

Memory Quilt



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Difficulty Level: Advanced

What you need

- 9 T-Shirts (Simple Quilt) / 5 T-Shirts (Advanced Quilt)
(or other alternatives, see Fabric Recommendations)
- T-Shirt Quilt Fusible Interfacing Package
- 43"(110cm) Backing Fabric
- 43"(110cm) Cotton Batting
- 170"(432cm) Foldover Broadcloth (extra wide is best)
- Thread (Recommended: Coats Eloflex Thread)
- T-Shirt Quilting Transformation Template
- Sewing Machine
- Rotary Cutter
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Tailors Chalk
- Machine Stretch Needle
Optional: Machine Twin Needle
- Straight Pins
- Iron

Fabric Recommendations

Quilt Top:

- T-Shirts (with graphics) and/or other t-shirt/jersey fabric
- Sports Jerseys
- Baby Clothes (More clothes will be needed to be pieced together to fit into the T-Shirt Quilting Transformation Template)
- T-Shirt knit
- Rebel Cotton
- Cotton Spandex
- Jersey

Quilt Backing:

- Quilting Cotton
- Fleece

Tips before you start

- Decide what size of quilt you would like before selecting fabric. Additional squares can be added to the length or width to make the quilt bigger, as long as all of the blocks are the same size.
- It's a good idea to pre-wash and press your fabric before you start, especially with cotton because it will shrink. However, some fabrics are not machine-washable, so follow the care instructions for your chosen fabric.
- Press using a pressing cloth to prevent damaging your fabric. Test your iron settings on a scrap piece of fabric before you start your project.
- Try sewing on a scrap piece of fabric before sewing your project pieces. Adjust your tension, stitch length, and needle type accordingly.
- Make sure that the t-shirts you use meet the size requirement. If not you may be limited to using a piecing method found on the **Advanced Block Quilt Example**.
- Be mindful of the materials edges rolling/stretching. This might happen before it is fused with interfacing
- Seam allowance is 1/4" and has already been included in the pattern.

Quilt Design

First, decide on the size of the quilt and the style you would like to make.

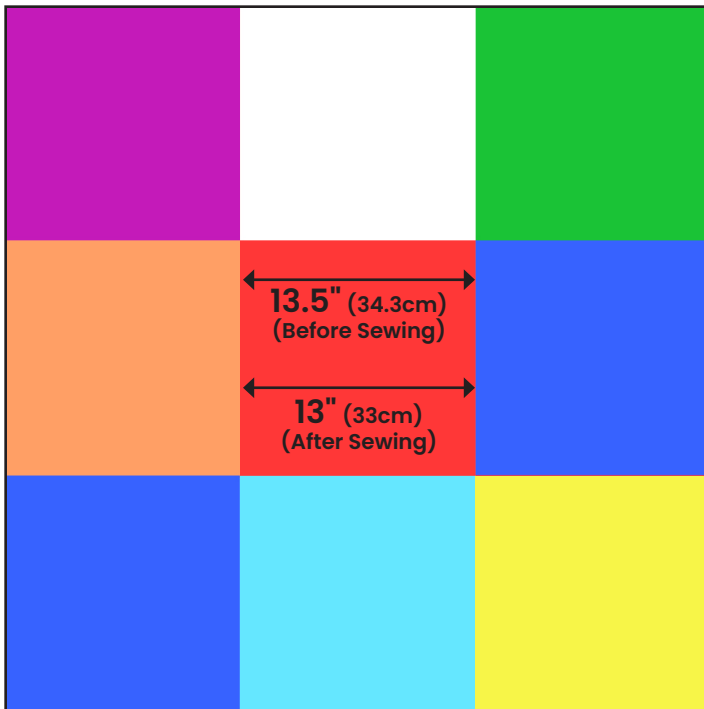
For this example, we will be making a 3 block by 3 block quilt. Each block is 13.5" before being sewn together.

You can add more or less blocks for a different sized quilt.

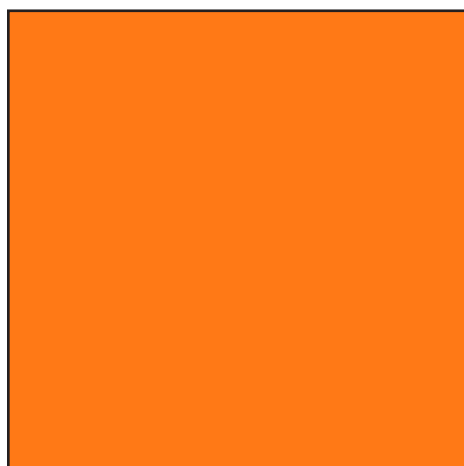
Play with different styles, within the 13.5" block by combining smaller pieces and using the T-Shirt Quilting Transformation Template to ensure that each block is cut to 13.5".

Simple Block Quilt Example:

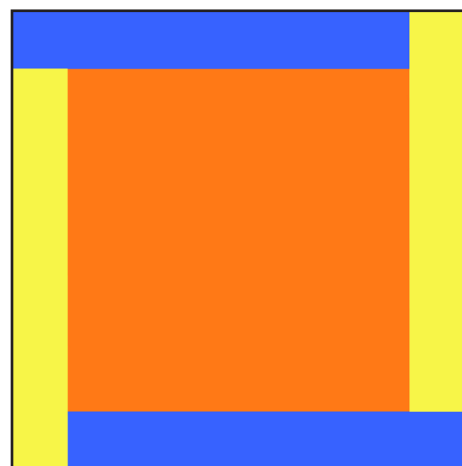
To make a simple quilt cut out 13.5" squares using the T-Shirt Quilting Transformation Template. The whole area of the 13.5" square will be with the same fabric. Then sew all blocks together. Be mindful of the graphic placement within the block.
9 Full Blocks.



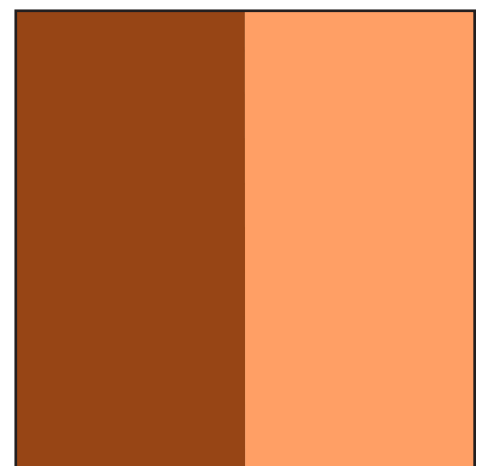
Full Block



Centre Block 5pcs



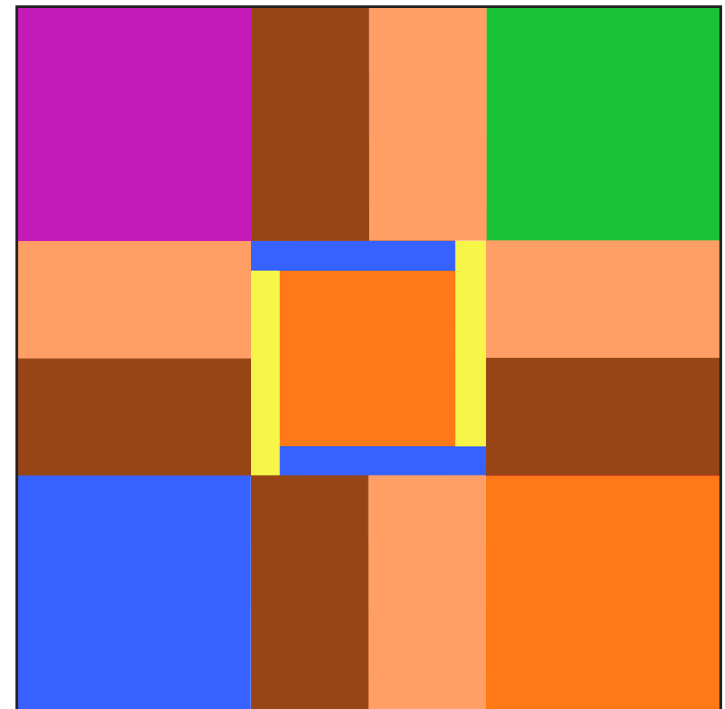
Half Block 2pcs



Advanced Block Quilt Example:

For a more advanced look try combining different sized pieces within the 13.5" block. Then sew all blocks together keeping in mind the end look.

4 half blocks, 4 full blocks, 1 centre block.



Instructions



Step 1: Choose and Cut T-Shirts

Pick out the t-shirts or other materials you will need and then cut open the seams of the t-shirts to allow you to cut on a single layer of fabric.



Step 2: Simple Quilt Step Only. Mark and Cut Blocks

Frame the graphic in the T-Shirt Quilting Transformation Template. Make sure to leave 0.25" (0.63cm) or more on each side of the graphic for seam allowance within the template. This will prevent you from sewing over the graphic when you sew the pieces together.

Mark with chalk around the template block lines. With a rotary cutter and a ruler, cut on the chalk lines to make a square block.

Cut the interfacing to the same size as the cut fabric block by using the same technique.

Tip: If you want a smaller block, trace around the desired size.

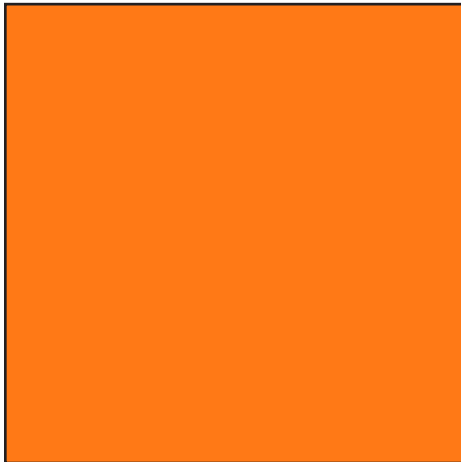
Step 2: Advanced Block Quilt Step Only. Cut Pieces

If making an Advanced Block Quilt, make sure all the pieces are cut to the appropriate sizes in fabric and interfacing (measurements listed below).



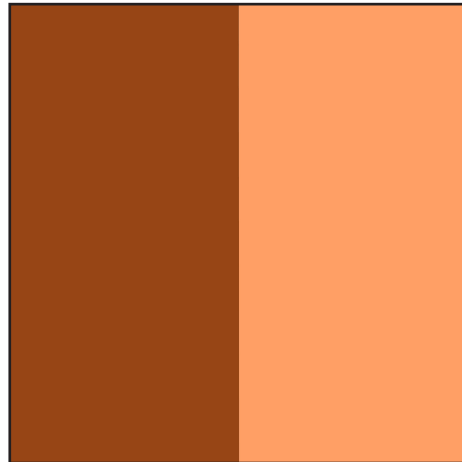
Full Block

13.5" x 13.5" (34.29cm x 34.29cm)



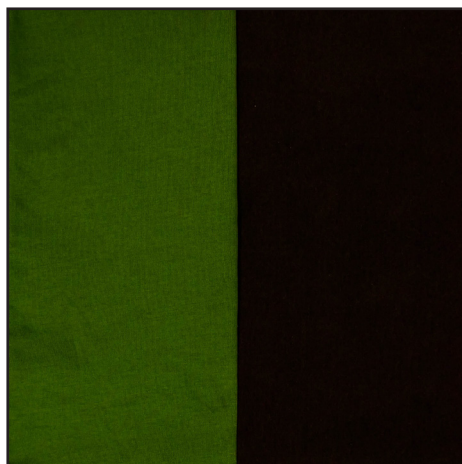
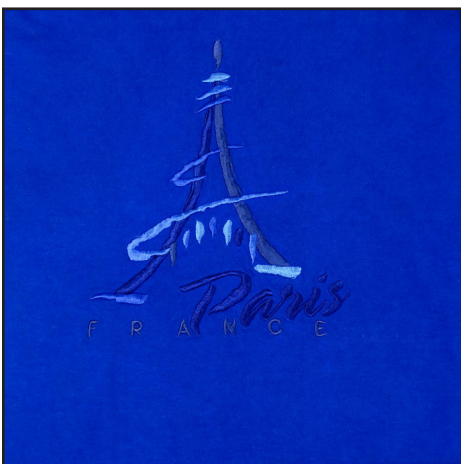
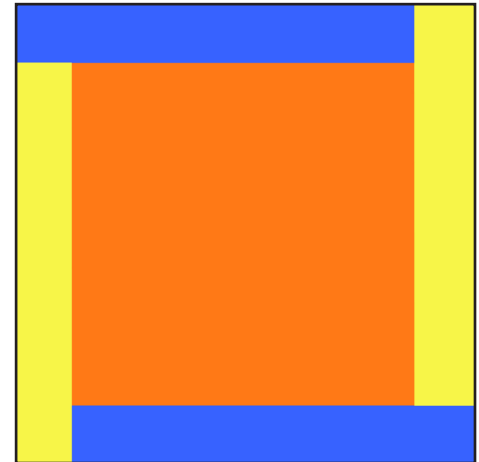
Half Block

2 pcs of 7" x 13.5" (19.05cm x 34.29cm)



Centre Block

Blocks around centre square
4 pcs of 1.62" x 12.9" (4.11cm x 32.76cm)
Centre Square
11.5" x 11.5" (29.21cm x 29.21cm)





Step 3: Stabilize with Interfacing

Stabilize the back of the t-shirt with interfacing by placing the rough side of the interfacing on the back side of the fabric and iron to fuse.

Tip: When ironing, lift and place the iron without sliding the iron on the fabric because the fabric is stretchy. T-shirts have a lot of stretch making them harder to work with. Steam is encouraged.



Step 4: Advanced Block Quilt Step Only. Piece and Sew

When piecing the centre block together, align the long side of the rectangle parallel with the edge of the square and let the edge come off of one of the sides. Repeat this for the other 3 of the rectangle pieces.

Piece and sew all of the pieces together to form the block for the half block and the centre block, using a 0.25"(0.63cm) seam allowance. The pieces may stretch out a bit as you sew them. After sewing all of the pieces together, use the T-Shirt Block Template and chalk to mark the block to the right size. Use a ruler and rotary cutter to cut out the shape.

Optional: For blocks with small pieces you can also topstitch the seams with a twin stitch.

Step 5: Arrange Blocks

Arrange the Blocks the way you would like them to be shown on the finished quilt.

Blocks Being Arranged ← →



Blocks Sewn Together ↑ ↓



Step 6: Sew Quilt Top Blocks Together

Sew all of the quilt top blocks together with a 0.25" (0.63cm) seam allowance to finish making the top of the quilt.



Step 7: Layer The Top, Batting and Backing

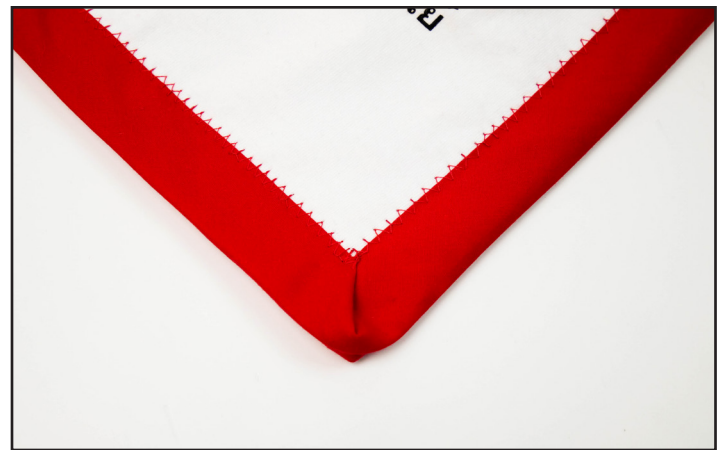
Sandwich the batting between the top of the quilt and the quilt backing. Wrong sides should be facing the batting.



Step 8: Pin the Quilt in Place

Pin the quilt in place and smooth out any gathering so that all layers are perfectly flat. Cut off any excess fabric from the edges.

Optional: There is an option to machine quilt the fabric if the maker has a long arm sewing machine. Feel free to use stencils. This project can also have hand-stitching done.



Step 9: Finish the Edges

Place and sew the foldover broadcloth around the edges of the quilt and zigzag stitch on the inner edge of the foldover binding, around the top of the quilt.

Want an easy way to get clean & professional looking mitred corners on your project? Check out this simple cheat!

<https://fabricland.ca/howto/mitred-corner.php>

To make custom foldover, check out these instructions and video:

<https://fabricland.ca/howto/2023/bias-tape/>

Step 10: Completed!

Your quilt is now complete and perfect for a cozy night in!



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