

PINWHEEL PARTY

LESSON PLANS

By

Joan Wolfrom

I have designed this class to be broken into two 3-hour sessions. If you think it will work better for your store to offer a different number of classes or longer sessions, do so. Simply divide the different concepts into divisions that make the most sense to you. This lesson plan does not distinguish between projects. Students can do either the small quilt or the crib quilt.

SESSION 1

Supply List: Pinwheel Party pattern, fabrics for the quilt (see back pattern cover), rotary cutter, cutting board, gridded ruler, sewing basket of tools and equipment, sewing machine, sewing equipment, and an extension cord

Step 1:

Discuss the quilt's fabric placement and size choice. Have each student determine her quilt size and fabric assignment. Check everyone's fabric selection to make certain there is good value change between the background and the pinwheels. Also check to see if the prints work well together.

Step 2:

Show students a sample fabric pinwheel block. Show this block is a combination of a traditional pinwheel block along with two background shapes and the stick. Show how to piece the pinwheel block. Have the students look at the quilt assembly diagram in the pattern, so they are familiar with the construction steps.

Step 3:

Have students cut the fabrics into the various shapes, per instructions. If time is a consideration, have students cut the fabrics for either row 4 of the crib quilt or section 3 of the wall/infant quilt.

Step 4:

Have students construct one pinwheel block. Then, as time permits, have the students complete as much of their rows or sections as possible.

Step 5: With your own sample, show how to pin and sew rows together. This can be done very simply by pinning together partial rows or sections.

Homework:

Have students complete all rows or sections. Then they should piece the rows (or sections) together, so the quilt top will be finished for the next class.

SESSION 2

Supply List: border fabric (pre-cut), quilt top, batting, backing, and binding (all pre-cut), basting tools and equipment; marking tools for quilting; sewing machine, sewing tools and equipment; if making a mitered border, also bring sharp needle, thimble, and thread to match border fabric

Step 1:

Demonstrate how to put borders on the quilt top. Show the difference between a squared border and a mitered border. Encourage each student to make the border most appropriate for her skill. Have them sew the border strips to their quilt tops.

Step 2:

Show the different methods of basting. Have students baste their quilt layers.

Step 3:

Discuss different methods of marking quilting lines. Have students begin marking their quilting lines.

Step 4:

Demonstrate machine quilting. Make certain each student feels comfortable about quilting. Encourage each student to do some quilting before leaving class.

Step 5:

Show students how to prepare and sew the binding onto the quilt.

Bonus: If you have any students who are making a wall quilt, show them how to add a sleeve to the back of a quilt. Add any additional steps you think necessary.

Have a great class!