

Puffball Medallion

DESIGNED AND MADE BY PAM ROCCO

Update the classic medallion quilt using modern shapes and fabrics with this quilt by Pam Rocco of Santa Cruz, California. Rocco was inspired in equal parts by quilt author Gwen Marston and first lady Martha Washington, whose medallion quilts reminded Rocco that women have been bringing order out of scrap chaos since the U.S. began. You can read Rocco's full column, "Words to Quilt By," in the February/March 2014 issue of *Quilters Newsletter*. *Puffball Medallion* was machine quilted by Linda Barbin of Hollister, California. ▶

MATERIALS AND CUTTING

Requirements are based on 42" fabric width. Borders are cut crosswise and pieced and are the exact length required plus seam allowances. Pattern has been simplified for ease of construction.

QUILT SIZE: 48½" x 65½"

MATERIALS	YDS.	CUTTING
Assorted Bright Prints	½	1 A, 1 C, 8 G, 12 circles
Neutral Solid	¾	1 panel 23½" x 30", 1 B, 1 Br*, 1 D, 1 E
Purple Stripe	⅓	1 10" square
Teal Check	¼	2 borders 1½" x 40", 2 borders 1½" x 23"
Aqua Solid	scrap	4 F
Yellow Prints	¾	2 borders 6" x 42", 2 borders 6" x 25"
Medium Brown	⅛	8 G
Red Prints	1⅛	2 borders 7" x 53", 2 borders 7" x 36"
Black Solid	¼	4 H
Salmon Solid	⅛	8 circles
Binding	½	6 binding strips 2¼" x 42"
Backing	3⅛	2 horizontal panels 36" x 53"
Batting		53" x 70"

*Br=B reversed

ALSO NEEDED: template plastic

TECHNIQUES USED: machine piecing, piecing with templates, bias strips, raw-edge applique, facing, machine applique, machine quilting



ASSEMBLY

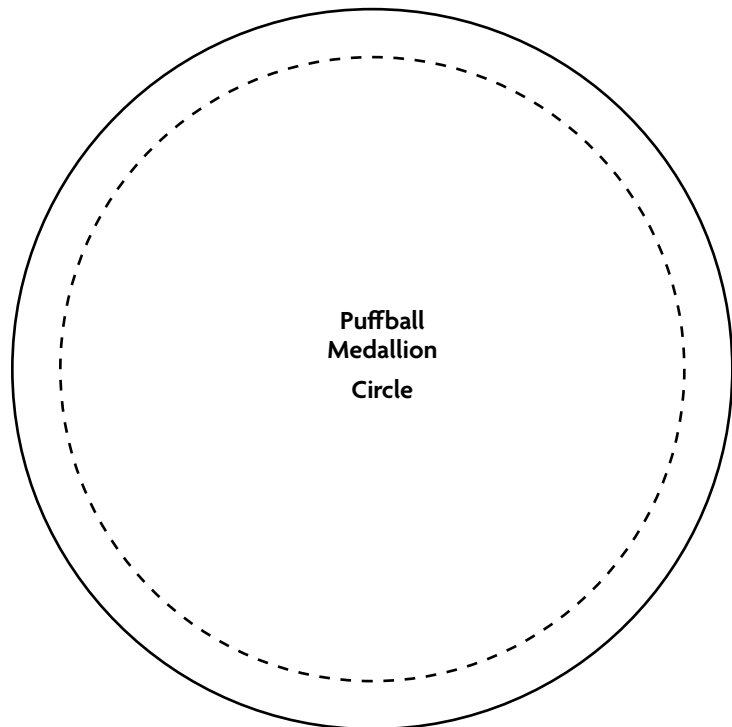
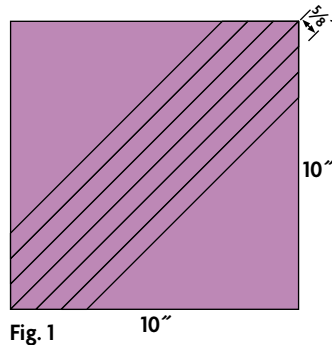
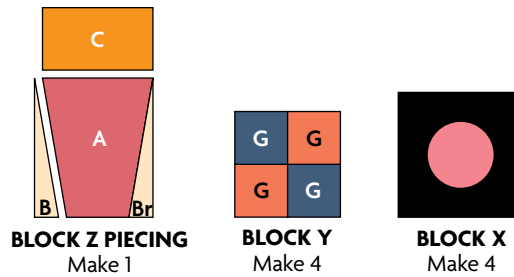
1 Wash, starch and press fabrics. Make templates for B/Br and the circle applique. Cut the patches listed in the materials and cutting box and shown in the rotary cutting diagrams. Cut the bright print circles in sets of 2 and cut the 8 G's from the same bright print.

2 Referring to the block Z piecing diagram, join the A, B, Br and C to make block Z. Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, join the D and E to either side of block Z to make a portion of the medallion and set aside.

3 Referring to Fig. 1, align the 45-degree mark on your acrylic ruler with the raw edge of the 10" purple stripe square. Cut a bias strip 5/8" wide from the center of the square. Cut five more 5/8"-wide bias strips of varying lengths.

Referring to the quilt photo and quilt assembly diagram, position the longest bias strip on the 23 1/2" x 30" neutral solid panel so one short end of the strip is approximately 1/4" from the bottom raw edge of the panel; pin in place. You may want to position the block Z portion of the medallion along the bottom of the panel to aid in placing this 'stem.' Continue positioning and pinning bias strips as shown or as desired, trimming as necessary and tucking raw ends under adjoining stems. When you are satisfied with the arrangement, applique the strips in place.

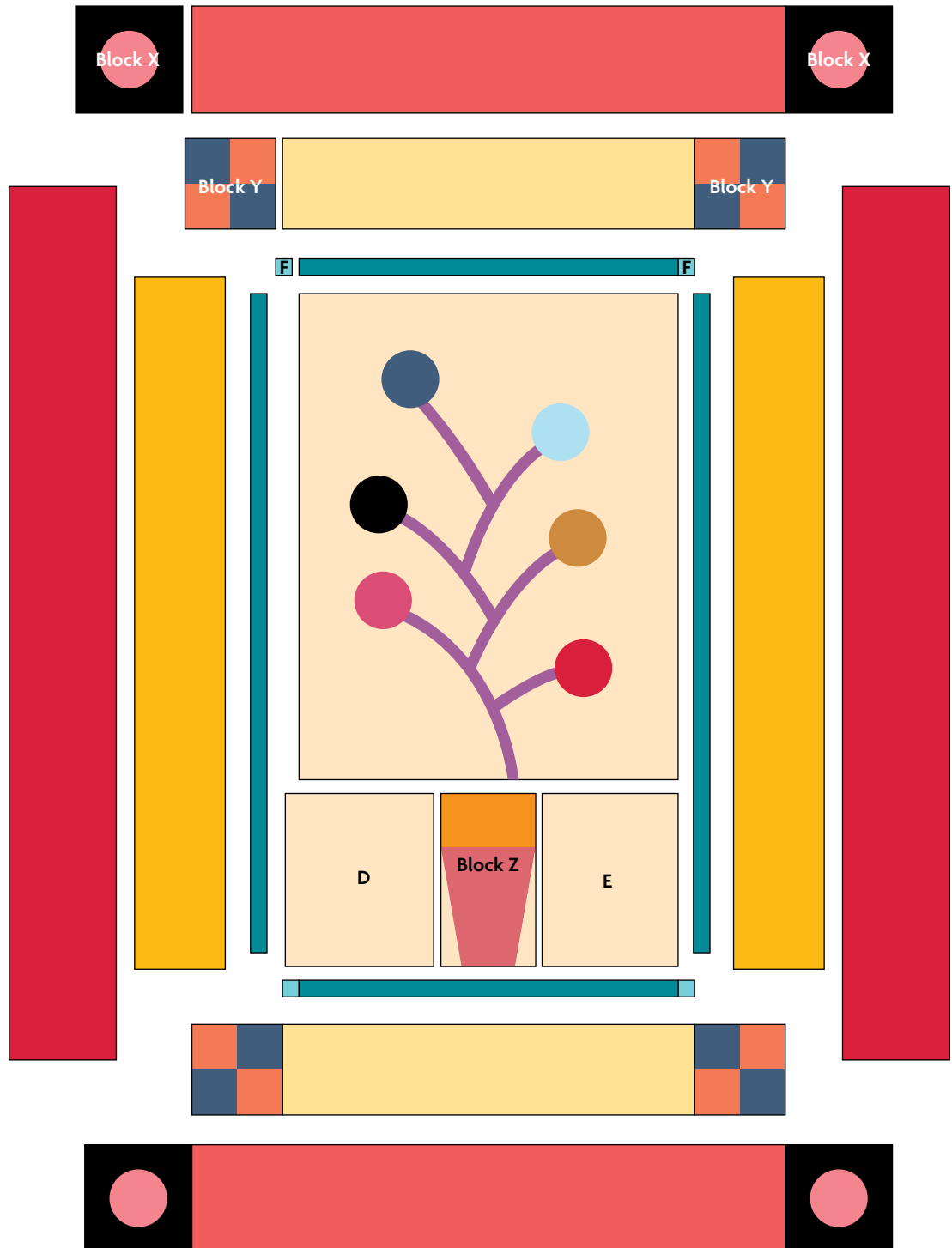
4 Layer 2 circles cut from the same bright print with right sides together and stitch around the edges with a 1/4" seam allowance. Carefully cut a slit in one layer only then turn the circle right ▶



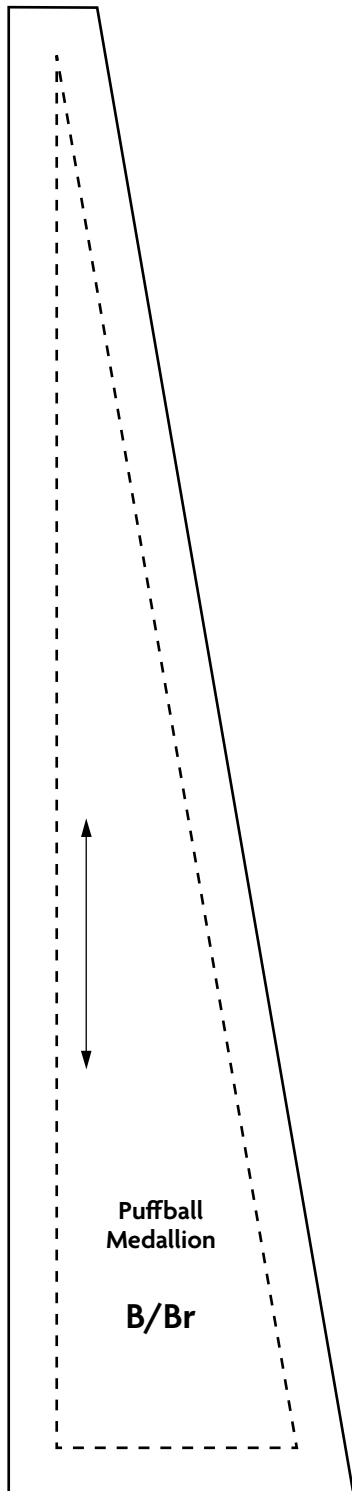
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side out; use a craft stick inserted into the slit to gently smooth the edges. Press. In the same fashion, make 5 more faced applique circles from pairs of bright print circles. Referring to the quilt photo, position a faced applique circle, slit side down, over each raw end of the applied strips.

Applique the faced circles to the panel with a straight stitch just inside the edges. Press the panel and trim to 23" x 29½". Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, join the block Z portion to the bottom of the applied panel to make the center medallion. ▶



QUILT ASSEMBLY



5 Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, join the 40" teal check borders to the sides of the medallion. Join an F to each end of the 23" teal check borders then join them to the top and bottom of the medallion.

6 Referring to the block Y diagram, join 2 bright print G's and 2 medium brown G's to make a block Y. Make 4.

Join the 42" yellow print borders to the sides of the quilt. Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, join a block Y to either end of the 25" yellow print borders then join them to the top and bottom.

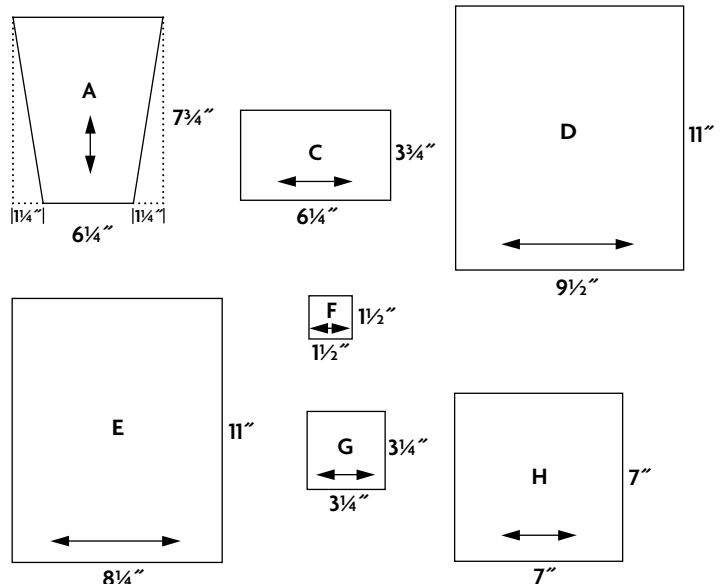
7 Using the same method described in step 4, make 4 salmon solid faced applique circles. Referring to the block X diagram, center a faced applique circle, slit side down, on an H and applique in place to make a block X. Make 4.

Join the 53" red print borders to the sides of the quilt. Join a block X to either end of the 36" red print borders then join them to the top and bottom.

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

ROTARY CUTTING

Measurements include 1/4" seam allowances.
 Align arrows with lengthwise or crosswise grain of fabric.



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