

Debby Kratovil's Calendar Girls

(Guys are welcome!)

December 2015

News you can use

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A Touch of Appliqué

The Berry Wreath Block is featured in this month's project as well as the Town Center Star. The Berry Wreath uses appliqué and bias strips. Our lesson this month repeats what we learned in our May project, and we can all use a little review to get our skills a little better, right?

I used fusible webbing and raw edge machine techniques to create my single block. A simple, small zigzag stitch in matching colors made my work appear clean and neat, and from a distance, you can't tell that I didn't use the finer needle turn appliqué. Whatever technique you use, I want you to enjoy the entire process - be happy!

Simple bias binding techniques are used in a variety of blocks. My lesson for this month is how to create a thin strip so that it will lie smoothly as you create a perfect circle. See the illustrated lesson included in the next column.

This is the last newsletter for the 2015 Calendar Girls Program. I hope you have enjoyed participating with your local quilt shop and that you will continue to enjoy the blocks in my Quilter's Block a Day Calendar.

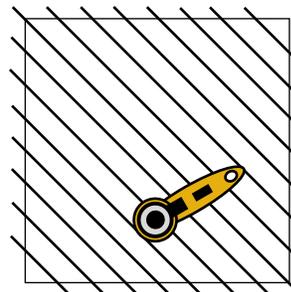
I would love to see any of your blocks and/or quilts that you've made during the Calendar Girls' Program.

What's happening at my web site?

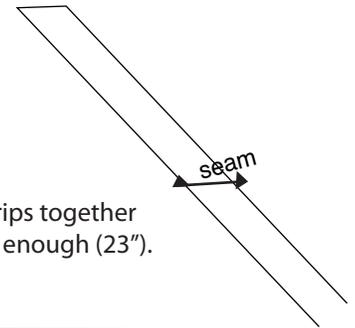
- Information on quilt guild programs
- Teaching schedule & exciting workshops
- Patterns for sale
- Free quilt lessons
- Links to more free lessons and patterns

Visit www.quilterbydesign.com &
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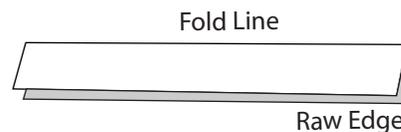
Making Bias Strips



Step 1 – Cut wreath/stem fabric into 1-1/4" strips.

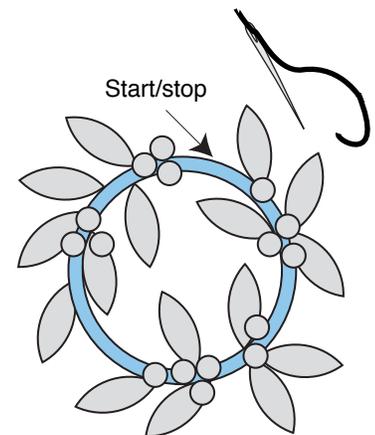


Step 2 – Sew bias strips together to make a strip long enough (23").



Step 3 – Fold bias in half, wrong sides together, and press along the fold line.

Step 4 - Lightly draw a circle the size you need on your background fabric. Begin anywhere on the circle and stitch down 1/8" from the raw edge, following the curve of the circle. Come back around and meet where you began. Trim away excess. Bring the folded edge down to cover the raw edge and stitch to form a circle. Place any one of the flowers over the start/stop section to cover the bias ends.



Ask your quilt shop for

- fusible webbing products
- classes on beginning hand appliqué
- books featuring appliqué projects

Did you know?

- Berry Wreath is a good machine quilting project
- Bias binding is great for stripes or plaids