



Valentine Hearts

Size: 11" x 20"

I personally am fascinated with hearts. I created this Valentine Hearts art quilt to celebrate my love of LOVE.

Materials:

I made this quilt with 1/2 yard of my special hand dyed pink pulp fabric and 1/8 of a yard of light violet cotton. Or use these fabric colors in making the quilt:

Fat Quarters of all the following colored fabrics

- Pinks
- Purples
- Reds
- Lavender
- 14" x 22" piece of batting

Other tools needed:

- 2 yards of fusible web (I prefer Wonder Under)
- rotary cutter, mat, and ruler
- sharp embroidery scissors
- mechanical pencil
- iron

Please read through the directions completely before you begin. Pick your fabrics and apply fusible web with a moderately hot DRY iron. Let the web cool and remove the release paper. The release paper is the paper that

comes with the fusible web. Save your paper to build your quilt top on. I always cut out my pieces without paper on the fused fabric. That way I get nice clean crisp cuts that stay clean and crisp.

All of the measurements in the pattern are approximate. I usually create pieces like this by cutting free form, trimming each piece to fit as I go along.

Square Units:

1. Start with the squares behind the hearts, cut three squares from the red fabrics that are approximately 3-4 inches. I usually cut them free hand cutting directly into the fabric with a rotary cutter. This creates nice subtle curves and irregular lines. Try it free form and see how much faster, easier and more fun it will become. Or, in the alternative, you can trace the ones from the pattern.
2. If you decide to trace all your pieces, take the release paper that comes off when you fuse the fabric and place it on top of the pattern. With a sharpie extra fine black marker or pencil, trace around each shape. Place the release paper marker side down against the fused side of the fabric and press with a hot dry iron. The marker will transfer to the back of the fused fabric. When you cut out your shape cut right on the lines.
3. Place each square on point on top of the saved release paper with their edges touching. You can also use parchment paper from the grocery store if you tear your paper or a Teflon pressing sheet. Add on top of the squares two rectangles out of light or bright pink fused fabrics that you have cut free form or traced from the pattern. Tack press together on the release paper. *Tack fusing is lightly ironing them together just enough to heat them so as to stay together. You will be able to peel these up as individual units and trim the edges to get nice clean lines.* These become the hearts in the center of the squares. Once you like your hearts place them in the center of your squares and tack fuse in place.
4. Cut a piece of light lavender fabric 6" x 15". Place this on a piece of release paper. Center the three squares set on point with the hearts in the middle in the middle of this rectangle. Tack fuse these in place.
5. Free form trim the lavender rectangle on all four sides.

Filler units:

1. Using all your fabric colors, cut a series of rectangles that are 3/8" to 1/2" wide.
2. Assemble these one slightly overlapping another, lapping them just slightly on a piece of release paper to create columns of color. Fuse together on release paper.
3. Cool and peel off of the release paper. Place these on your rotary mat and with your rotary cutter cross slice these into 2" wide sections and reassemble them on a piece of release paper so that you have four long rectangle units.
4. Create two borders that are 2" x 20" and two borders that are 2" x 6"
5. On top of the release paper, arrange these four borders around the lavender rectangle sliding the edges under the lavender. Place a unit on the top and trim the edges. Place a unit on the right and trim the edges. Place the unit on the bottom and trim the edges and finally place a unit on the left. Tack fuse in place.
6. Once this has cooled peel it off of the release paper and trim the edges free form style.

Final Border

1. Add a two inch border in a color of your choice all the way around. Place the border over the top of the stripey units.
2. On the release paper steam set your quilt top.
3. Once this has cooled remove from the release paper and free form trim the edges. Or use your rule and square up the edges.

Directions for pillow-case binding.

1. Place the whole quilt top on top of a flat cotton batting and tack fuse in place. You don't have to be very heavy handed at this stage as you just want it to adhere to the batting.
2. Place this whole unit, the batting with the top of the quilt fuse to it, on top of your rotary mat and trim it even. You can incorporate some slightly curving lines at this point.
3. Place this trimmed unit on top of a piece of ironed backing fabric.
4. Trim the backing fabric to the exact size as the quilt top.
5. Trim away from backing fabric an extra 1/8 of an inch from the top and left side to make it slightly smaller than the front piece.
6. On the top edge of the inside of the backing fabric, place a piece of cut fusible web that is 1" narrower than the width of the quilt top. Fuse this in place and cut a slit through the middle of it running from side to side. Leave the paper on the fusible web at this time.
7. Place the backing fabric and the quilt sandwich right sides together, slightly stretching the backing fabric to fit the front quilt and batting sandwich, then pin it at all four corners. Sew around the outside edge with a 1/4" seam allowance.
8. Trim out the corners.
9. On an ironing surface, press each of the seams open before turning the whole unit right sides out.
10. Turn the quilt right side out through the slit in the backing fabric that was cut in the center of the fusible web.
11. Finger press all four sides, rolling the seams to the back side of the quilt. Once you have all the seams pressed and rolled to the back of the quilt, pull the paper off of the fusible web on the inside of the back of the quilt and fuse the slit in the back of the quilt closed.

12. Begin the machine quilting of your quilt top. You can now begin the machine quilting. I always like to stitch in the ditch all of the areas that I have overlapped. I do this with a straight stitch and the feed dogs up. I also used a straight stitch to stitch the triangles in the lavender background.

I also used a straight stitch to stitch the border. I just curved my lines as I worked around the quilt. Pivoting at the corners.

If you don't want to pillow case this little Valentine Quilt you can put a regular fused binding on it.

Materials needed for fused binding:

- Decorative rotary blade, such as pinking, wave or scallop. Anyone will work.
- Rotary cutter that fits decorative blades
- Regular rotary cutter with plain blade
- Rotary mat

Directions for binding:

1. Fuse web onto back of the fabric to be used for binding.
2. Allow to cool.
3. Peel off paper - Save paper.
4. With regular blade in rotary cutter, cut 4 lengths of fabric about 1.5-2 inches longer than needed for edge of quilt.
5. With deckle blade in rotary cutter (I keep a separate cutter with the deckle blades on them), and using a ruler as edge, cut binding at least 1.25 inches wide or wider depending on your preference. Remember, it will be folded in half.
6. Fold binding in half along the long edge. Use a creasing tool to press it down. **DO NOT USE AN IRON** at this point.
7. Position binding against one edge of the quilt, butting it into the crease.
8. Using hot dry iron, press into place.
9. Do two edges like this. Press on both sides of quilt and trim at the ends even with the quilt edge.
10. With the remaining two edges, position binding and press lightly into place, or just on top.
11. On the back side at the ends, peel up the back edge, tuck the front around to the back, press even with the edge. Press in place on back.
12. Use decorative threads to top-stitch in place on the front of the binding.

ENJOY YOUR NEW QUILT!



