Amber Waves

Joan Ford's

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Size 69" x 81"

Designer: Joan Ford

Amber Waves

QUILTED IN HONOR by Island Batik

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**Amber Waves**
69 x 81” finished size
Designed by Joan Ford

To create a scrappy look for this chevron-style quilt, prints from a variety of coordinated fat quarters are mixed into the construction of half-square triangle units. To avoid heavy seam intersections where points come together, the seams are pressed and furled strategically.

**Fabric Requirements & Cutting** (based on 42” width of fabric)

10 Assorted Fat Quarters (18x21”) for quilt center
- From each fat quarter cut sixteen 4” squares for a total of 160 squares. Set aside for blocks.

2¾ Yards Cream for quilt center, first and fourth borders
- Cut sixteen 4x42” strips, then cut one hundred sixty 4” squares. With a pencil or fabric marking tool, on the back of each square, draw a diagonal line, corner to corner. (1) Set aside for blocks.
- Cut seven 2½x42” strips. Set aside for first border.
- Cut eight 1½x42” strips. Set aside for fourth border.

½ Yard Bold Print for third border
- Cut seven 1⅛x42” strips.

2½ Yard Focus Print for second and fifth borders, and binding
*Cut all the strips from the focus print along the lengthwise grain.*
- Cut four 3” strips. Set aside for second border.
- Cut four 4½” strips. Set aside for fifth border.
- Cut four 2¼” strips. Set aside for binding.

5 Yards Backing
72 x 84” Batting

**Assembly**

**Blocks**
- Place one marked cream 4” square right sides together on top of a print 4” scrap square. Sew ¼” seam along both sides of the drawn line. (2) Repeat with all 160 cream and print square combinations.
- Cut each unit in half on the line to make 320 Half-Square Triangle units (HST). Press seams on one-half of HST toward the cream fabric and one-half toward the print fabric, then trim each HST to 3½” square. Keep HST separated by pressing direction. (3)
- Randomly select four HST, two pressed toward the cream fabric and two pressed toward the print fabric. Arrange the HST in a four-patch as shown, paying close attention to the pressing direction. Sew the top two HST together and bottom two HSTs together to make two ‘two-patches.’ Press the seams in opposite directions as shown. (4)
- Sew the two units into a ‘four-patch’ and furl the center seam intersection. See inset instructions on page 2 for more information on furling. (5)
Furl the Seams

“Furling” the seam intersection is a technique borrowed from hand-piecing. Pressing only the center section of a four-patch seam open reduces bulk in the center of the block. An added bonus: four-patch blocks may be sewn side by side, and adjoining seams will ‘nest’ as long as seams are furred in the same direction block to block.

All of the four-patch seams in this quilt are furred. Look for the little blue circle indicator over the seam intersection.

To furl a seam, use a seam ripper to remove the last two or three stitches of the two-patch seam on each side of the four-patch unit, as shown on the left. Stop removing stitches at the intersection of the four-patch seam.

Press the unit from the back, as shown on the right, so the seams rotate and the center is ‘furled.’ Then press from the front. Notice that the seams furl clockwise from the back, but counter clockwise from the front.

Note: For simplicity, these illustrations show a basic four-patch, without half-square triangles.

Blocks (continued)

- Repeat to make four four-patches; mix up the prints for a scrappy look.
- Arrange four-patches as shown. Sew the top two four-patches together, then sew the bottom two four-patches together. Furl each connecting seam at the seam intersection. (6)
- Sew the block together, and furl all seam intersections. (7)
- Repeat to make twenty 12½” square blocks.

Quilt Center

- Arrange blocks into five rows of four blocks each. Sew blocks into rows, then sew rows. Furl all seam intersections. (8)
- Quilt center is 48½ x 60½”
**Borders--Traditional Piecing**

Borders may be sewn onto the quilt using traditional piecing--sew one border at a time to the quilt in sequence--first border sides, then top and bottom; second borders sides, then top and bottom; and so on.

- Measure the quilt before adding each border. Sew strips together, end-to-end with a diagonal seam. Using the following chart, cut two borders of each size.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sides</th>
<th>Top/Bottom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Border (Cream)</td>
<td>2½ x 60½”</td>
<td>2½ x 52½”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Border (Focus)</td>
<td>3 x 64½”</td>
<td>3 x 57½”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Border (Bold Print)</td>
<td>1¾ x 69½”</td>
<td>1¾ x 60”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Border (Cream)</td>
<td>1¼ x 72”</td>
<td>1¼ x 61½”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Border (Focus)</td>
<td>4½ x 73½”</td>
<td>4½ x 69½”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Sew each border to the quilt in sequence, then press the seam toward the border after each addition, until quilt top is 69½x81½”.

**Borders--Mitered**

An alternate construction method is to sew the borders together first, then attach them to the quilt top one side at a time, then miter each corner intersection. This method can save time, and creates a polished look to the quilt top.

- Sew strips together, end-to-end with a diagonal seam. Using the following chart, cut two borders of each size. Exact lengths are not necessary for this method.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sides</th>
<th>Top/Bottom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Border (Cream)</td>
<td>2½ x no less than 66”</td>
<td>2½ x no less than 54”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Border (Focus)</td>
<td>3 x no less than 71”</td>
<td>3 x no less than 59”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Border (Bold Print)</td>
<td>1¾ x no less than 74”</td>
<td>1¾ x no less than 62”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Border (Cream)</td>
<td>1¼ x no less than 76”</td>
<td>1¼ x no less than 64”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Border (Focus)</td>
<td>4½ x no less than 85”</td>
<td>4½ x no less than 74”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Center and sew one border strip of each length in sequence to make a five-border strip set. Repeat to make four border strip sets--two for the sides and two for the top/bottom. Press seams on the side border strip-sets toward the inner border. Press seams on the top/bottom two border strip-sets toward outer border. (9)
Amber Waves (continued)

Borders--Mitered (continued)

- Center and sew the side borders and top and bottom borders to quilt, starting and stopping ¼" from each edge of quilt top. (10)
- * Choose one of the corners to miter. At the selected corner, fold the quilt top in half diagonally, right sides together. Align border edges in a straight line. Finger-press seam between border and quilt top toward quilt center and lay flat on work surface.
- Place a straight ruler that has a 45° angle on top of the folded quilt. Place the 45° line even with border outside edges, and the straight edge of ruler even with diagonal fold on quilt top.
- Draw a line with a pencil or quilt marking tool from the end of the border seam to the edge of the border along a 45° angle. (11)
- Secure the border layers with pins along the drawn line, matching intersecting seams. Carefully transfer the quilt to the sewing machine and sew directly on the drawn line, starting at border seam intersection and sewing outward toward the quilt edge.
- Return the quilt top to the work table and trim excess border fabric leaving ¼" seam allowance to the outside of the mitered seam.*
- Repeat the steps between the *’s for the remaining three corners.
- When all corners are sewn, press the seams from back, pressing the mitered seams open and the quilt/border seams toward border. Then press the entire assembly from the front.
- An illustration of the finished quilt top is on page 5. (12)

Quilt and Bind

- Sew binding strips together end-to-end using a diagonal seam. Press the connecting seams open, then press the binding in half lengthwise, wrong sides together.
- Trim the batting and backing even with the quilt top. With raw edges aligned, sew binding to the front of the quilt using a ¼" seam. Miter binding at corners.
- Turn the folded edge of the binding to back of quilt and hand stitch in place.