

Quiltfolk



BRONTË SISTERS' QUILT

TOOLS

- Card A5 size (160gsm is ideal)
- Rotary cutter
- Quilting ruler (4" x 14" is ideal)
- Fusible web
- Pencil
- Sewing machine and thread
- Fine hand-sewing needle and cotton thread for English paper piecing (ideally 50wt or 80wt)
- Thimble
- Pins
- Iron
- Snips/small scissors
- Paper scissors
- Preferred basting tools (i.e. thread, spray glue, or curved pins)

WORKSHOP

Brontë Sisters' Quilt

FINISHED SIZE: 21" SQUARE

MATERIALS

- Background Fabric** – 17" square
- Dresden Blades** (20) blades cut from a minimum of 2 different fabrics (or up to 20 different fabrics). Each blade can be cut from a 5½" x 3" rectangle of fabric. (We used 15 prints and 5 solids.)
- Diamonds** (10) 6" x 7/8" pieces of different colored felt. (We used a wool/viscose mix.) Each blade has 2 diamonds (making a total of 40 diamonds). You could use between 2 and 10 different colors depending on your color scheme. If you can't get felt, any fabric suitable for raw edge appliqué will work.
- Hourglass Border**
 - (10) 4½" squares cream fabric
 - (4) 3½" squares cream fabric
 - (10) 4½" squares pink fabric
- Hexie Flower**
 - 4½" x 3" rectangle of solid fabric
 - 1½" square of patterned fabric
- Backing Fabric** – 24" square
- Batting** – 24" square
- Binding Fabric** – ¼" yard

TEMPLATES

- Brontë Dresden Blade template, included (template plastic optional) OR 18 degree Dresden ruler
- Brontë Diamond template, included
- Brontë Hexie template, included

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

It is strongly recommended that you watch the Workshop Preparation Video via the link sent to you by the *Quiltfolk* team. If you have trouble locating this, please email jenni@quiltfolk.com.

1. Using either the Brontë Dresden Blade template, or an 18 degree Dresden ruler, cut out (20) Brontë Dresden Blades in your chosen fabrics.
2. Draw around the Brontë Hexie “Card” template onto your card and cut out (7) hexies.
3. Draw around the Hexie “Fabric” template and cut out (6) hexies from your solid fabric and (1) hexie from your patterned fabric.



These instructions have been written to accompany the *Quiltfolk* Bronte Workshop. The time stamps at the end of each instruction indicate where you can find the relevant demonstration in the recordings.

RED: Day 1 GREEN: Day 2

Instructions

DRESDEN PLATE

Cut (20) blades using the Dresden blade template (page 8).

1. Lay the blades out to determine your preferred arrangement of colors/fabrics and take a photo to remember the order. 1:02
2. Making sure you keep them in the right order, place two blades RST (right sides together) and sew along one of the long sides using a ¼" seam starting at the wide end, using a stitch length of 2.2 and reverse stitching at each end. 1:13
3. Repeat Step 2, sewing the blades together in pairs and pressing the seams in one direction. Press from the front and back. 1:18
4. Sew the pairs together to create your full Dresden Plate. 1:22
5. Press all the seams in one direction.

If it doesn't lay flat at this point, watch for troubleshooting. 1:26

6. Turn under the outer edge ¼" and press. 1:33
7. Find the center of your background fabric. Place the circle of blades in position and pin (with pins pointing towards the outer edge). 1:41
8. Sew around the center circle of the blades using a narrow zig zag stitch and a neutral thread. 1:46
9. Reposition the pins if needed and sew around the outer edge of the blades using a narrow zig zag stitch as before and smoothing the blades outwards as you go. When pausing to pivot, keep the needle down in the background fabric (rather than in the blades) and sew slowly!

HEXIE FLOWER

Cut out (6) hexie flower outer fabrics and (1) hexie flower center fabric from the list on page 2; and (7) hexie cards. (See templates on page 8).

1. Baste the hexie fabrics to the cards. **2:01**
2. Place the center hexie and one of the outer hexies RST and join along one side using a whipstitch, making a securing stitch at the beginning and end. **2:16**
3. Add the remaining hexies around the center of the flower one at a time. **2:35**
4. Remove the templates from the center of all the hexies and press lightly with a pressing cloth. **0:44**
5. Place the completed flower over the center of the Dresden Blades and use fabric glue to secure. **0:54**
6. Applique in place using a thread that matches the flower. **0:59**

DIAMONDS

1. Iron fusible web onto the felt using a dry iron. **2:39**
2. Trace around the diamond template and cut out (40) diamonds.
3. Place the diamonds onto the blades to determine your preferred layout, fitting two diamonds per blade and aligning the widest part of the diamond on the sewn edge of the blades. **2:47**
4. Remove the fusible web backing paper. Iron the diamonds in place two at a time using a dry iron and a pressing cloth. **2:47**
5. Sew closely around the edge of the diamonds using a straight stitch. Sew the top half of the diamonds first, pivoting at the center point between diamonds. Then sew the bottom half. **0:27**

When pivoting between diamonds do a small horizontal stitch to move onto the next diamond.

HOURGLASS BORDER

Cut out the squares as per the list on page 2.

1. Draw a diagonal line on the back of (10) cream 4½" squares. 1:06
2. Place one of the squares from Step 1 RST with a pink 4½" square.
3. Sew a ¼" seam either side of the drawn line. 1:10
4. Cut along the drawn line.
5. Press open to create two Half Square Triangles (HST). 1:14
6. Place two of the units created in Step 5 RST making sure that the cream triangles are opposite each other and the seams nest. 1:15
7. Draw a diagonal line on the top HST perpendicular to the seam.
8. Sew a ¼" seam either side of the drawn line. 1:18
9. Cut along the drawn line and press to make two Hourglass blocks. 1:19
10. Trim the blocks down to 3½" square. 1:20
11. Join (5) Hourglass blocks matching the fabric which is the same color as the corner squares (i.e. cream in this instance). Repeat 3 more times to create (4) border strips. 1:55
12. Add a 3½" cream square to each end of two of the strips created in Step 11.
13. Trim the central square with Dresden blades and diamonds down to 15½", making sure there is at least ¼" around diamonds on all sides (it will be quite a snug fit).
14. Join the two smaller borders to the sides of the central square and press the seams.
15. Join the two longer borders to the top and bottom of the central square and press the seams.

QUILTING

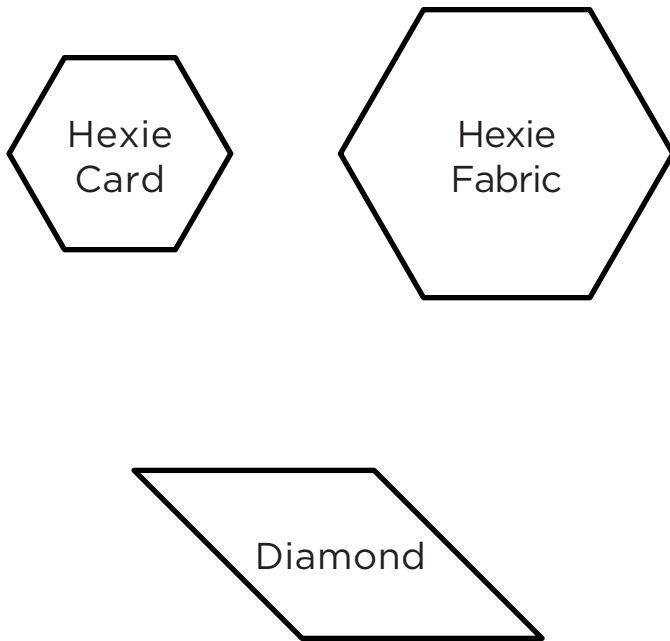
1. Baste the quilt top to the wadding and backing fabric using your preferred basting method. [1:58](#)
 2. Quilt in the ditch between every other Dresden blade and between the central background square and the hourglass border. Or any other design that you prefer.
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FACED BINDING

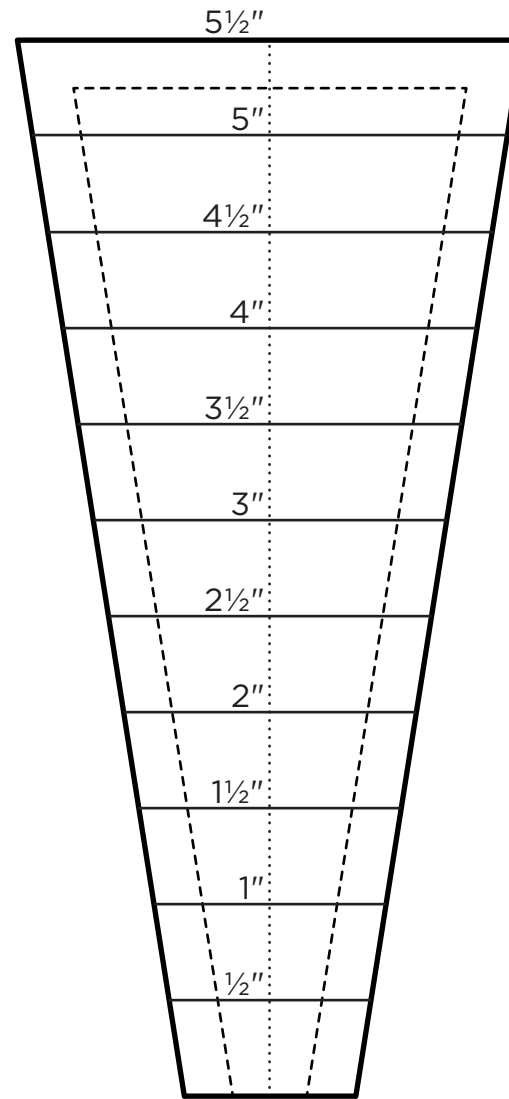
1. Cut 2½" strips and join with a bias seam. [2:02](#)
 2. Press in half along the length with wrong sides together. [2:07](#)
 3. Attach to the right side of your quilt aligning the raw edges and folding to make a mitre at the corners. [2:07](#)
 4. To finish your binding neatly watch Jenni's technique. [2:13](#)
 5. Finger press the mitred corners to get a clear crease on the 45 degree angle, join the folded edges and sew along the creased line. Cut off ¼" away from the sewn line and press seam open. [2:18](#)
 6. Using a small stitch length of 1.5, join the two pre-existing sewn lines pivoting at the mitred seam. [2:20](#)
 7. Turn the binding to the back and poke out corners. Press in place. Slip stitch the binding to the quilt back. [2:21](#)
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TEMPLATES

Brontë Sisters' Quilt



Print this page at 100% (no scaling).
This box should measure ½" square.



Dresden Blade



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