

BERNINA

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Walking Foot #50



A Walk in the Park

By Nina McVeigh

This quilt is done entirely with Walking Foot #50. The blocks are stitched individually, and then seamed so that the raw edges are to the front of the quilt. The edges are covered with bias strips and the quilt is finished with traditional binding.



Quick on your **FEET**

Walking Foot #50 is a very helpful aid for working with layers of fabric. It can be used with almost any decorative stitch, making grid quilting much more interesting! The ability to move the needle to any position makes precision piecing a breeze. This quilt is done entirely with Walking Foot #50. The blocks are stitched individually, and then they are seam so that the raw edges are to the front of the quilt. The raw edges are covered with bias strips and the quilt is finished with traditional binding.

Supplies

- $\frac{2}{3}$ yard of seven different fabrics
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ yards fabric for binding & strips between blocks
- $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards loft batting (or twin size batt)
- Isacord thread in eight colors to coordinate with quilt fabrics (can use fewer colors if desired)
- Embroidery needle, size 90/14
- Denim needle, size 90/14
- Walking Foot #50 with Guides
- 1" Bias Tape Maker
- Water-soluble glue stick
- Spray starch
- Rotary cutting equipment
- $12\frac{1}{2}$ " square quilting ruler
- BERNINA Sewing Machine

Cutting Instructions

Using a rotary cutter, mat and ruler cut the 7 pieces of fabric into $10\frac{3}{4}$ " squares (8 from each piece).

Cut the batting into twenty-five $10\frac{3}{4}$ " squares.

Preparation

Make 25 quilt sandwiches using the fabric and batting squares, layering the same print on the top and bottom of each batting square.



You will have six extra fabric squares left over.



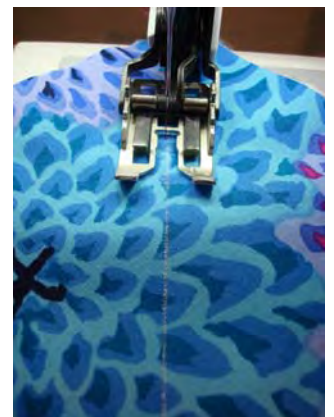
Draw diagonal lines connecting the corners of each block.

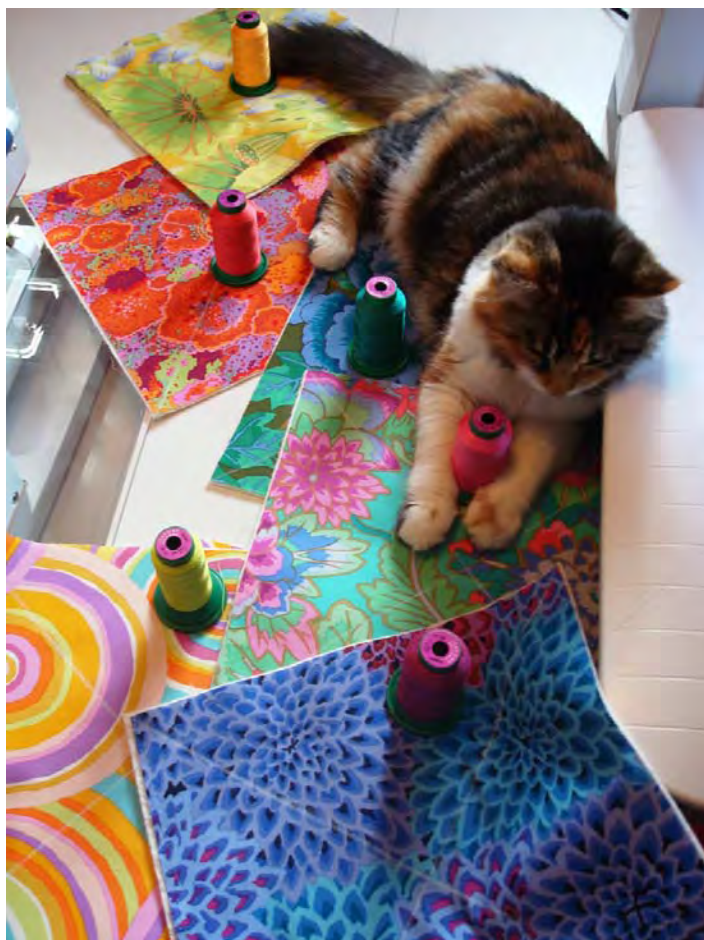
Construction

Attach the open-toe sole to Walking Foot #50; this sole provides extra visibility. Attach Walking Foot #50 to the sewing machine.

Insert a new #90/14 Embroidery needle into the machine. Select an Isacord thread color to complement each of the 7 block fabrics. Thread needle and bobbin with the same thread color.

Select a decorative stitch and quilt the block along the diagonals. Choose open stitches, avoiding satin-based stitches.





Repeat until you have stitched 25 blocks.

When all blocks are stitched, trim to 10" squares.

Arrange the blocks as desired in a 5 x 5 grid.

With wrong sides (backs) together, sew five blocks together in a row. Guide the edges with the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam mark on the walking foot.

Make 5 rows.

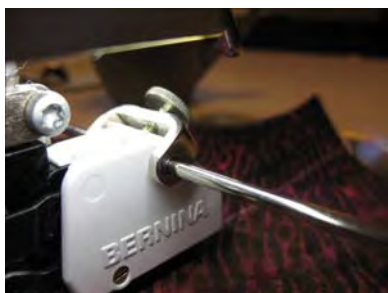
Press seam allowances open—they will be on the right side of the quilt.

With wrong sides (backs) together, stitch the rows together to make a square.

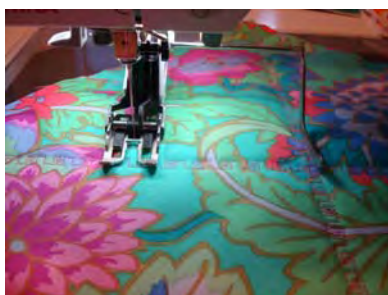
Press seam allowances open.



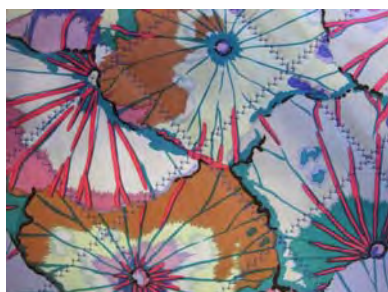
Attach the right hand guide to Walking Foot #50 and set it at 3" from the needle. Tighten the screw to hold it in place.



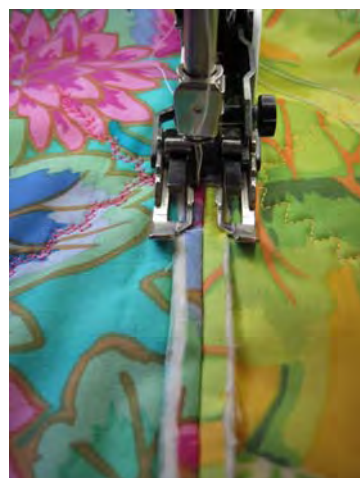
Place the guide on the previously stitched line and sew the same decorative stitch on each side of the two diagonal lines.



Stitch all blocks of the same fabric with the same thread, choosing a different decorative stitch for each block. Choose open decorative stitches, avoiding the satin-based stitches.



Select a zigzag stitch with length = 2mm, width = 5mm. Zigzag the seams open using a thread that is complementary to all the blocks, as it will show on the back of the quilt.



Spray starch the binding fabric. To avoid seaming, fold the fabric at a diagonal so that when you cut the bias strips in the next step you will be cutting strips as long as possible.

Cut eight $1\frac{3}{4}$ "-wide bias strips that are at least 52" long (seaming if necessary). Set aside the rest of the fabric.

Load the bias tape maker with a binding strip. Pull the fabric through the bias tape maker and press as the folded strip exits the other end. (I found that my strips were more even and consistent when I pressed from the top side of the fabric.)



Measure the width of the pressed strip and divide the measurement in half. Measure this distance out from the seam and draw a placement line for the edge of the bias strip.



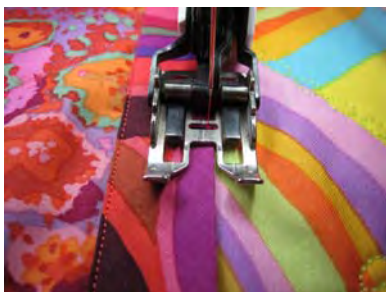
Position a folded bias strip over the seam, aligning the edge with the marked line. Use a glue stick to hold the strip in place.

Remove the guide from Walking Foot #50. Remove the open-toe sole from the foot and attach the standard sole. Since you will be stitching through more layers of fabric you may want to change to a #90/14 Denim needle.

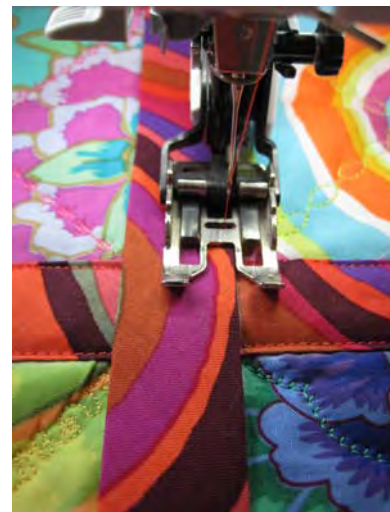
Select a straight stitch and move the needle position 2 steps to the right of center. Place the quilt under the foot with the edge of the bias strip just inside the right toe of the foot. Stitch down the side of the strip.



Repeat for the second side of the strip.

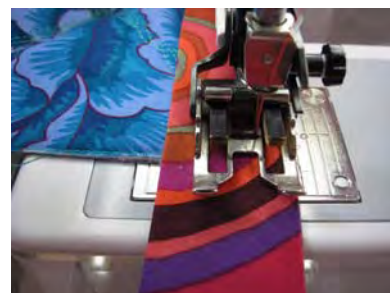


Lay four strips in one direction, then lay the remaining four strips in the other direction.



From the fabric left over from cutting the bias strips, cut enough 2½"-wide bias strips to go around the outer edge of the quilt—about 220". Seam the bias strips together. Press the long strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together.

Place the folded bias strip on the right side of the quilt with the raw edges even. Sew the folded bias strip to the quilt using a ⅜" seam allowance. To accomplish this, move the needle position all the way to the right and guide the raw edge of the fabric along the outside edge of the foot.



When all of the binding is sewn to the front of the quilt, press it out away from the quilt. Pull the binding around to the back of the quilt and stitch along the inner folded edge to hold the binding in place.

For additional information on Dual Sole Walking Foot with Guides #50 and other BERNINA presser feet, attachments, and accessories, see *Feetures*, volumes 1-3.

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