

Lucy's Legacy Lap Quilt

Designed by
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A perfect quilt for a beginner or weekend project for the more experienced sewist, "Lucy's Legacy" can be made with a traditional binding or optional prairie points that add to the challenge and ramp up the fun factor! "Lucy's Legacy" was inspired by characters and events in my novel, THE SECOND SISTER. For more information visit www.mariebostwick.com.

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Basic Quilt Top (Without prairie points)

For optional prairie points, use

Bird Fabric "A" 1 yard

Blue Fabric "B" 1.25 yards

White Fabric "C" $\frac{3}{4}$ yard

Orange Fabric "D" 1.5 yards

Striped Border "E" 1 yard

Bird Fabric "A" 1.25 yard

Blue Fabric "B" .75 yards

Finished size after binding (***without*** prairie points) – 58 x 77.

Cutting for Basic Quilt Top:

Fabric A - Cut 4, 8 inch x WOF (Width of Fabric) strips. Sub-cut strips into 17, 8 inch squares.

Fabric B – Cut 12, 3 inch x WOF strips. Sub-cut 4 strips into 52, 3 inch squares. Set aside remaining 8 WOF strips.

Fabric C – Cut 7, 3 inch x WOF strips. Set aside.

Fabric D – Cut 17, 3 inch x WOF strips. Sub-cut strips into 82, 3 inch x 8 inch rectangles.

Fabric E – Cut 7, 3 inch WOF strips for striped border. Cut ACROSS stripes, creating "short" stripes along border. Set aside.

Sewing the Basic Quilt Top:

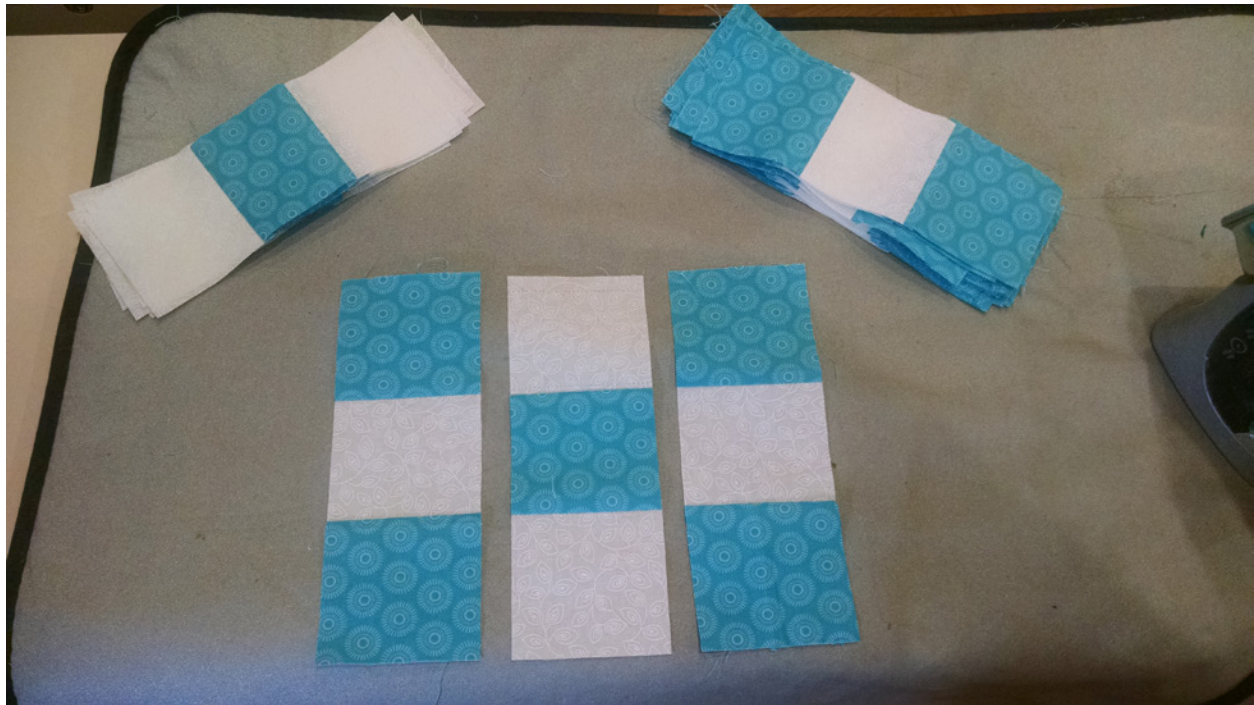
* All fabrics should be sewn right sides together. All seams are $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Press all seams to toward the darker fabrics.

- 1) Sew 5 blue, "B" strips and 5 white "C" strips together along the long edge. Press seams toward blue fabric.
- 2) Sew 2 white "C" strips along the blue edge of 2 strips sets sewn in step one, to create 2 "White/Blue/White" strip units, measuring 8 x WOF. (Refer to Photo 2 of completed strips) Press seams. Sub-cut strip units at 3-inch intervals, creating 18 "White/Blue/White" rectangles, measuring 3 x 8.



- 3) Sew 3 blue "B" strips along the white edge of remaining strip units, creating 3 "Blue/White/Blue" strip units, measuring 8 x WOF. Press seams. Sub-cut strip units at 3-inch intervals, creating 36, "Blue/White/Blue" rectangles, measuring 3 x 8.
- 4) Sew one W/B/W rectangle to one B/W/B rectangle on long edge, matching seams. (If you pressed strips to blue fabric, the seams should nest together nicely, and match after sewing. Pin fabric at each seam.) Press. At the point, the unit should measure 5.5 x 8.

Sew a second B/W/B rectangle the unsewn, W/B/W edge of the 5.5x8 unit, creating an 8x8 checkerboard block. Press block. Repeat until you've make 18 blocks. Refer to Photo 3.



- 5) Use Photo 1 of the finished quilt at top of these instructions as a guide for steps 5 through 8. Sew the 3x8 inch, "D" sashing rectangles between each square and to outside edges, sew five 8x8 squares into rows, alternating "Bird" squares with checkerboard blocks.

You should end up with 7 rows. 4 rows will have 3 checkerboards and 2 bird squares. The remaining 3 rows will have 2 checkerboards and 3 bird squares. These rows should measure 53 inches by 8 inches.

- 6) Beginning with blue 3 inch squares and alternating 6 blue squares with 5 orange rectangles, sew remaining sashing strips together, creating 8 strips, each measuring 53 inches by 3 inches.
- 7) Matching and carefully pinning seams as you did when sewing checkerboards, sew a sashing strip to the top and bottom of one of the long, 3 checkerboard/2 bird rows. Press seams.

Sew a 2 bird/3 checkerboard row to the bottom sashing strip, then sew another sashing strip to the unsewn bottom edge of the 2 bird/ 3 checkerboard row.

Continue sewing sashing to rows, according to the instructions above, until all rows and strips are joined, making sure the bottom row has 3 checkerboards/2 birds. At this point, your quilt top should measure 53 x 72.

- 8) Sew 3 striped “D” border strips, end to end. Cut the resulting strip into 2, 53 inch long border strips. Sew to bottom and top edges of quilt, pinning carefully.

Sew 2 “D” strips, end to end, and Cut into 2, 72 inch border strips. Repeat. Sew a 3-inch, blue “B” squares to each end of your 72 inch border strips. Your strips should now measure 77.5 (The blue “cornerstones” will bring your borders together.)

Sew the cornerstone border strips to the sides of your quilt top, pinning carefully and matching seams between blue cornerstones and the upper and lower borders.

Congratulations! The basic top for your “Lucy’s Legacy” lap quilt is complete!

Quilt and bind your top according to your preferred method. Or, if you enjoy a challenge and want to give your quilt an extra touch of pizzazz, follow the instructions below for adding an optional prairie point binding to your quilt.

Adding a Prairie Point Binding

- Measurements are for prairie point size and arrangement that I used, but you can use different colors, sizes of points, more prairie points, or maybe even to “fussy cut” the birds on your points. This is your chance to be creative!
- Before pin or sew your prairie point border, you need to sandwich and quilt your finished top to within no more than 1.5 inches of the border edge. I just quilted left the entire border un-quilted until my points were finished.

Cutting:

Cut 6, 7-inch x WOF strips of Bird Fabric, A. Sub-cut strips to get 36, 7-inch squares.

Cut 5, 5-inch x WOF strips of blue fabric, B. Sub-cut strips to get 34, 5-inch squares.

Making the Prairie Points:

Take a fabric square. Fold carefully in half on the diagonal, wrong sides together, and press with a very hot iron to create a triangle. It's fine to use steam here. Fold and press again, from the apex of the triangle to the center of the longest line, to create a smaller triangle. Refer to Photo 4. This is your Prairie Point. Repeat with all squares.



The bottom edge will have raw fabric. All the other edges will be folded. Note that one side of your triangle will be open, which will allow you to “nest” one point within another. Especially if you are using an obvious pattern, be sure that the open sides of the points all face the same direction.

Attaching Prairie Points to the Border:

Before proceeding, trim the batting and backing fabric one-half inch of the outer edge of the striped border. This will give you plenty of fabric to fold over when you are ready to sew the binding closed. (This is the step I wish I had done with my test quilt! That extra half inch will make your life a lot easier. Learn from my mistakes, bunny!)

Lay your quilt out on the floor or a large, flat work surface. Beginning about a quarter inch from each corner of the border, start laying out your prairie points along the border, making sure each triangle is pointed toward the center of your quilt, with the folded edge of each point nested inside the open edge of it's neighbor. Refer to Photo 5. (Another chance to learn from my mistakes – I placed my points all the way to the very edge on my test quilt. That made closing the corner harder and I think it would have looked better if the point of the cornerstone block had been more prominent.) I used 7 large and 6 small triangles on each short edge, 11 large and 10 small on the long edges. However, you can use less, or more, or perhaps scatter in a few even smaller or different colored points in your border. This is your quilt! Have fun with it!



If you want, you can use a ruler to make sure the distance between points is exact but the “eyeball” method works just fine. That’s what I did. Once you’ve gotten the points arranged in a manner you find pleasing, pin your prairie points **ONLY to the border fabric**, leaving the batting and backing unpinned. Use plenty of pins for this step. Really. You’ll thank me later.

Sew the pinned Prairie Points to the border along the outer edge, making sure that you are stitching through all the layers of fabric, and catching the raw edges of all the triangles within your seam. (Note: I decided to make my seam 3/8 of an inch for this step, just to make sure I was catching all the edges. That part I got right the first time!)

After all the Prairie Points are sewn along all four borders, fold the edge of the border down, toward the batting, and the triangles up, away from the quilt edge. Press.

Next, fold batting and backing toward the batting and press. A generous ½ inch fold should do it. Make sure that the folded edges of both the border section and the batting section meet evenly. Pin the border section to the batting section along the two folds – again, pin generously. Working from the back of the quilt, stitch the border closed, taking care that the corners are folded carefully, leaving no raw edge fabrics or batting showing. You’ll be sewing through quite a few layers so, if you have a walking foot on your machine, this would be a good time to use it.

*Alternate method – you could attach a binding to the batting layer and hand stitch the borders if you prefer. This is a slower method but would give you better control and assure a neat and tidy border.

After your borders edges are stitched closed, be sure to go back and quilt the border itself.

Congratulations! Your “Lucy’s Legacy” lap quilt is completely finished! Great job!