

Dear Jane Shopping List

1. Dear Jane Software or Dear Jane Book
 - a. The book doesn't contain any information on how to put together the quilt so if you don't own either product yet buy the software and not the book
 - b. Joann's has the best price for the software
2. Dear Jane Rulers
 - a. Ebay has the best price for the rulers (around \$12)
3. Paper for Paper Piecing
4. Rhonda's Book for Cut down method if you don't plan on paper piecing
 - a. Rhonda will be putting up tutes for the harder blocks using her cut down method for the people who don't want to paper piece the blocks
5. Appliqué notions – buy/use whatever you prefer to use for appliqué – this is just a general list of things that I use for various appliqué methods
 - a. Freezer paper
 - b. Silk thread
 - c. Water soluble thread
 - d. Fusible interfacing (one side fusible and both sides fusible)
 - e. ¼ wash away wonder tape

Fabric Requirements – this is the general fabric requirements from the software. If you buy the software and design your quilt in the software it will give you the specific fabric requirements for your design.

Background Fabric

If your block background fabric will be different than your sashing, and outside border, here are the figures. (I belong in the "stingy" or "frugal" category, so I don't feel I'm calling anyone names here.) These amounts are also good if you want all your blocks to be done with the same fabric for the "coloured fabric."

Stingy: 7 1/3 yards

The "received lore" says a 6" square will get you by on a block as an average, and I would estimate an 8" square for a triangle. If you are really careful when you cut, this should be sufficient. Buying 44" wide fabric, you will need 6 yds 14". Add 10 % shrinkage to that, and you will have to buy 7 yards.

Normal: 12 yards

If you're not stingy, not wasteful either, I would suggest you plan an 8" square for the blocks and a 10" square for the triangles. This means 10 yards 32", + shrinkage 10 % = 12 yards.

Paper-piecer: 16 ½ yards

If you do lots and lots of paper-piecing, or know that you will waste a lot of background fabric as you go, aim for both the squares and triangles. You will need 15 yards + shrinkage = 16 ½ yards. I have estimated a "working-width" of 42" in the above calculation, taking off 1" on each side for shrinkage and selvages. The calculations, naturally, are entirely different if you use wider fabric.

Background Fabric, Sashing and Outside Border

If your background fabric, sashing and outside border will be the same fabric, you will need the following yardage

Stingy: 9 yards 10"

Normal: 14 yards 10"

Paper-piecer: 19 yards

"*Stingy*" is based on the 6" square that lore says is enough for a block, and an 8" square for a triangle.

"*Normal*" is based on an 8" square for each block, and a 10" square for triangles.

"*Paper-Piecer*" is based on a 10" square for both blocks and triangles. In both cases, I have added 10 % shrinkage.

Sashing and Scallops Only

For the way the quilt was made originally, ie ½" wide (finished size) sashing between all blocks, and ¼" wide (finished size) around all the blocks, you will need 1 yard 10".

To that, you will need to add the fabric you may or may not need for the outside border / scallops. My guesstimate (based on a 4" wide outside border, that may or may not end up as scallops, is that an additional yard (if same fabric as your background fabric) will get you there.

Block Fabric other than Background Fabric

Scrappy

If you plan a "scrappy" look, a quarter of a fat quarter, 9" x 11", will make two blocks, or a block and a triangle, with relative ease (unless you are a snip-happy paper-piecer, who cuts big, big chunks and throws the rest away).

Focal Fabric

If you choose to use just one focal fabric, I would say the calculation is about the same as that for the background fabric. You will need to add extra in order to get the single-fabric triangles (that would be about 1 ½ yards including shrinkage), but you will not need to add for sashing and border.

A really good piece of advice is to cut all the sashing strips and outside-border bits from the same piece of fabric. If you buy a 3 yard piece, you can cut the outside border (without any seams!), the loooooong sashing strips for the outside of the blocks, and between the rows, all the short sashing-strips that you add as you go.

Making the sashings from the same fabric will make your quilt "hang together" even if there are slight differences in the background fabric on your quilt.