



Quilted Easter Basket

Happy Easter!

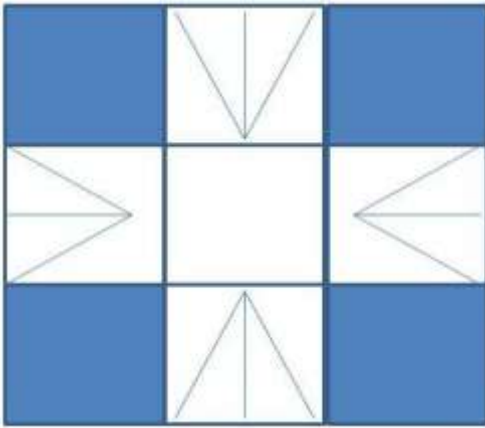
Well, I have taken a pattern and changed a few things to make it easier for me to do. The original project was from the "Mexican Star" Basket.



I start with a 9-patch with 4 1/2" squares. I fussy cut the corners on a diagonal, so they appear up right if you have a pattern like my bunnies. I have a 4 1/2" template with a line to use as a guide.

With the 9-patch block as 12 1/2 " when sewn, cut batting the same size, cut the backing or lining of basket -14" square. Then center and quilt. I usually outline my item or a pattern on the corners and meander on the center squares. When the Quilting is done I fold over the backing for the binding. (I did not like attaching a separate binding on a small project.)





The secret to the basket is the darts. Fold in half; in the center edge blocks, measure down 3" and mark a point. From that point sew to the corners of the corner squares, later you can stitch the darts down.



I created the handle by cutting 2 rectangles 2" x 15". Sewing right sides together with rick rack trim between and turn inside out. I used mylar as a stiffener in the handle. (14"x1 1/2") Attach the handle by hand with a whip stitch to the rim of the basket. I attached mine to opposite corner squares.

I added bows and bunnies as fun trim.

For the table runner,

I used the "Antique Tile " 12 inch block. I made three and cut one on the diagonal. I sewed them together, then cut batting and cut the backing 2" larger than front; quilted then folded over the back and stitched it down.



I think you could use any block you liked 3 times and cut one in half diagonal.



Hope this helps.

Phannie