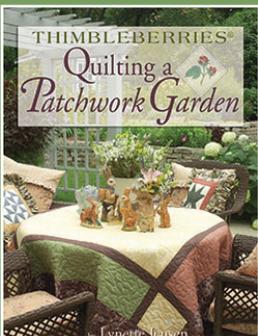
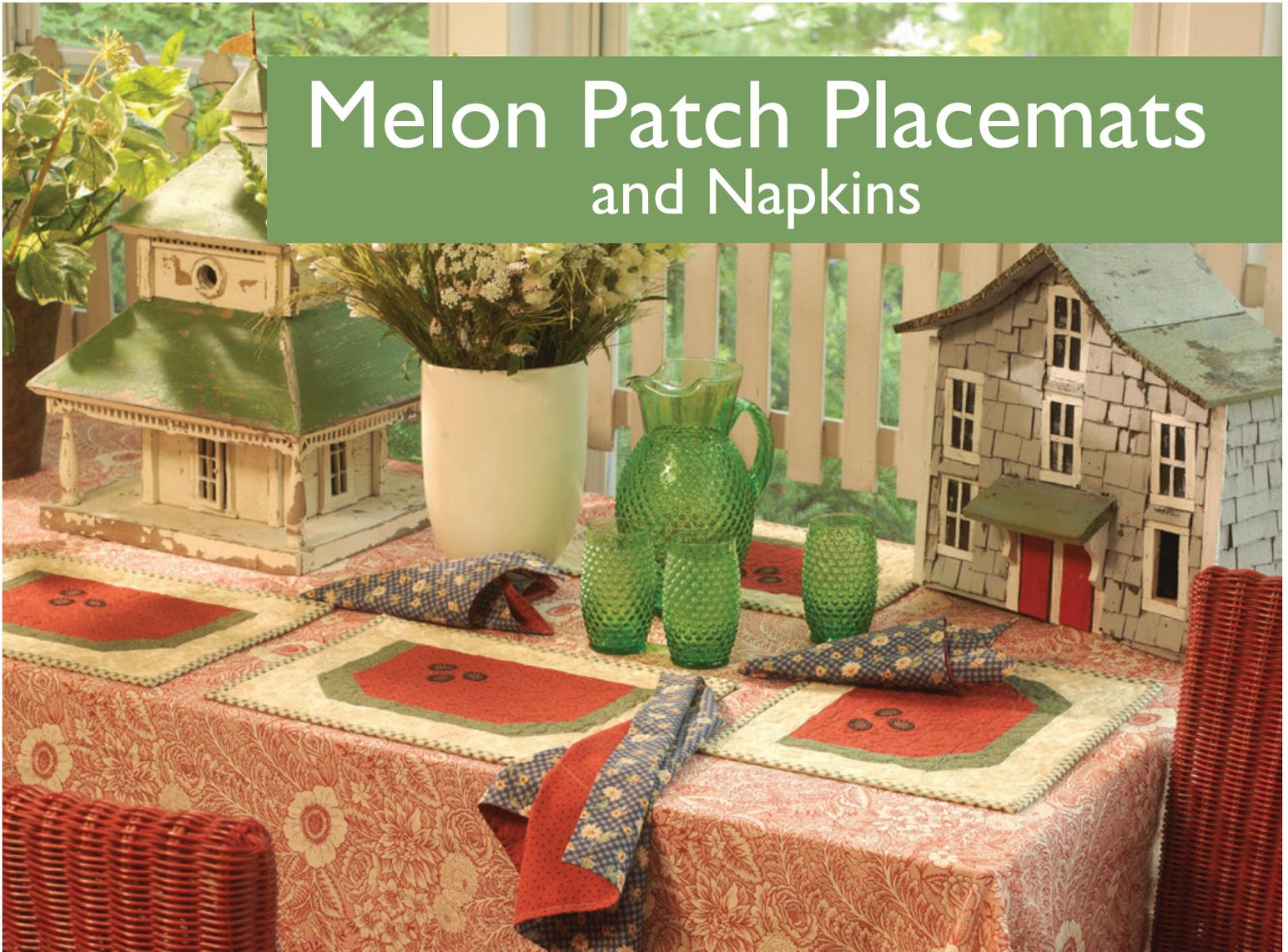


Melon Patch Placemats and Napkins



Originally published in the book

Thimbleberries®

Quilting a Patchwork Garden

by Lynette Jensen

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Melon Patch

For a picnic on the porch, watermelon place mats will be the pick of the patch.

And what is a melon without seeds?

Seed appliqué shapes are blanket stitched in place on the melon blocks.

Fabrics and Supplies for 4 place mats

5/8 yard **BEIGE PRINT**
for background and borders

1/3 yard **GREEN PRINT**
for watermelon rinds

1/3 yard **RED PRINT**
for watermelons

2 x 18-inch rectangle **BROWN PRINT**
for seed appliqués

5/8 yard **GREEN DIAGONAL PRINT**
for bindings

4 rectangles of backing fabric
16 x 22-inches each

4 rectangles of quilt batting,
at least 16 x 22-inches each

Paper-backed fusible web for appliqués

Pearl cotton for decorative stitches: black-

Place Mats

12 x 18-inches

Watermelon Blocks

Makes 4 blocks

Cutting

From **BEIGE PRINT**:

- Cut 4, 2-7/8-inch squares

From **GREEN PRINT**:

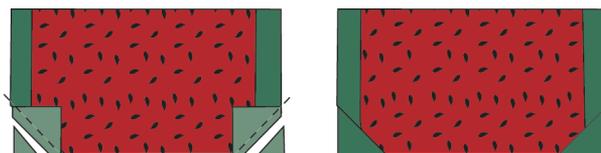
- Cut 1, 2-1/2 x 42-inch strip. From the strip cut:
16, 2-1/2-inch squares
- Cut 3, 1-1/2 x 42-inch strips. From the strips cut:
8, 1-1/2 x 6-1/2-inch rectangles
4, 1-1/2 x 8-1/2-inch rectangles
- Cut 4, 2-7/8-inch squares

From **RED PRINT**:

- Cut 1, 6-1/2 x 42-inch strip. From the strip cut:
4, 6-1/2 x 10-1/2-inch rectangles
- Cut 1, 1-1/2 x 42-inch strip. From the strip cut:
4, 1-1/2 x 8-1/2-inch rectangles

Piecing

Step 1 Sew a 1-1/2 x 6-1/2-inch **GREEN** rectangle to both side edges of a 6-1/2 x 10-1/2-inch **RED** rectangle; press. Position 2-1/2-inch **GREEN** squares on the adjacent lower corners of this unit. Draw a diagonal line on the squares and stitch on the line. Trim the seam allowances to 1/4-inch; press. At this point each unit should measure 6-1/2 x 12-1/2-inches.



Make 4

Step 2 Sew together the 1-1/2 x 8-1/2-inch **RED** and **GREEN** rectangles in pairs; press. Position 2-1/2-inch **GREEN** squares on both corners of the unit. Draw a diagonal line on the squares; stitch, trim, and press.



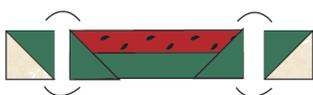
Make 4

Step 3 With right sides together, layer the 2-7/8-inch **BEIGE** and **GREEN** squares in pairs. Press together, but do not sew. Cut the layered squares in half diagonally to make 8 sets of triangles. Stitch 1/4-inch from the diagonal edge of each pair of triangles; press. At this point each triangle-pieced square should measure 2-1/2-inches square.



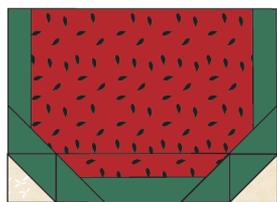
Make 8, 2-1/2-inch triangle-pieced squares

Step 4 Sew triangle-pieced squares to both side edges of the Step 2 units; press. At this point each unit should measure 2-1/2 x 12-1/2-inches.



Make 4

Step 5 Sew together the Step 1 and Step 4 units; press. At this point the watermelon block should measure 8-1/2 x 12-1/2-inches.



Make 4

Fusible Web Appliqué Method

Prepare the Appliqués

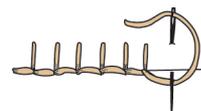
Step 1 Make a seed template. Trace the shape on the paper side of the fusible web, leaving a small margin between each shape. Cut the shapes apart.

Step 2 Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the shapes to the wrong side of the fabric chosen for the appliques. Let the fabric cool and cut along the traced line. Peel away the paper backing from the fusible web.

Step 3 Position the seed appliqué shapes on the watermelon blocks.

Note: We suggest pinning a square of tear-away stabilizer to the backside of the blocks so they will lay flat when the machine appliqué is complete.

Step 4 We machine blanket stitched around the shapes using black thread. If you like, you could hand blanket stitch around the shapes with pearl cotton.



blanket stitch

Note: To prevent the hand blanket stitches from "rolling off" the edges of the appliqué shapes, take an extra backstitch in the same place as you made the blanket stitch, going around the outer curves, corners, and points. For straight edges, taking a backstitch every inch is enough.

Border

Note: The yardage given allows for the border strips to be cut on the crosswise grain. Refer to **Border** instructions on page 121 for general instructions on adding borders.

Cutting

From **BEIGE** print:

- Cut 7, 2-1/2 x 42-inch border strips.

Attach the 2-1/2-inch wide **BEIGE** border strips to each watermelon block.

Putting It All Together

Trim the backing and batting rectangles so they are 4-inches larger than each of the place mat tops. Refer to **Finishing the Quilt** on page 123 for complete instructions.

Quilting Suggestions:

- Meander the entire place mat.

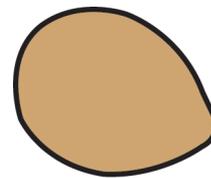
Binding

Cutting

From **GREEN DIAGONAL PRINT**:

- Cut 7, 2-3/4 x 42-inch strips

Sew the binding to the place mats using a 3/8-inch seam allowance. This measurement will produce a 1/2-inch wide finished double binding. Refer to *Binding* and *Diagonal Piecing* on page 123 for complete instructions.



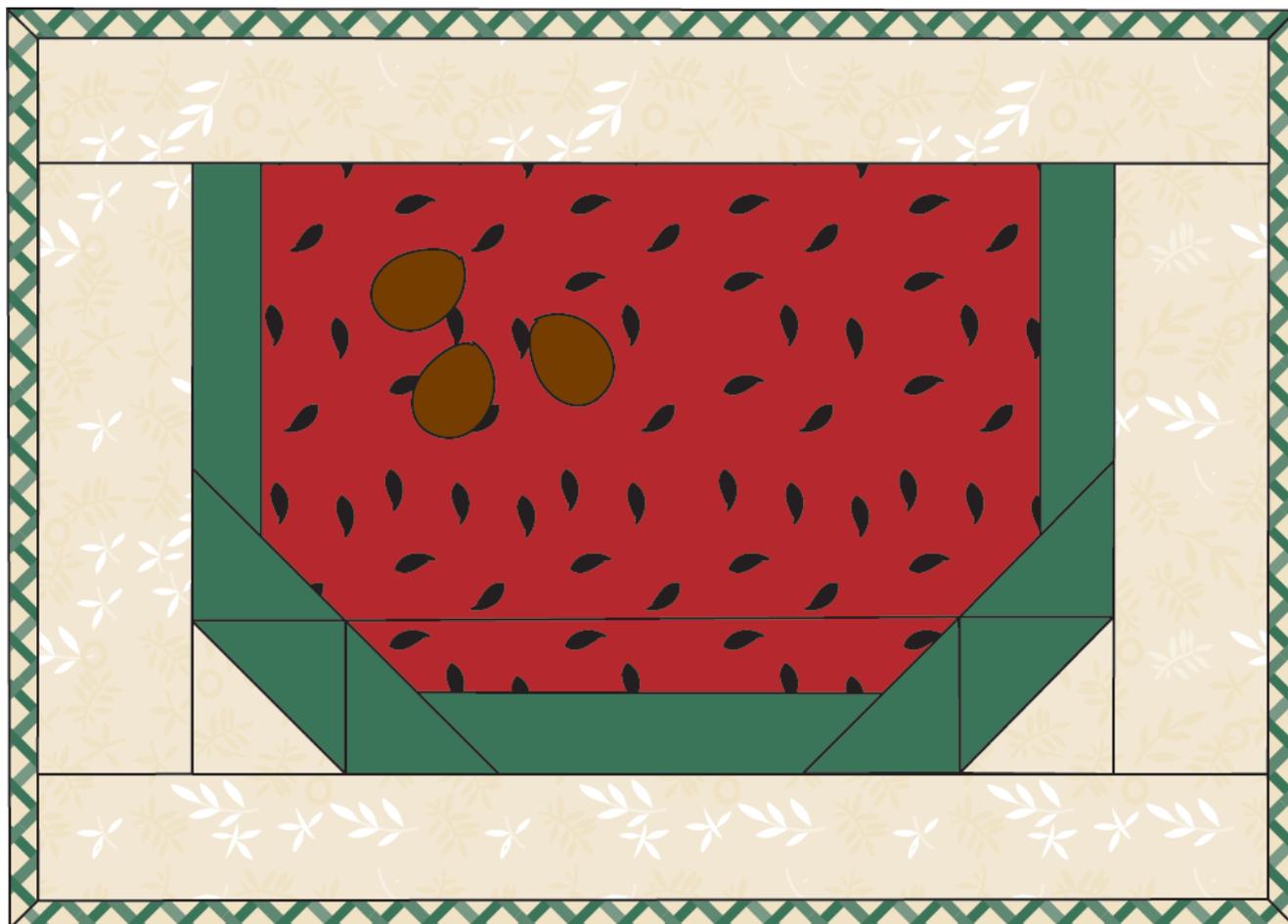
Seed

*Trace 12
onto fusible web*

Melon Patch

Place Mats

12 x 18-inches



Melon Patch

Napkins

16-inches square



Reversible napkins are always twice as nice, especially when they complement a simple-to-sew tablecloth cut from 108-inch wide fabric that only needs hemming. If it seems like no seams, you're right.

Fabrics and Supplies

1 yard **BLUE FLORAL** for napkins

1 yard **RED PRINT** for napkins

Napkin Squares

Cutting

From **BLUE FLORAL**:

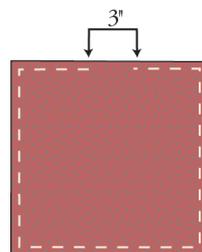
- Cut 4, 16-1/2-inch squares

From **RED PRINT**:

- Cut 4, 16-1/2-inch squares

Piecing

Step 1 With right sides together, layer the 16-1/2-inch **BLUE FLORAL** and **RED** squares in pairs. Stitch 1/4-inch from the edges leaving 3-inches open on one side for turning.

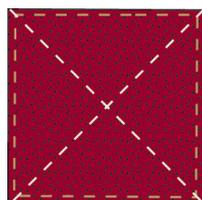


Make 4

Step 2 Clip the corners, turn the napkins right side out; press. Take care to see that the corners are sharp and even.

Step 3 Hand stitch the openings closed.

Step 4 Stitch diagonally from corner to corner to stabilize each napkin. Stitch 1/4-inch around the edges.



Make 4

How to Fold the Napkin

