

Revelation Quilt – General Directions

This quilt is composed of 84 six inch blocks, 2 blocks 18" x 24" and 1 block 36" x 12". The standard seam allowance for quilting, ¼" is used. If you'd like to play it safe you can make the seam allowance for the larger blocks ½" and this adjust it when assembling the quilt top.

I found it helpful to cut an assortment of 6 ½" squares before I started and then pick from those as I made the blocks. Of course, there are some blocks where one of the pre-cut squares won't work and I'd have to cut a special one for that block. How you approach making the blocks is up to you.

The primary technique for creating the blocks is fusible web applique. Trace the design using a permanent marker on the plastic side of the fusible web, iron it to the wrong side of the fabric you wish to use for that piece, peel the paper off and cut on the marked line. Normally, you'd use a black permanent marker which will show up on light colored fabrics; however, on darker fabrics you need to use a gold or silver marker to do it using this method. An alternative method for dark fabrics is to trace the design with a black permanent marker on the plastic side of the fusible web, turn the fusible web over and trace it with pen or pencil on the paper side (a window or light box is helpful, but not necessary). Then you can iron it on the fabric and follow the lines drawn on the paper side to cut out the piece. After it is cut out, you will carefully peel off the paper and proceed as normal.

For pieces that don't touch or overlap, you lay them on the background square where they need to be and iron/press them in place. You may wish to use a ruler to line up the letters on the bottom or center them in the block,...

For pieces that touch, you don't want to see the background square between the pieces (unless it is designed that way, as with some of the thrones). Look at the pattern and decide which piece should be in front and which one should be behind,... When tracing that piece where something is behind another piece, draw it about an 1/8" larger. You may find it helpful to assemble complicated designs on an applique pressing sheet before placing them on the block. This will help eliminate mistakes.

Another technique is a variation of Broidery Purse. Where you make the block design by cutting out and using the designs printed on the fabrics you purchase. With this technique, you look for fabrics with the design you want, i.e., a frog. You then cut a piece of fusible web large enough to cover the frog and extend beyond it ¼" or more. You turn the fabric over so the back is up and place the plastic side of the fusible down; iron/press the fusible in place. (At this point it is helpful to cut the entire piece of fabric with the fusible ironed on it away from the rest of the fabric.) Peel the paper of the fusible off the back of the frog, turn the fabric over and cut as close to the frog as possible. You then place the frog on the block where you want it to be.

There are a number of places in the quilt where this technique is used. I've tried to include alternatives where possible, in case you can't find an appropriate fabric. However, it's usually easier if you can find an appropriate fabric.