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Floral prints put a fresh spin on a classic Irish Chain. Alternate floral Irish Chain blocks with tone-on-tone print star blocks to create a sense of movement.



Materials

- 1¼ yards light green print (star blocks)
- ½ yard red-orange print (star blocks)
- ¾ yard plum geometric print (star blocks)
- 2 yards black floral (Irish Chain blocks, middle border)
- 3 yards plum damask print (Irish Chain blocks, outer border, binding)
- 1¼ yards ivory toile (Irish Chain blocks)
- ½ yard dark green print (inner border)
- 4⅓ yards backing fabric
- 77" square batting

Finished quilt: 70½" square Finished blocks: 10" square

Quantities are for 44/45"-wide, 100% cotton fabrics.

Measurements include 1/4" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Size options: For a chart of optional sizes, turn to page 7.

Cut Fabrics

Cut pieces in the following order. Cut middle and outer border strips lengthwise (parallel to the selvages).

Patterns are on page 8. To make templates of patterns, see Make and Use Templates, page 9. Be sure to transfer dots to templates, then to fabric pieces. The dots are matching points and are necessary when joining pieces.

From light green print, cut:

 52 each of patterns A, A reversed, C, and C reversed

From red-orange print, cut:

104 of Pattern B

From plum geometric print, cut:

■ 117—2½" squares

From black floral, cut:

- $2-4\times59\frac{1}{2}$ middle border strips
- 2-4×52½" middle border strips
- 4-1**¾**×42" strips

From plum damask print, cut:

- $2-6\times70\frac{1}{2}$ " outer border strips
- 2—6×59½" outer border strips
- $8-2\frac{1}{2}\times42$ " binding strips
- 4-1**%**×42" strips

From ivory toile, cut:

- 1—3×42" strip
- 4-1**¾**×42" strips
- 24—1**¾**×3" rectangles
- 48—3×51/2" rectangles

From dark green print, cut:

■ 6—1½×42" strips for inner border

Assemble Star Blocks

- Aligning marked matching points, sew light green print A and A reversed triangles to a red-orange print B triangle to make a star point unit (Diagram 1). Press seams toward light green print pieces. The unit should be 2½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make 52 star point units total.
- 2. Referring to Diagram 2, sew together five plum geometric print 2½" squares and four star point units in three rows. Press seams toward plum geometric print. Join rows to make a star block center. Press seams toward outer rows. The star block center should be 6½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make 13 star block centers total.
- 3. Aligning marked matching points, sew light green print C and C reversed pieces to a red-orange print B triangle to make a side unit (Diagram 3). Press seams toward light green print pieces. The side unit should

- be 6½×2½" including seam allowances. Repeat to make 52 side units total
- 4. Referring to Diagram 4, sew together four plum geometric print 2½" squares, four side units, and a star block center in three rows. Press seams toward side units. Join rows to make a star block. Press seams toward outer rows. The block should be 10½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make 13 star blocks total.

Assemble Irish Chain blocks

- 1. Referring to Diagram 5, join a black floral 1¾×42" strip and a plum damask print 1¾×42" strip to make strip set A. Press seam toward black floral. Cut strip set into 24—1¾"-wide A segments.
- 2. Sew together two A segments to make a plum-and-black Four-Patch unit (Diagram 6). Press seam in one direction. The Four-Patch unit should be 3" square including seam allowances.

 Repeat to make 12 plum-and-black Four-Patch units total.
- 3. Using ivory toile strips instead of plum damask print, repeat Step 1 to make two B strip sets, cutting them into a total of 48—1¾"-wide B segments. Using B segments, repeat Step 2 to make 24 black-and-ivory Four-Patch units (Diagram 7).
- 4. Using ivory toile strips instead of black floral, repeat Step 1 to make two C strip sets, cutting them into a total of 48—1¾"-wide C segments. Using C segments, repeat Step 2 to make 24 plum-and-ivory Four-Patch units (Diagram 8).



- 5. Referring to Diagram 9, join a black floral 1¾×42" strip, an ivory toile 3×42" strip, and a plum damask print 1¾×42" strip to make strip set D. Press seams away from ivory toile strip. Cut strip set into 24—1¾"-wide D segments.
- 6. Referring to Diagram 10, sew ivory toile 1¾×3" rectangles to opposite edges of a plum-and-black Four-Patch unit. Press seams toward Four-Patch unit. Add a D segment to top and bottom edges of plum-and-black Four-Patch to make a chain block center. Press seams toward D segments. The chain block center should be 5½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make 12 chain block centers total.
- 7. Referring to Diagram 11, sew together two black-and-ivory Four-Patch units, two plum-and-ivory Four-Patch units, four ivory toile 3×5½" rectangles, and one chain block center in three rows. Press seams toward ivory toile rectangles. Join rows to make an Irish Chain block. Press seams toward outer rows. The block should be 10½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make 12 Irish Chain blocks total.

assemble Quilt Center

- Lay out star blocks and Irish Chain blocks in five rows, alternating blocks (Quilt Assembly Diagram). Sew together blocks in each row. Press seams toward star blocks.
- 2. Join rows to make quilt center.

 Press seams in one direction.

 The quilt center should be

50½" square including seam allowances.

Add Borders

- Cut and piece dark green print 1½×42" strips to make:
 - 2—1½×52½" inner border strips
 - 2—1½×50½" inner border strips
- 2. Sew short inner border strips to opposite edges of quilt center. Add long inner border strips to remaining edges. Press all seams toward border.
- Sew short black floral middle border strips to opposite edges of quilt center. Sew long black floral middle border strips to remaining edges. Press all seams toward middle border.
- 4. Sew short plum damask print outer border strips to opposite edges of quilt center. Add long plum damask print outer border strips to remaining edges to complete quilt top. Press all seams toward outer border.

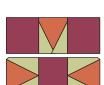
Finish Quilt

- **1.** Layer quilt top, batting, and backing; baste.
- 2. Quilt as desired. Janet-Lee Santeusanio machine-quilted in the ditch of the star blocks (Quilting Diagram). She quilted tiny feather designs in the star blocks' red-orange print diamonds and two different fleur-de-lis designs in the Irish Chain blocks and outer border.
- **3.** Bind with plum damask print binding strips.

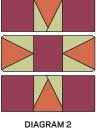


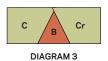


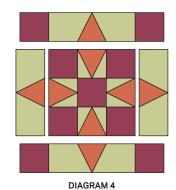


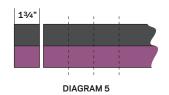








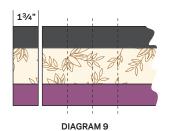
















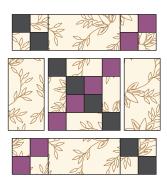


DIAGRAM 11



QUILTING DIAGRAM





QUILT ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM

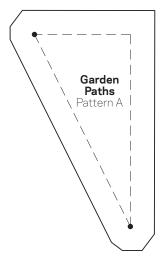


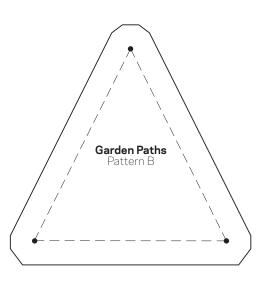


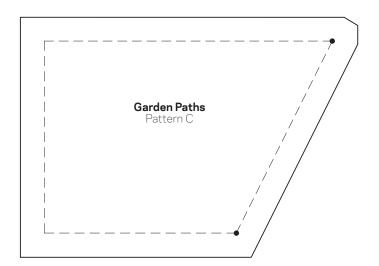
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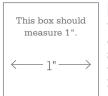
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ALTERNATE QUILT SIZES	WALL	FULL/QUEEN	KING
Number of star blocks	5	25	41
Number of Irish Chain blocks	4	24	40
Number of blocks wide by long	3×3	7×7	9×9
Finished size	50 ½ " square	90 ½ " square	110 ½ " square
YARDAGE REQUIREMENTS	I I I	1 1 1	
Light green print	1∕2 yard	1 ²∕₃ yards	2 ½ yards
Red print	1/4 yard	²∕₃ yard	1⅓ yards
Plum geometric print	⅓ yard	1 ½ yards	1 ⅓ yards
Black floral	1 ⅓ yards	2 3/4 yards	3½ yards
Plum damask print	2 yards	3 ½ yards	4 ¾ yards
lvory toile	1∕2 yard	2 1/ 8 yards	3½ yards
Dark green print	1/4 yard	1∕2 yard	¹∕₂ yard
Backing fabric	3 1/ 4 yards	8 1/ 8 yards	9 3/ 4 yards
Batting	57" square	97" square	117" square











₩ NOTE:

When printing a downloadable pdf, set Page Scaling preference to NONE to print patterns at 100%. Do NOT "Shrink to Fit" or "Fit to Printable Area."



Make and Use Templates

Make Templates

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

Use Templates

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least ½" away from the previous tracing (Diagram 1), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines ¼" away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a ¼" seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a ¾16" seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (Diagram 2); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

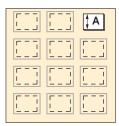


DIAGRAM 1

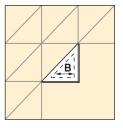


DIAGRAM 2