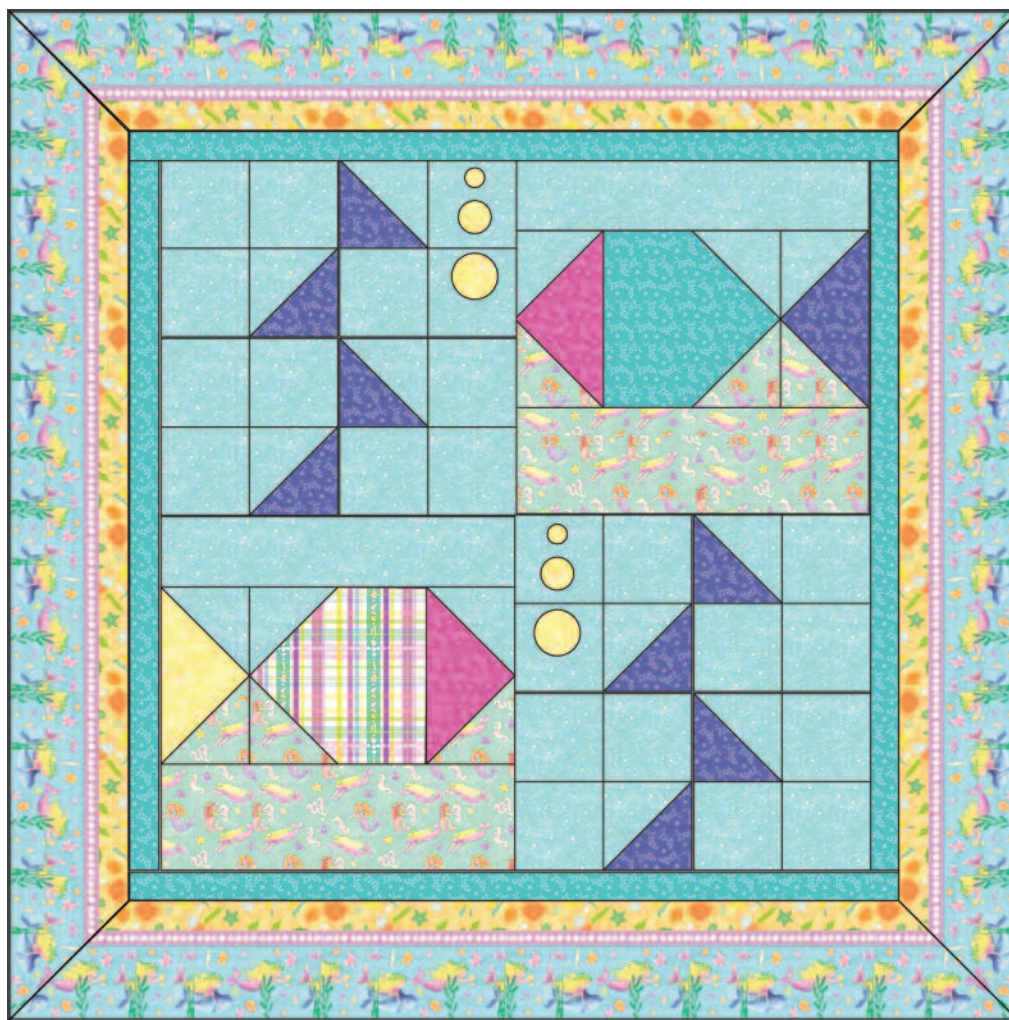


Making Waves Pillow

by DIANE NAGLE
Fabric courtesy of RJR Fabrics



Make a matching pillow to go with the lap quilt featured in the August/September 2011 issue of *TQ*!

Skill level: Intermediate

Block size sewn into pillow:

8½" x 8½"

Number of blocks: 4 (2 Block A,
1 Block B, 1 Block C)

Finished pillow size: 24" x 24"

MATERIALS

Note: Yardage is based on 42" wide useable fabric from *RJR Fabrics'* Mermaid Wishes collection designed by Kim Martin.

- ⅓ yd. of dark pink print (No. 0867-03)
- ⅓ yd. of dark blue print (No. 0867-02)
- ⅓ yd. of pale yellow tonal (No. 0866-04, includes bubble appliqués)
- ⅓ yd. of aqua mermaid print (No. 0863-01)*
- ⅓ yd. of white plaid (No. 0864-01)
- ⅓ yd. of dark turquoise print (No. 0867-01)
- ¼ yd. of light aqua tonal (No. 0866-01)
- ¾ yd. of border stripe (No. 0862-01)*
- 26" square of muslin
- 26" square of backing
- 26" square of batting
- Double-sided fusible web (for appliqué, if fusing)
- Thread in colors to match fabrics
- Rotary cutter, ruler, and mat
- 24" square pillow form
- Basic sewing and pressing supplies

*This fabric is directional.

CUTTING DIRECTIONS

Note: Cut all strips horizontally from selvage to selvage, unless otherwise indicated.

From the dark pink print fabric, cut:

Two 2½" x 4½" pieces (for Blocks B and C)

From the dark blue print fabric, cut:

Four 2⅞" squares (for Block A)

One 2½" x 4½" piece (for Block B)

From the pale yellow tonal fabric, cut:

One 2½" x 4½" piece (for Block C)

Reserve remaining fabric for bubble appliqués

From the aqua mermaid print fabric, cut:

Two 3" x 8½" pieces (for Blocks B and C)

Two 2⅞" squares; cut diagonally in half (for Block A)

Six 2½" squares (for Blocks B and C)

One 2½" x 8½" piece (for Block C)

From the white plaid fabric, cut:

One 4½" square (for Block C)

From the dark turquoise print fabric, cut:

One 4½" square (for Block B)

Two 1" x 17½" strips

Two 1" x 16½" strips

From the light aqua tonal fabric, cut:

Four 2⅞" squares (for Block A)

Thirty 2½" squares (for Blocks A, B, and C)

Two 2" x 8½" pieces (for Blocks B and C)

From the border stripe fabric, fussy cut:

Four 4¼" x 27" lengthwise strips (for border)

DIRECTIONS

Note: When piecing, use a ¼" seam allowance throughout, unless otherwise indicated; sew all pieces with right sides together and raw edges even, using matching thread. Press seams toward the darker fabric after adding each piece or as indicated.

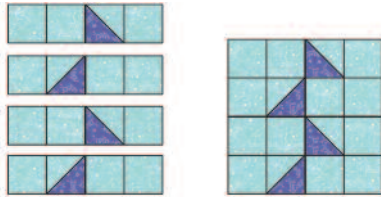
Block A (Seaweed) Assembly

1. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of a 2⅞" light aqua square. Following **Diagram 1**, place the marked square right sides together with a 2⅞" dark blue square. Sew ¼" away from each side of the drawn line, then cut apart on the line and trim even to yield two 2½" x 2½" half-square triangle units. Make a total of eight units.



Diagram 1

2. Referring to the **Block A Diagrams**, stitch four units together with twelve 2½" light aqua squares to complete one 8½" x 8½" block. Repeat to make a second block.



Block A Diagrams

Block B (Turquoise Fish) Assembly

Note: Make sure all triangle points overlap ¼" for seam allowance.

1. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of each of three 2½" light aqua squares and three 2½" aqua mermaid squares.
2. *Head and tail units.* Following **Diagram 2**, place a marked light aqua square on one end of a 2½" x 4½" dark pink piece. Sew on the drawn line, trim ¼" away from the line through both layers, then press the triangle open. Repeat on the other end using a 2½" aqua mermaid square. Make a second unit, this time using the 2½" x 4½" dark blue piece.



Diagram 2

3. *Body unit.* Referring to **Diagram 3**, place a marked light aqua square on one corner of the 4½" dark turquoise square. Stitch on the drawn line, trim ¼" away from the line through both layers, then press the triangle open. Repeat on the opposite corner using a 2½" aqua mermaid square.



Diagram 3

4. Following **Diagram 4** and noting orientation, sew the body unit between the head unit and tail unit to assemble one fish section.

5. Referring to the **Block B Diagram**, stitch a 2" x 8½" light aqua piece to the top of the fish section and a 3" x 8½" aqua mermaid piece to the bottom. Square up the block to measure 8½" x 8½".

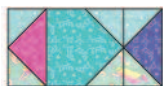
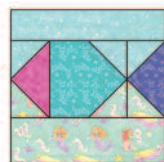


Diagram 4



Block B Diagram

Block C (Plaid Fish) Assembly

Note: Make sure all triangle points overlap ¼" for seam allowance.

1. Repeat steps 1 through 4 of the Block B Assembly and refer to **Diagram 5** to make one fish section, this time using a 2½" x 4½" dark pink piece for the head unit, the 2½" x 4½" pale yellow tonal piece for the tail unit, and the 4½" white plaid square for the body unit.

2. Following the **Block C Diagram**, sew a 2" x 8½" light aqua piece to the top of the fish section and a 3" x 8½" aqua mermaid piece to the bottom. Square up the block to measure 8½" x 8½".

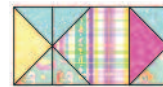
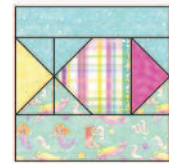


Diagram 5

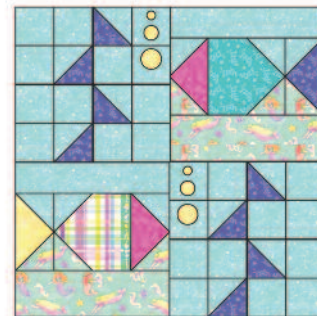


Block C Diagram

Pillow Assembly and Finishing

Note: Refer to the **Pillow Layout Diagrams** for steps 3 and 4. The appliqué patterns (see last page) do not require a seam allowance if fusing. Measure your pillow top vertically and horizontally through the quilt center before trimming the border strips. If your measurements are different from those given, adjust your strip lengths accordingly. Press border seams away from the pillow center after adding each strip.

1. Referring to the **Pillow Center Diagram** and noting orientation and placement, sew the blocks into two horizontal rows of two blocks each. Press row seams in opposing directions. Stitch the rows together, matching seams, to complete the 16½" x 16½" pillow center.



Pillow Center Diagram

2. *Appliqué.* Using the patterns provided here, trace two of each size bubble onto one paper side of the fusible web, leaving at least ½" between them. Cut out roughly and remove the paper backing. Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse the bubbles onto the wrong side of the remaining pale yellow tonal fabric. Cut out neatly. Remove the paper backing. Position a

set of bubbles as shown in the **Pillow Center Diagram** emerging from each of the fish mouths. Fuse in place. If desired, hand or machine appliqué around the raw edge of each bubble using matching thread.

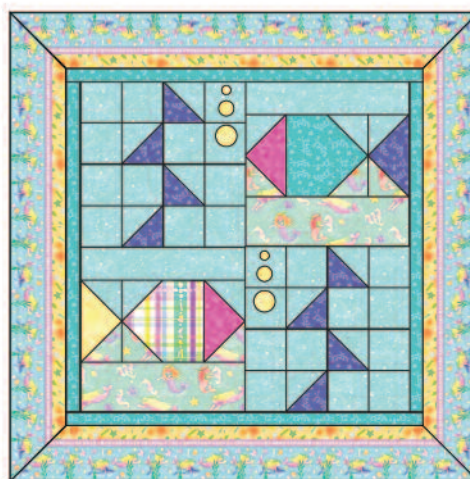
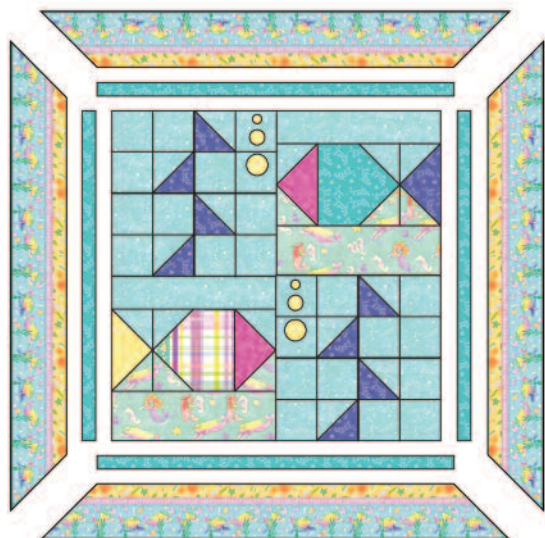
3. Inner border. Sew a 1" x 16½" dark turquoise strip to each of two opposite sides of the pillow center and a 1" x 17½" dark turquoise strip to each of the other sides. Square up the pillow top to measure 17½" x 17½".

4. Outer border. Fold each 4¼" x 27" border stripe strip in half to mark the center of the strips. Aligning raw edges, center and pin a strip to each side of the pillow top. Check to see that the design will match in each corner once the strips are mitered. Beginning and ending ¼" away from each corner of the pillow top, attach the strips. Miter the corners and trim seam allowance to ¼". The top should measure 25" x 25".

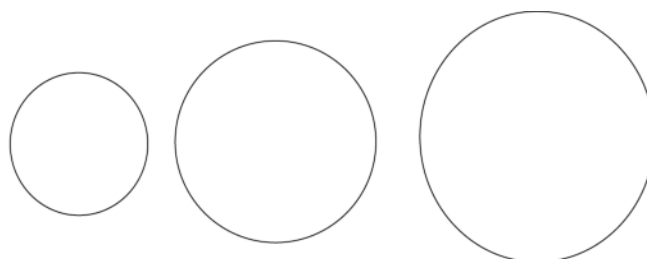
5. Layer the pillow top right side up on top of the batting square and the muslin square. Baste the layers together and quilt as desired. (**Note:** The featured pillow was quilted in the blocks and inner border only.) Trim the muslin and batting even with the pillow top.

6. Backing. Place the pillow top right sides together with the pillow back. Pin the layers together, then stitch a ½" seam all the way around the outside edge of the pillow, leaving a 10" opening for turning. Clip the corners, turn the pillow right side out, then press. Insert the pillow form, turn the raw edges under, then slip stitch the opening closed.

Diane Nagle is a quilt designer from Henderson, Nevada. To view more fabrics from RJR, visit www.rjrfabrics.com. ❖



Pillow Layout Diagrams



Appliqué Patterns