

Cowhands

DESIGNED AND
MADE BY PAM ROCCO

Pam Rocco of Santa Cruz, California, developed a deep appreciation for cowboy quilts when she lived in San Benito County, California.

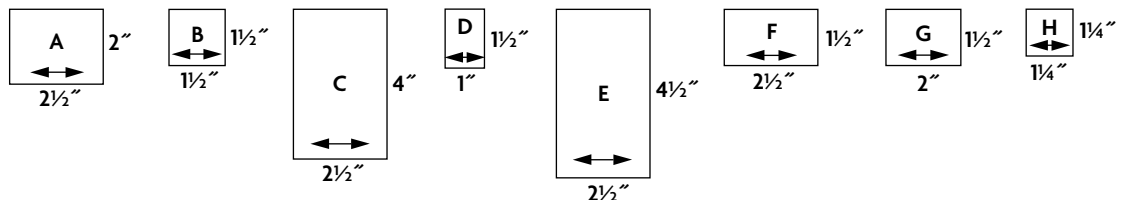
There were ropers who could catch a steer's front and back feet in a figure eight, a saddle horse show to rival the county fair, and when the moon was full, the cattle bellowed all night. To capture the spirit of her former home, she adapted the tin man block (also known as the Oklahoma boomer block), but changed his hat, gave him a shirt, vest and boots, and used an upside-down hat to make a bandana. Add a star and you'd have Wyatt Earp! All that was missing was a cow, which she added. The sash and border measurements can easily be changed to accommodate as many cowhands and cows as you want for your own version of this fun and easy scrap quilt.

You can read Rocco's full column, "Words to Quilt By," in the June/July 2014 issue of *Quilters Newsletter*. *Cowhands* was machine quilted by Linda Barbin of Hollister, California. ▶



ROTARY CUTTING

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



ASSEMBLY

1 Study the quilt photo and note the different ways Pam Rocco placed color in the cowhand blocks; some of the cowhands have vests, some have solid shirts and one has a jacket. Also note that some cowhands have bandanas or belts. The patches listed in the materials and cutting box reflect the number of bandanas and belts shown in the quilt, but Rocco encourages you to make blocks with bandanas or belts as desired. Wash, starch and press fabrics. Cut the borders, sashes and strips listed in the materials and cutting box. Wait to cut the patches until you piece the blocks.

2 Referring to the cowhand block piecing diagram, cut medium/dark patches and neutral patches the dimensions shown. Referring to the rotary cutting diagrams, cut 1 medium/dark A from the same fabric you cut the $5\frac{1}{2}'' \times 1\frac{1}{4}''$ medium/dark patch, and cut 2 B's from the same neutral fabric you cut the other neutral patches. Referring to Fig. 1, place a B on the corner of the A, right sides together. Stitch diagonally across the B as shown. Trim to a $\frac{1}{4}''$ seam allowance and press the B up. Join a B to the adjacent corner as shown in Fig. 2 to make a unit 1.

Again referring to the cowhand block piecing diagram, join the patches and unit 1 to make a cowhand block. Continue to cut and join patches for each block in this manner. In blocks for which you want to replace the center $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$ medium/dark patch with a bandana unit, refer to the bandana unit piecing diagram and join 2 medium/dark B's to an A using the same quick-corner piecing technique shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. Join a C to complete the bandana unit. In a similar fashion, refer to the belt unit piecing diagram and rotary cutting diagrams to cut and join patches to make a belt unit to replace a center $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$ patch in cowhand blocks as desired. Make 11 cowhand blocks. ▶

Dimensions indicate cut sizes, not finished sizes.

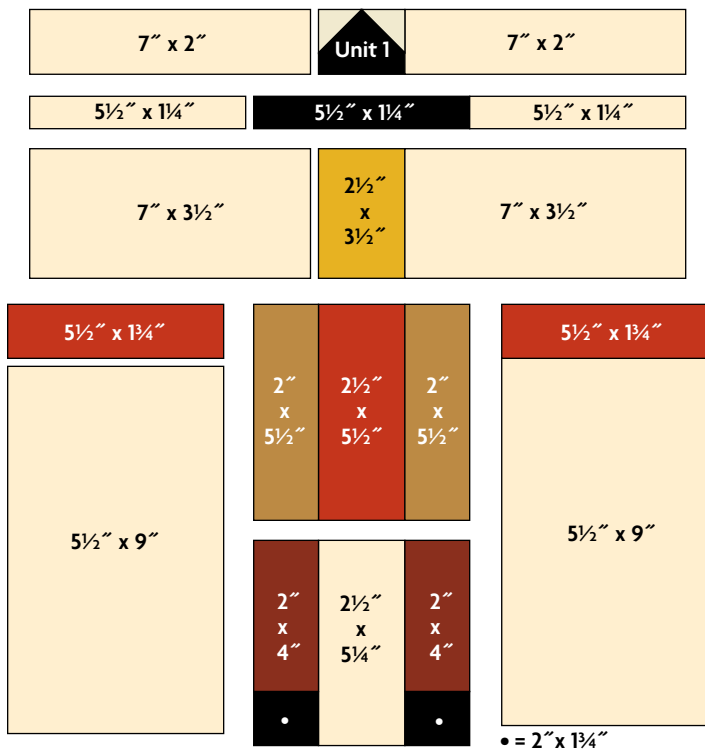
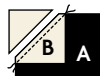
COWHAND BLOCK PIECING
Make 11

Fig. 1

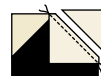
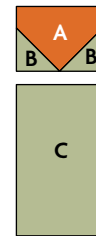
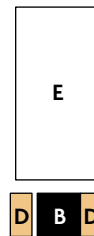


Fig. 2

UNIT 1
Make 11BANDANA UNIT
PIECING
Make 5BELT UNIT
PIECING
Make 2

MATERIALS AND CUTTING

Requirements are based on 40'' fabric width. Borders and sashes are cut crosswise and pieced and are the exact length required plus seam allowances. Pattern has been simplified for ease of construction.

BLOCK SIZE: 15'' QUILT SIZE: 59'' x 80''

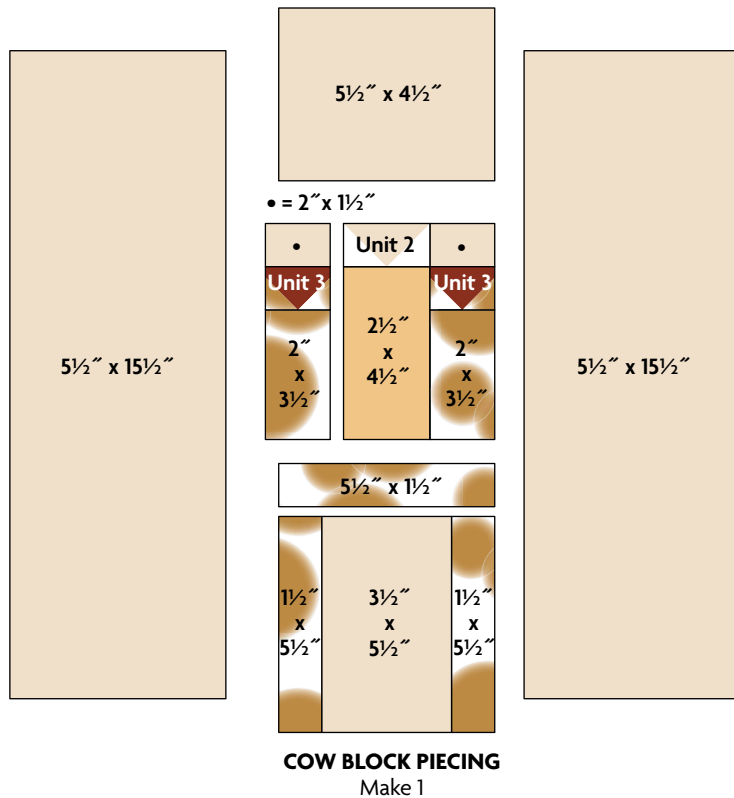
MATERIALS	YDS.	CUTTING
Mediums/Darks*	1	16 A, 12 B, 5 C, 4 D, 2 E, 2 G, block patches, applique patches
Neutrals*	3 $\frac{3}{8}$	2 borders $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 66\frac{1}{2}''$, 2 borders $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 59\frac{1}{2}''$, 2 borders $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 66\frac{1}{2}''$, 2 borders $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 59\frac{1}{2}''$, 3 sashes $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 45\frac{1}{2}''$, 22 B, 1 F, block patches
Cowhide Print	scrap	4 H, block patches
White Solid	scrap	2 B
Red Solid	$\frac{1}{3}$	2 borders $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 66\frac{1}{2}''$, 2 borders $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 59\frac{1}{2}''$
Binding	$\frac{5}{8}$	8 binding strips $2\frac{1}{4}'' \times 40''$
Backing	5	2 vertical panels $32'' \times 84''$
Batting		$63'' \times 84''$

*Read steps 1-3 before cutting fabric.

TECHNIQUES USED: machine piecing, quick-corner piecing, fusible applique, machine applique, machine quilting

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Dimensions indicate cut sizes, not finished sizes.



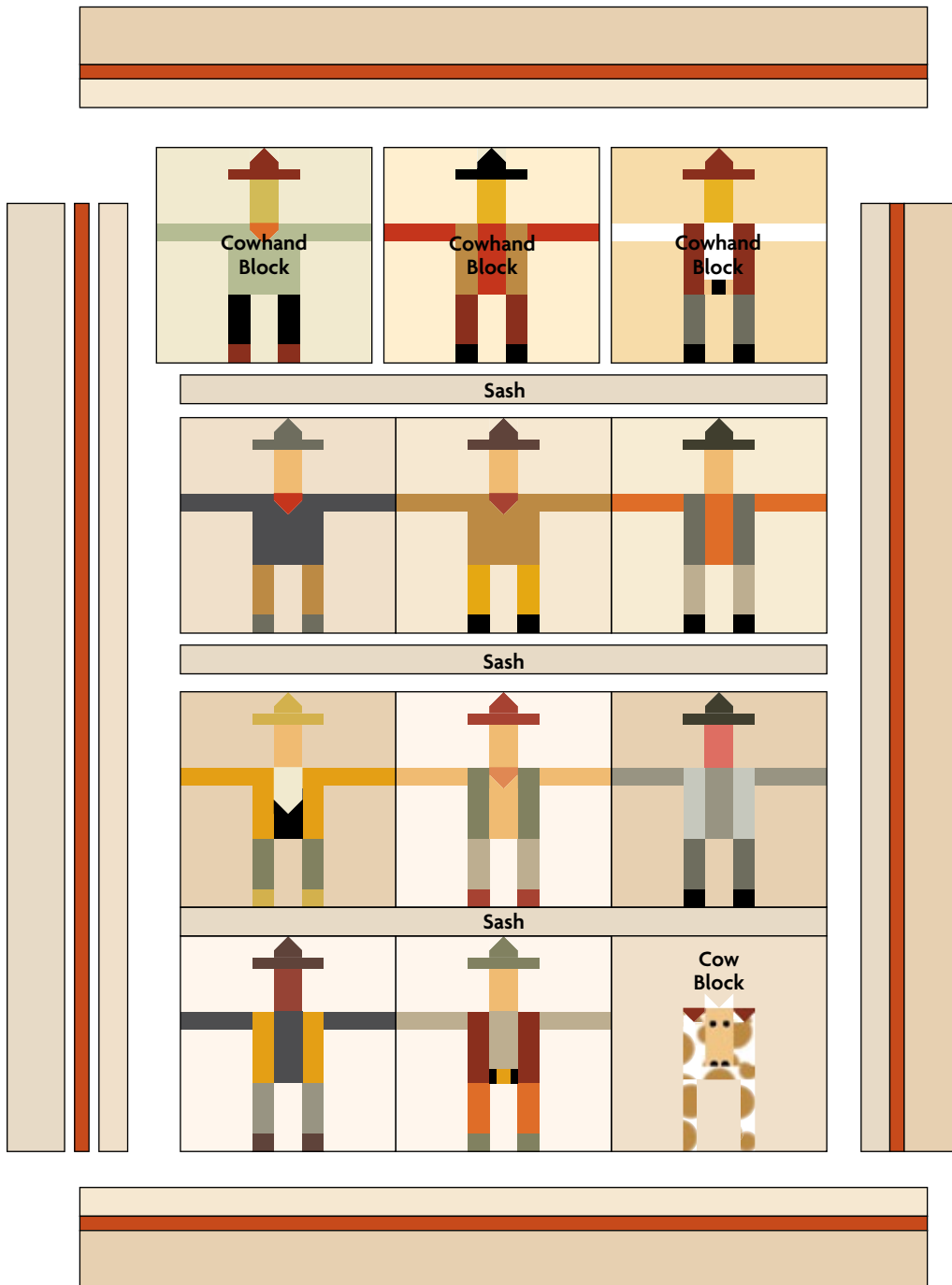
3 Referring to the cow block piecing diagram, cut cowhide print patches, medium/dark patches and neutral patches the dimensions shown. Cut the white solid B's, neutral F, medium/dark G's and cowhide print H's listed in the materials and cutting box and shown in the rotary cutting diagrams. Referring to the unit 2 diagram, use quick-corner piecing to join 2 white B's to the F to make unit 2. In the same fashion and referring to the unit 3 diagram, join 2 H's to a G to make a unit 3. Make 2. Join the patches, unit 2 and unit 3's as shown. Prepare 2 eye applique patches and 2 nostril applique patches for fusible applique. Referring to the quilt assembly diagram for placement, fuse and machine applique the eyes and nostrils in place on the center medium/dark patch to complete the cow block. ▶



Trace in reverse for fusible applique.

Make sure your printer is set to 100% or "no scaling" before you print your pdf.

Cowhands



QUILT ASSEMBLY

4 On a design wall or large, flat surface, and referring to the quilt assembly diagram, arrange the blocks in 4 horizontal rows of 3 blocks each. When you are satisfied with the arrangement, join the blocks into rows. Join the rows alternately with 3 sashes.

5 Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, join a 2½" x 66½" neutral border to one side of a 1½" x 66½" red solid border. Join a 4½" x 66½" neutral border to the other side of the red solid border. Repeat. Join these pieced borders to either side of the quilt, referring to the quilt assembly diagram for correct orientation.

In the same manner, join a 2½" x 59½" neutral border, a 1½" x 59½" red solid border and a 4½" x 59½" neutral border. Repeat. Join these borders to the top and bottom of the quilt.

6 Layer the backing, batting and quilt top. Baste. Quilt an allover design or quilt as desired. Linda Barbin quilted an allover lariat design. Bind the quilt to finish. *Q*