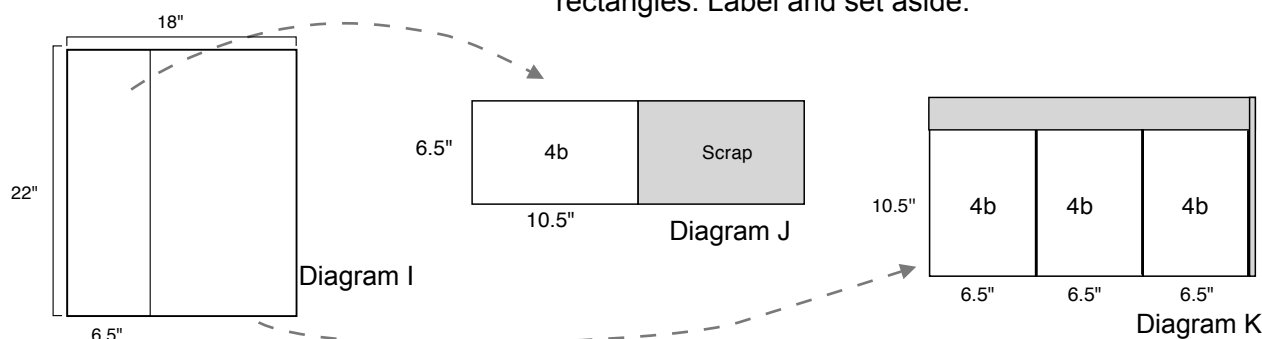


Cut the thin part of the Block as shown in Diagram H.

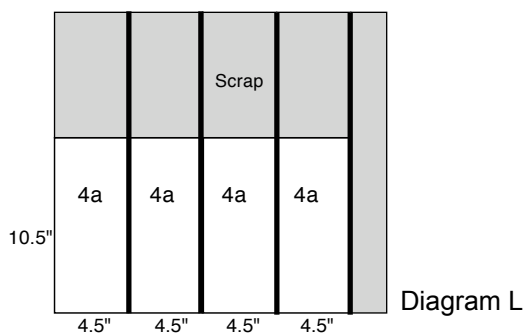
Now, wait! This one is different. Turn the next fat quarter so that the longer side (22") is going up and down, and cut as shown in Diagram I. Set aside the 11-1/2" x 22" piece of fabric.

Turn the smaller piece, and cut as shown in Diagram J. Label the 6-1/2" x 10-1/2" piece.

Now, take the 11-1/2" x 22" piece of fabric, and place it on the mat so that the 11-1/2" side is going up and down. Cut as shown in Diagram K. Trim to make three 10-1/2" x 6-1/2" rectangles. Label and set aside.



Cutting for Block 5



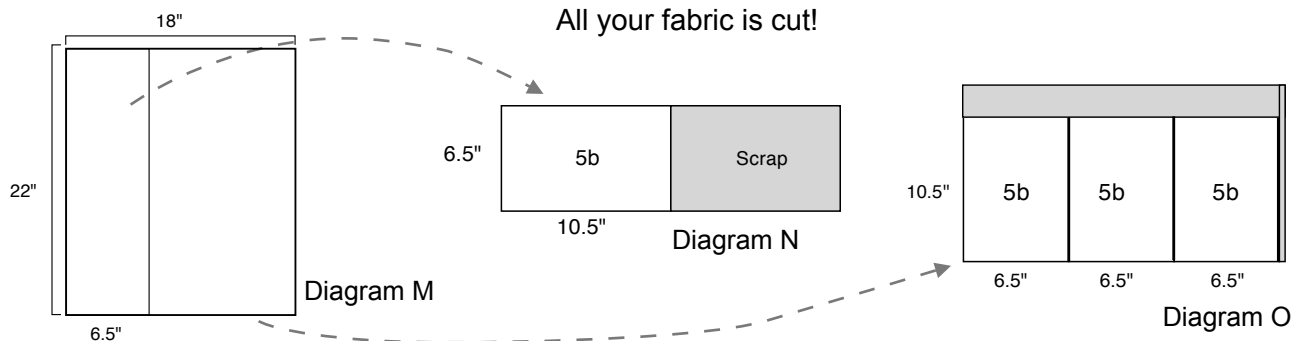
These cuts are just like Block 4. Cut the thin part of the Block as shown in Diagram L.

Now, remember... Turn the fat quarter so that the longer side (22") is going up and down, and cut as shown in Diagram M. Set aside the 11-1/2" x 22" piece of fabric.

Cut the smaller piece as shown in Diagram N. Label the 6-1/2" x 10-1/2" piece.

Now, take the 11-1/2" x 22" piece of fabric, and place it on the mat so that the 11-1/2" side is going up and down. Cut as shown in Diagram O. Trim to make three 10-1/2" x 6-1/2" rectangles. Label and set aside.

All your fabric is cut!



Step 2 -- Sewing the blocks

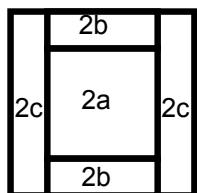
Katie Tip: All seams need to be 1/4" wide. If you have a 1/4 " foot, put it on your machine.

Making Block 1

Well, these are just fabric squares, and you already made them just by cutting. Next!

Making block 2

You will need all your 2a, 2b, and 2c pieces.



Sew a 2b rectangle to the top and the bottom of a 2a square. To do this, lay a 2b rectangle on top of the 2a square, with the right sides together and the edges lined up. Sew a 1/4" seam. Use the same steps to attach a 2b rectangle to the bottom.

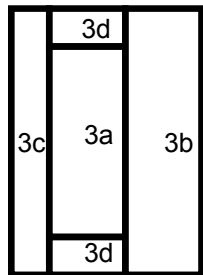
Iron the strips away from the square on the front side of the fabric. Check the back to make sure the seam

allowance went toward the purple fabric. Repeat for all blue squares.

Next, sew a 2c rectangle to each side. Iron the strips away from the square on the front side of the fabric, and make sure your seam allowance goes in the same direction. Repeat for all blocks.

Katie Tip: Ironing is really important in sewing. You always want to iron on the front of the fabric, so that folds cannot occur by the seams. Several 1/8" folds in the seams can really throw off your quilt.

Making Block 3



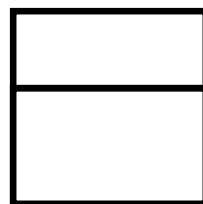
You will need your 3a, 3b, 3c, and 3d pieces.

Sew a 3d piece to the top and bottom of a 3a piece. Remember to keep right sides together like you did before. Iron fabric toward the yellow

fabric, making sure the seam allowance goes in the same direction.

Now sew a 3b piece piece to one side of the 3a rectangle, and 3c piece to the other side. Iron the seams toward the yellow fabric, making sure that the seam allowance also went toward the yellow fabric. Set these blocks aside.

Making Block 4 and 5



You will need your 4a, 4b, 5a, and 5b pieces.

Sew the long side of a 4a piece to the long side of a 4b piece (remember, right sides together). Iron the fabric toward the smaller rectangle, making sure the seam allowance goes in the same direction. Repeat until all 4 blocks have been made. Set aside.

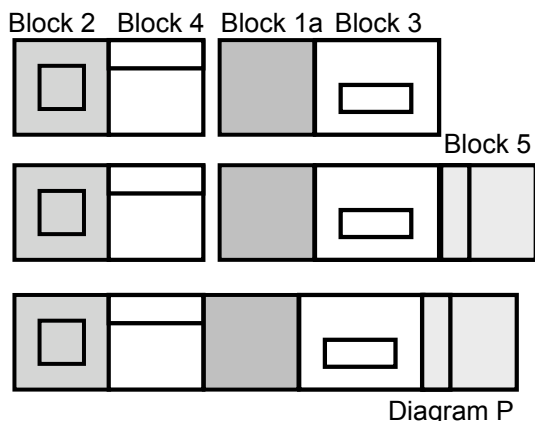
Repeat with the 5a and 5b pieces. Now, you are ready to sew the blocks together!

Step 3 -- Sewing blocks together to make strips

Ok, now you are going to make two pairs of strips that will make your quilt top.

Making Strips 1 and 3

You will need two of Blocks 1a, 2, 3, 4, and 5.



Katie Tip: It's easy to sew accurately with smaller blocks or fabric strips. Large strips and blocks tend to "pull" more. That's why quilters sew blocks in groups of two whenever they can, like you will do here.

Sewing blocks "two by two" -- Diagram P shows you how to sew the blocks together for Strip 1:

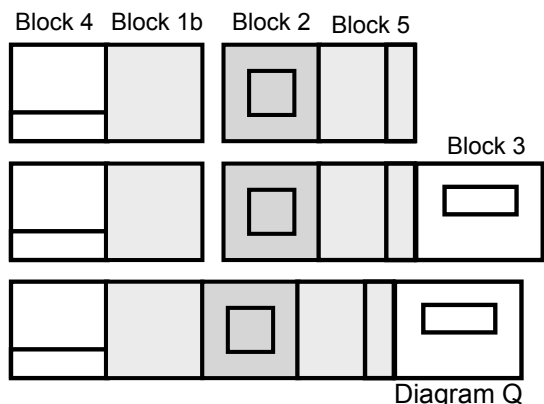
1. Sew Block 2 and Block 4 together.
2. Sew Block 1a and Block 3 together.
3. Add Block 5 to Block 3.
4. Sew Block 4 to Block 1a to finish the strip.

Repeat to make Strip 3.

Iron the seams so that they go up on Strip 1, and so that they go down on Strip 3.

Making Strips 2 and 4

You will need two of Blocks 1b, 2, 3, 4, and 5.



Sewing blocks "two by two" -- Diagram Q shows you how to sew the blocks together for Strip 2:

1. Sew Block 4 and Block 1b together.
2. Sew Block 2 and Block 5 together.
3. Add Block 3 to Block 5.
4. Sew Block 2 to Block 1b to finish the strip.

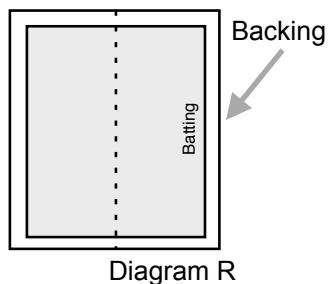
Repeat to make Strip 4.

Iron all the seams so that they go up on Strip 2, and so that they go down on Strip 4.

Now, it's time to work on the backing and batting!

Step 4 -- Setting up the backing and binding

Katie Tip: You will need a pretty large space to lay out your backing. I have used the floor, and even our ping pong table in the past. It is also good to have a friend or your mom help you so you have an extra set of hands.



Iron your backing fabric so that all the wrinkles are pressed out. Lay your backing with the right side of the fabric facing down. Smooth out all wrinkles.

Lay the batting on top of the of the backing fabric, being careful not to disturb the backing fabric. Smooth out all wrinkles.

Find the center point of the short side of the batting. Place a small mark with a disappearing pen or a water soluble pen. Repeat this mark in the middle and at the bottom. (See Diagram R.)

Step 5 -- Quilt-as-you-go

Attaching the first strips

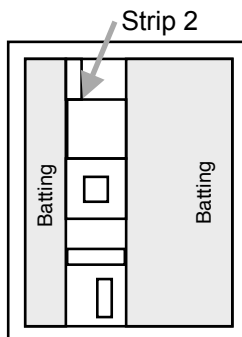


Diagram S

Change your bobbin thread so that it matches the back of the quilt.

Lay Strip 2 right side up on top of the batting, so that the right side of the strip is lined up with the top, middle, and bottom mark, as shown in Diagram S. Smooth out all wrinkles.

Using tons of safety pins, pin the layers together, making sure the safety pin goes through all layers. You should have a pin every 4 to 5 inches. Also, put a few safety pins around the outside of the batting and backing, just to make sure it stays in place.

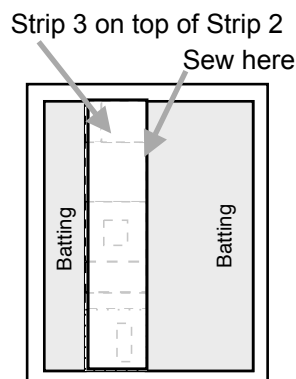


Diagram T

Place Strip 3 on top of Strip 2 so that the right sides are together, as shown in Diagram T.

Pin with regular pins down the right edge of the two strips.

Carefully take the quilt to your sewing machine, and stitch a $\frac{1}{4}$ seam on the right edge of the two strips. Press strip 3 over real well. Now lay the quilt back on the floor and put a few safety pins through Strip 3 to hold in place. (See Diagram U.)

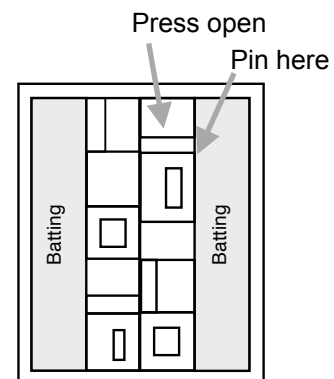


Diagram U

Attaching the second set of strips

Turn Strip 4 so that it is not facing the same way as Strip 2. Use the same approach to attach Strip 4 to Strip 3.

Then, turn Strip 1 and attach it to Strip 2. With Strip 1, you will pin and sew down the *left* side of the strip. When you are done, your quilt should look like Diagram V. WOW! You're almost done!

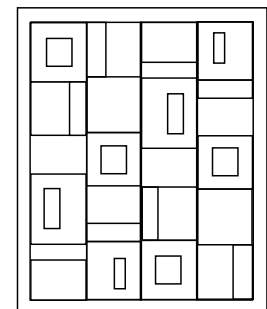


Diagram V

Finishing the quilt

Katie Tip: When you sew all the pieces together, it is called "making the top" of the quilt. When you sew through the top, the batting, and the backing, it is called, "quilting." There are people who will do quilting for you, but I'll show you a way to do quilting yourself.

One easy way to do quilting is called "stitching in the ditch." Stitching in the ditch is when you sew over seams where two fabrics come together. Stitch between each of the blocks in your quilt.

After you've done all the quilting, trim the backing and batting even with the edges of the quilt top.

One more step and your quilt will be done!

Step 6 -- Binding your quilt

Katie Tip: Quilter's bind quilts in different ways. The way I am going to show you is the easiest way.

Making binding

Lay the binding fabric on your mat, with the fold side on the 1" horizontal (left to right) line. You may need to trim the left edge a bit to straighten the fabric. Cut six 2-1/2" strips across the fabric as shown in Diagram W.

Take 2 of the strips you just cut and sew the short sides together, so that you have one long 2-1/2" x 84" strip. Repeat with another 2 strips.

Iron all 4 strips (the 2 long ones and the 2 shorter ones) in half down the long side of the fabric, so that the wrong side of the fabric is on the inside and the right side is on the outside.

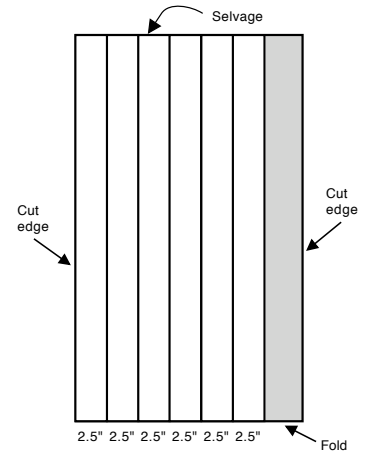


Diagram W

Attaching the Binding to the Quilt:

Fold in 1/2" at the end of each strip with wrong sides together, and press it. You're doing this so the end of the binding strip has a finished look.

Starting with the top edge of the quilt, take one of the short binding strips, and lay it on the back of the quilt, so that the raw (unfolded) edge of the binding lines up with the raw edge of the quilt. (See Diagram X.) Sew it to the back of the quilt with a 1/4" seam.

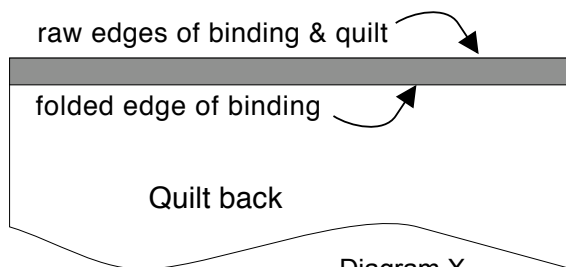


Diagram X

Iron the binding away from the quilt, and fold it around to the front of the quilt. Pin in place.

Stitch the binding to the quilt front, very close to the fold. Repeat with the bottom edge.

Katie Tip: If your machine allows you to move your needle right or left, you can keep your center pressure foot marking on the fold and get a beautiful straight stitch that is very close to the edge of the fold.

Now, do the same thing with the two side strips of binding, and voila! You have a quilt, and you did it all by yourself. Way to go!

We at Amélie Scott Designs are always interested in seeing completed projects, so if you care to share, please email a picture of you and your quilt to katie@ameliescott.com. We will put your picture in our online gallery at www.ameliescott.com.

Now, enjoy!

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About the Designer

Katie is a 15-year-old designer with Amélie Scott Designs. She started sewing at age nine, when she was a Girl Scout.

Katie's first major project was sewing comfort pillows for breast cancer patients, as part of her Bronze Award for Girl Scouts. She made her first quilt at age ten.

Katie has designed several quilts for Amélie Scott, and four of her patterns are now being sold nationwide.

The *Friendship Quilt* is Katie's latest design, created specifically for use with the Robert Kaufman Girl Scouts® Fabric Collection.



Block 1a	Block 1b
Block 2a	Block 2b
Block 2c	Block 3a
Block 3b	Block 3c
Block 3d	Block 4a
Block 4b	Block 5a
Block 5b	