

# Double Cross

DESIGNED AND MADE BY PAM ROCCO

Make this quilt as improvisational as you please. Look at it as a chance to put your acrylic ruler away and experiment with freehand rotary cutting – the fewer straight lines and matched seams, the more a sense of line and pattern will emerge through unpredictable design and fabric placement. Just make sure you have a sharp blade in your rotary cutter! Read more about Pam Rocco’s experiences designing with solids in the August/September 2012 issue of *Quilters Newsletter*. *Double Cross* was machine quilted by Linda Barbin of Hollister, California. ▶



## MATERIALS AND CUTTING

Requirements are based on 40" fabric width. Read all assembly instructions before cutting patches. Pattern has been simplified for ease of construction.

**BLOCK SIZE:** 10½", 21" **QUILT SIZE:** 48" x 48"

MATERIALS	YDS.	CUTTING
Assorted Solids*	3½	24 A, 8 B, 6 C, 2 D, strips for blocks and borders
Binding	½	6 binding strips 2¼" x 40"
Backing	3	2 panels 27" x 52"
Batting		52" x 52"

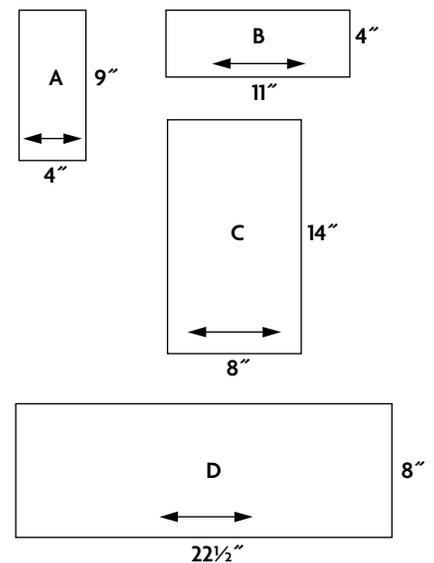
\*Read all assembly instructions before cutting patches.

**ALSO NEEDED:** walking or dual feed foot (optional), permanent fine-tip marker

**TECHNIQUES USED:** freehand rotary cutting, curved piecing, machine piecing, partial seam piecing, machine quilting

## ROTARY CUTTING

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Align arrows with lengthwise or crosswise grain of fabric.



FREE PATTERN

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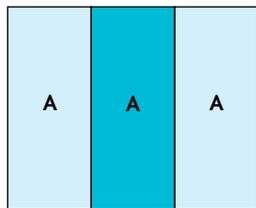


Fig. 1

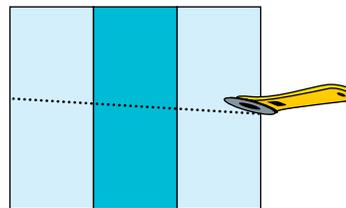


Fig. 2

ASSEMBLY

**1** Read all instructions before you begin. Wash, starch and press fabrics. Sort fabrics according to light, medium and dark values. Wait to cut patches as listed in the materials and cutting box and shown in the rotary cutting diagrams until you piece the blocks and borders.

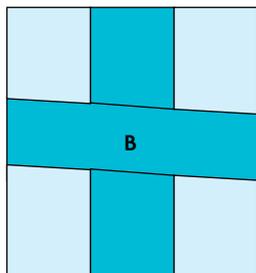


Fig. 3

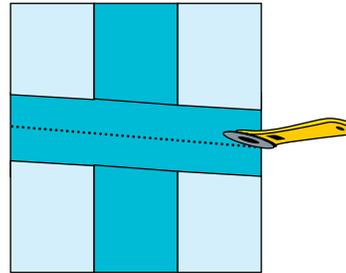


Fig. 4

**2** Select a light, a medium and a dark fabric. Cut 2 A's from one fabric, and cut 1 A and 1 B from a second fabric. Join the A's into a band as shown in Fig. 1. Make a slightly angled horizontal cut across the middle of the band (Fig. 2). Join the band segments to either side of the B (Fig. 3).

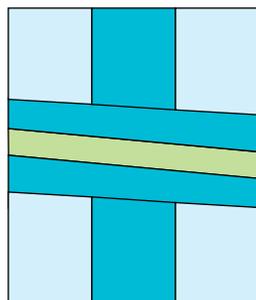


Fig. 5

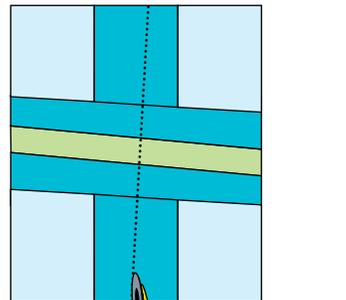
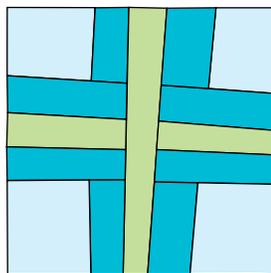


Fig. 6

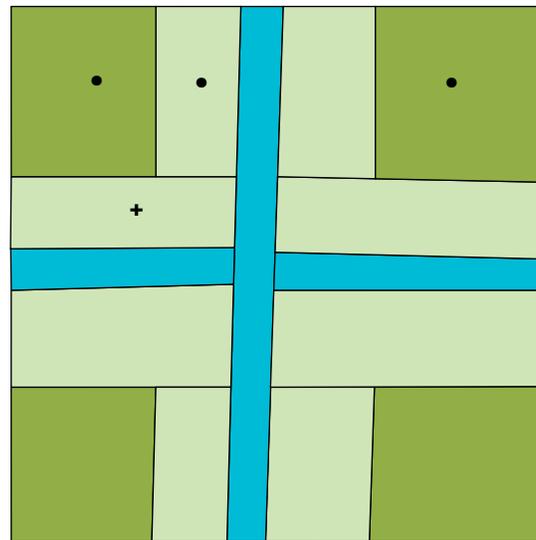
From the third fabric, cut an angled, wonky 11"-long strip that is 1¼" to 2" wide. Cut the block into 2 portions by making a slightly angled horizontal cut through the B (Fig. 4), then join the 2 block portions to the wonky strip (Fig. 5). In a similar manner, cut a 12"-long wonky strip from the third fabric. Cut the block into 2 portions with a slightly angled vertical cut (Fig. 6), then join the 2 block portions to the 12" wonky strip to make a block Y. Make 8 block Y's from various combinations of light, medium and dark fabrics.



**BLOCK Y**  
 Make 8

**3** In the same fashion and referring to the block Z diagram, select a light, a medium and a dark fabric. Cut 2 C's from one fabric, and cut 1 C and 1 D from a second fabric. Join the C's into a band. Make an angled horizontal cut across the band and join the band segments to either side of the D. From the third fabric, cut a slightly wonky 23"-long strip from 2" to 2¼" wide. Cut the block into 2 portions with an

angled horizontal cut through the D, then join the 2 block portions to the wonky strip. Cut the block into 2 portions with a slightly angled vertical cut. Cut a 25" wonky strip from the third fabric then join it to the 2 block portions to make a block Z. Make 2. ▶



**BLOCK Z**  
 Make 2

• = Cut from C's  
 + = Cut from D's

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**4** Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, arrange the block Y's and block Z's on a design wall or flat surface. When you are satisfied with the arrangement, remove the block Y in the upper left corner and the block Y directly below it and take them to your cutting surface. You may want to turn your cutting mat over to reduce the tendency to follow a straight line. Position the block Y's in relation to each other as they will appear in the quilt with right sides up and the raw edge of one block overlapping the other by 1/4" to 1/2". Trim the raw edges of both blocks with one cut through all layers. Join the blocks along the edges you just trimmed and return the joined blocks to your design wall.

In the same manner, take the other 2 block Y's from the upper left quadrant of your design wall and join them. On your cutting surface, position the 2 sets of joined block Y's in relation to each other as they will appear in the quilt and overlap the raw edges. If you want, cut a slightly wavy freehand line by turning your wrist slightly back and forth as you cut away from yourself. Cut through all layers.

Carefully place the 2 sets of joined blocks right sides together, making sure the trimmed edges match along the contours. Join the blocks, bringing the raw edges together just before they arrive at the presser foot. You may want to use a walking or dual feed foot in your machine. Join the other group of 4 block Y's in the same manner.

In the same manner and referring to the quilt assembly diagram, join the block Y's and block Z's in horizontal rows then join the rows.

**5** Measure the quilt top vertically and horizontally through the center. Cut 4"-wide border strips of varying lengths. Join strips as desired to make 2 borders equal

to the vertical measurement plus 6" and 2 borders equal to the horizontal measurement plus 6".

Using the freehand cutting technique, trim the long side of one vertical border with a gentle, wavy line as desired. Place the border so it slightly overlaps the left side of the quilt top with right sides facing up and the top raw edges aligned; the end of the border will extend beyond the bottom raw edge of the quilt top. Using a permanent fine-tip marker, make small dots every few inches on the quilt top along the raw edge of the border. Make sure the dots clearly identify the contours of the border raw edge. Remove the border. Using the freehand cutting technique, freehand rotary cut the quilt top along the contours identified by the marked dots. Replace the border along the side of the quilt top, right sides facing up, and match the curves. Carefully flip the border onto the quilt top with right sides together so the curves still match. Referring to Fig. 7, start stitching a few inches

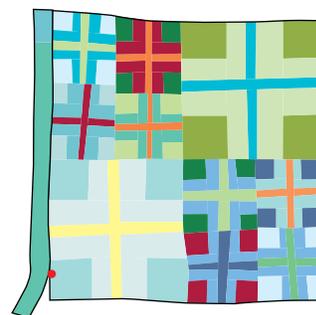


Fig. 7 • = start stitching

up from the bottom raw edge of the quilt top. Join the border to the quilt top, bringing the raw edges together just before they arrive at the machine's foot.

In the same manner, freehand cut a horizontal border as desired. Mark the top raw edge of the quilt top accordingly then join the border to the top of the quilt. Trim the border's ends even with the raw edges of the quilt. Join the remaining vertical border to the right edge then trim the ends even. Join the remaining horizontal border to the bottom of the quilt, stopping stitching at

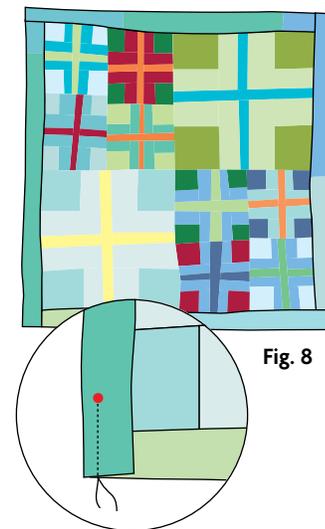
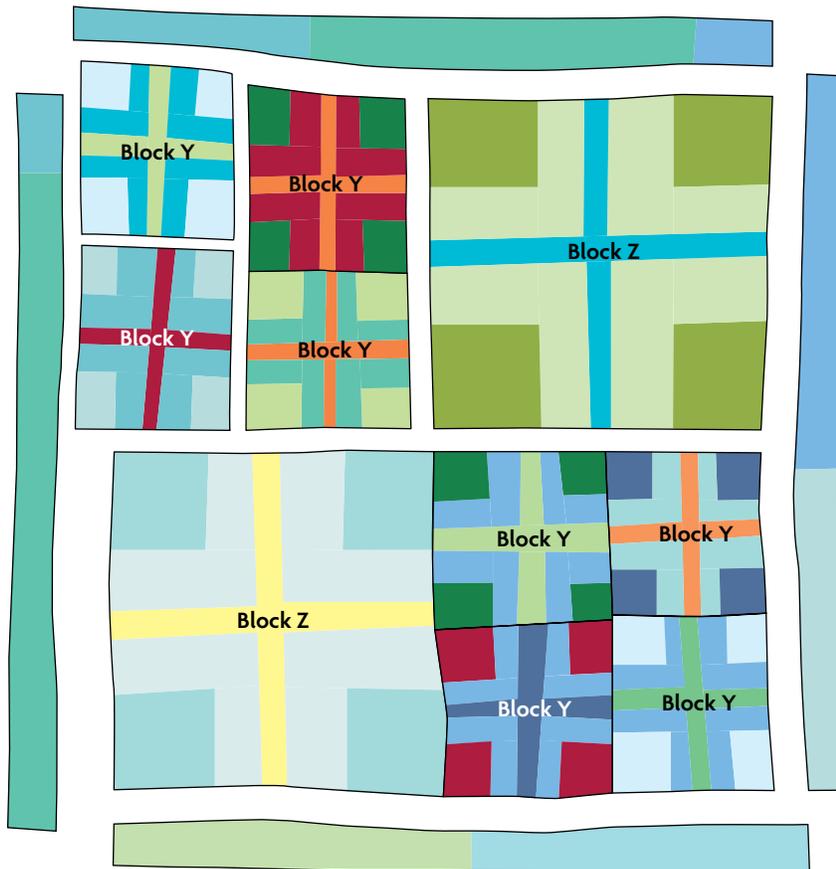


Fig. 8

the seam line of the left border. Trim the end of the bottom border even with the raw edge of the quilt top. Stitch the remainder of the seam between the left border and the quilt top (Fig. 8). Square the quilt top with a ruler and rotary cutter.

**6** Layer the backing, batting and quilt top. Baste. Quilt an allover pattern or as desired. Bind the quilt to finish.



QUILT ASSEMBLY