

Denim Rag Edge With a Twist

Size: 48" x 60"



Supply List:

2 ½ yd of denim fabric (or plenty of old jeans)

¾ yd of applique background fabric (I used a red bandana print)

2 ½ yd of backing fabric (I used a brushed homespun in reds)

T hread to match denim

T hread to match backing

Instructions:

From the denim fabric, cut:

76 – 6 ½" squares

8 – 6 ½" x 3 ¾" rectangles

From the backing fabric, cut:

76 – 6 ½" squares

8 – 6 ½" x 3 ¾" rectangles

From the reverse appliqué background fabric, cut:

40 – 5" squares

Once your fabric is cut, you will need to trace the outline of your appliqué shape (you will find a star template at the bottom of this page – you may also use a shape of your choice) on the wrong side of 40 – 6 ½" squares of denim. Cut these out (I have saved all my star cut-outs for another project!) and lay these blocks aside.

Layer a block sandwich "A" together. The "A" sandwich will include a 6 ½" square of backing, right side facing down, a 5 ½" square of reverse appliqué fabric, centered and facing up, and a 6 ½" square of denim with the star or another design cut out of the center. Using a small zigzag stitch, stitch approximately 1/8" around the raw edge of the denim star. Don't worry about perfection – upon washing, the edges will fray out and your zigzag stitching will not be very visible. You will need 40 of the "A" blocks. Lay aside.

Layer block sandwich "B" together using a 6 ½" square of backing, right side facing down, and a 6 ½" square of denim, right side facing up. Stitch an "X" through this sandwich by starting in one corner and sewing to the lower opposite corner. Repeat on the other corner. You will need 36 of the "B" blocks. Lay aside.

Layer block sandwich "C" together using a 6 ½" x 3 ¾" backing rectangle, right side facing down, and a 6 ½" x 3 ¾" denim rectangle, right side facing up. Stitch an "X" through this sandwich by starting in one corner and sewing to the lower opposite corner. Repeat on the other corner. You will need 8 of the "C" blocks. Lay aside.

Lay out your blocks vertically, starting with "A" in the top left-hand corner, "B" below it, followed by another "A" and so on. This first vertical strip will have 10 - 6 ½" sandwich blocks with the last block a "B". In vertical row #2, start with sandwich "C", followed by "A", then "B", then "A" and so on. The last sandwich in this row will be a "C". Repeat the layout pattern of rows #1 & 2 for rows #3 - #8.

Stitch the vertical rows of blocks together, using a ½" seam allowance, backs together. This means the denim side of the sandwiches will be facing out. Once the blocks have been sewn together vertically, the rows may be sewn together in the same manner. It is easier to sew row #1 to #2, add #3 and then #4. Before sewing row #5 to #4, go ahead and sew row #5 to #6, add #7 and then #8. You will then sew the two sections of rows #1-4 & #5-8 together.

Clip the exposed seam allowances being careful to cut **to** the seam line but not **through** the seam line. Clips should be approximately ½" apart and should be made in all vertical and horizontal seams.

Wash. Because this quilt will throw **so much thread and lint**, please exercise much care. The thread and lint can clog water lines and filters in both your washer and dryer, necessitating a service call to your friendly plumber. You have been forewarned!! I found it very helpful to stand over my washer as it agitates with a strainer and continually scoop threads as they moved through the water. You will be shocked at how much you strain out! When you put the quilt in the dryer, you will want to check the filter every 5 minutes or so. Dry thoroughly.

E NJOY!!

(Instructions are for personal use only. Permission for any other reprinting must be received in writing from Rachelle Burleson.)

