

'Pieces of Eight' Cushion Collection

Mix and match fabrics to make some vibrant cushions.

Note - Each cushion uses 5 fat eighths of fabric. If you start with ten different colours you can mix and match them between pairs of cushions for a better effect.

A $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance is used throughout.

Double Nine-Patch Cushion



Preparation

1. From each of 5 fat eighths cut 1, $6\frac{1}{2}$ " and 1, $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strip (lengthways).
2. From 3 of the $6\frac{1}{2}$ " strips, cut a piece $18\frac{1}{2}$ " long.
3. From the remaining $6\frac{1}{2}$ " strips, cut 4, $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x $6\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.
4. From the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strips cut 45, $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.

Making the Front

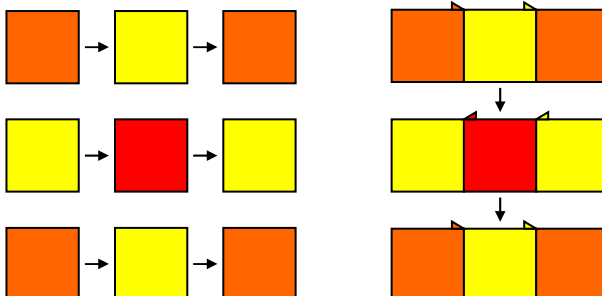


Figure 1
Making a
Nine-Patch

1. Arrange the smaller squares into five groups of nine as you please.
2. Sew the groups into Nine-Patches, **Figure 1**.
3. Sew each row of three, press seams alternate ways on each row and then sew rows together matching the seams carefully, **Figure 1**. Press well.
4. Arrange the 6½" and Nine-Patch squares, **Figure 2**. Join to make a bigger Nine-Patch. Press all the seams towards the plain large squares to avoid bulk.

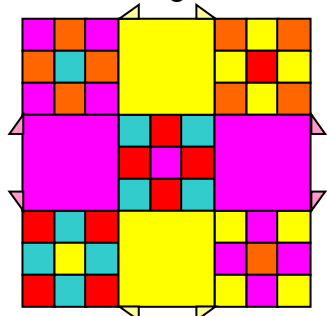


Figure 2 – Completed Cushion
(note pressing directions)

Prairie Point Cushion

Preparation



1. From each of 5 fat eighth pieces cut 1, 6½" and 1, 2½" strip (lengthways).
2. From each 6½" strip, cut a piece 18½" long.
3. Reserve one 2½" strip, and from the rest cut 9, 6½" pieces and between 12 and 14, 2½" x 2½" squares.

Making the Front

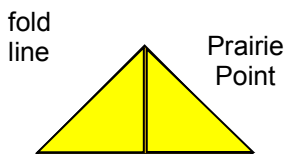
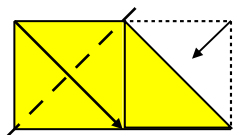
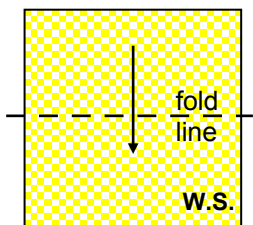


Figure 3 – Making a Prairie Point

1. Fold the 2½" x 2½" squares to make Prairie Points **Figure 3**. Press firmly.
2. Arrange the small rectangles to please your eye, then sandwich one or two Prairie Points between adjacent pairs, as shown in **Figure 4**. Pin into place, making sure that the points are all the same way round.

3. Sew together to make a strip 18½" long, **Figure 4**. If the strip is short, add another section at one end, you will have enough bits left over for this.
4. Cut your reserved 2½" strip in half to make 2 pieces, each 1¼" wide, and press in half lengthways. Place these bits on top of the outer strips, raw edges matching, and sew in place with a scant ¼" seam allowance.

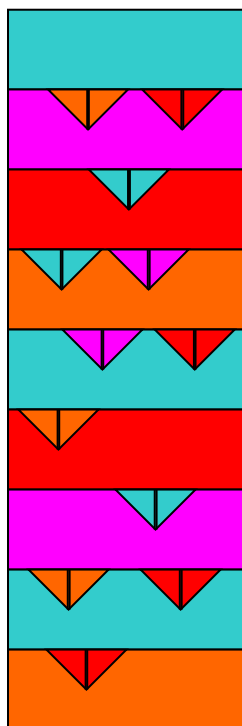


Figure 4 – Prairie Point Strip

- Then sew these units to the central strip, **Figure 5**, with the seam just inside the previous one, so that the stitching from the first seam will not show.

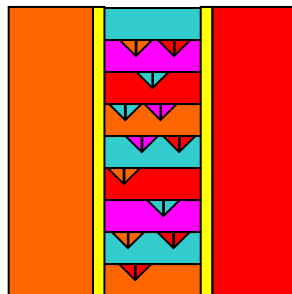


Figure 5 – Completed Cushion

Combination Cushion

Preparation



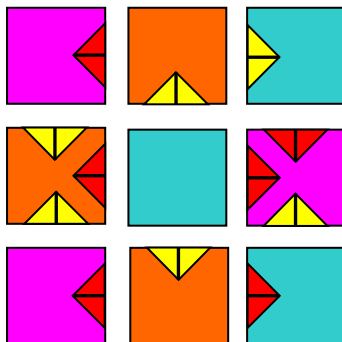
- Cut each of 3 fat eighth pieces into one $6\frac{1}{2}$ " and one $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strip. Cut three $6\frac{1}{2}$ " squares from each.
- From the remaining two fat eighths cut a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strip across the narrow dimension. Reserve the remainder for the back and trim to $9\frac{1}{2}$ " x $18\frac{1}{2}$ ".

- Cut 12, $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares from the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " pieces.

Making the Front

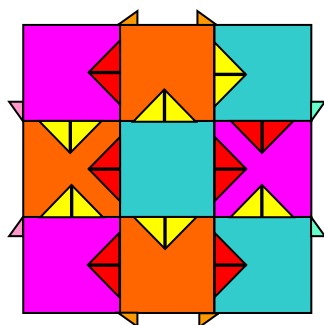
- Fold the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares to make Prairie Points, **Figure 3**. Press firmly.
- Lay out your Nine-Patch to suit your taste.

6. Arrange the points on top of the squares as shown, and pin to the squares firmly. Points should be folded-side up, **Figure 6**.



7. Sew together. Press the seams so that the points lay nicely, **Figure 7**.

**Figure 6 –
Layout of Blocks
and Prairie Points**

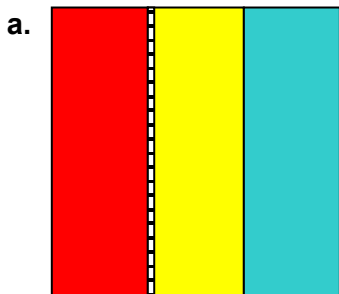


**Figure 7 –
Completed Cushion
(note pressing directions)**

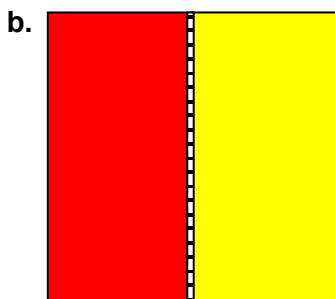
Finishing – All Cushions

1. Layer your cushion front with suitable wadding (you don't need a backing, as it will be inside the cushion).
2. Quilt the front of the cushion as you wish and trim to the edge of the fabrics.
3. For the **Nine-Patch** or **Prairie Point Cushion** insert a zip between two of the 18½" by 6½" panels and then attach the final panel to complete the back of the cushion, **Figure 8a**.

4. For the **Combination Cushion** insert a zip between the two back panels, **Figure 8b**.



Nine-Patch or
Prairie Point Cushion



Combination Cushion

**Figure 8 – Piecing the
Cushion Back**

5. Open the zip a little before the next stage.
6. Lay out front and back of the cushion **right sides together** and sew all round with a firm stitch and full $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.
7. Trim the corners to save bulk zig-zag around the edges to neaten, and turn the right way out.
8. Admire!

Disclaimer - Every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of these instructions, but no guarantee can be given with regard to any finished article(s) as materials and procedures used to make the design will vary.

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'Pieces of Eight' Cushion Collection

(To fit 18" x 18" cushion pads)

Techniques

Simple pieced designs with folded elements for interest.

Materials Required (per cushion)

- 5 fat eighths of fabric e.g. Gemstones collection
- 16" zip
- 18" square cushion pad
- 19" square wadding (batting) e.g. 100% cotton or 80/20 cotton/polyester

General Notions

- neutral sewing thread
- pretty thread for quilting

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Oakshott - Designer Collection



Pieces of Eight Cushion Collection

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