

Seminole Sampler

Supply List

Fabric	
Seminole bands	6-8 completed Seminole bands
Front borders	1 yd
Back borders	1 ¼ yds
Backing fabric	3 yds total (see notes)
Binding	½ yd
Batting	1 ½ yds or one queen size package Hobbs Heirloom Fusible Batting

Other Supplies	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sewing Machine (with power cord and foot pedal!) <input type="checkbox"/> size 75 & 90 quilting needles <input type="checkbox"/> ¼" Foot for piecing <input type="checkbox"/> Walking Foot for quilting <input type="checkbox"/> Rotary Cutter with fresh blade <input type="checkbox"/> 6" X 24" ruler	<input type="checkbox"/> Scissors <input type="checkbox"/> Pins <input type="checkbox"/> Pressing cloth or appliqué pressing sheet <input type="checkbox"/> Blue painter's masking tape <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral colored 50 wt. cotton thread for piecing <input type="checkbox"/> 30 or 40 wt. rayon or cotton thread for quilting <input type="checkbox"/> Monofilament thread (invisible thread)

Notes on Fabric Selection

- Selecting fabrics for your Seminole quilt is a little different than your traditional block quilt. You will need a variety of fabrics to select from when designing your bands. The fabrics need to be 40-44" wide so that you can cut strips from selvage to selvage. I like to select a bold print as my main fabric then select other fabrics from the colors in the print. The other fabrics are usually solids or small prints that read as solid. You want a few each of lights, mediums and darks. If you like it, buy ¼ yard. If you love it, buy ½ yard! You probably have pieces in your stash that will work too.
- You may want to wait until after the first class to decide on your backing fabric. You may have leftovers from your band fabrics that will work.
- Do NOT pre-wash fabric. The sizing in the fabric gives it extra body which is helpful when working with long, thin strips. I even like to starch my "limp" fabrics to give them extra stiffness, but this is optional.

Finishing Your Quilt

- In this class, we will not just piece the quilt top. We will also put the strips together using a "quilt-as-you-go" or "reversible quilting" technique (look at the back of the store sample – it is striped!). That is why you will bring fusible batting and backing fabric to the second class. When you leave the second class, you will have learned everything you need to complete your quilt. You don't have to send it to the quilter to be finished!

Seminole Sampler



Seminole Sampler

Seminole Sampler

Making Rows

MACHINE SETUP:

- Put the quarter inch foot on your sewing machine.
- Thread your machine with 50 wt. neutral colored cotton thread.
- Use a size 75 quilting needle.

1. After you have completed your Seminole bands, arrange 6-8 bands in a pleasing manner and cut additional strips to place between the bands.
2. Sew the joining strips to the top and/or bottom of each band to create rows.
3. Press the seams away from the band.
4. Repeat steps 2-3 for each band.

5. Measure the width of a row and cut a strip of fabric 1" wider than the width of the row. This will be the backing for the row.
6. Cut a strip of fusible batting the same size as the backing strip.
7. Fuse the backing fabric to the batting.
8. Lay the band on top of the batting and make sure it is as straight as possible.
9. Fuse the band to the batting.
10. Repeat steps 5-9 for each row.

Quilting the Rows

MACHINE SETUP:

- Put the walking foot on your sewing machine.
- Thread your machine with 30 or 40 wt. rayon or cotton quilting thread.
- Use a size 90 quilting or topstitch needle.
- If possible, set your machine to the needle down position.

1. Use a scrap of batting and two scraps of fabric to make a test piece.
2. Check your stitch length and tension on the test piece.
3. Quilt the row. Follow the lines of your band. Add additional horizontal lines of quilting if you have more than 3" between lines of quilting. Quilt each row.
4. Trim the backing and batting even with the band. Trim each row.
5. Find the shortest row and trim all rows to this length.

Join Rows into a Quilt

MACHINE SETUP:

- Put the walking foot on your sewing machine.
- Thread your machine with 50 wt. neutral colored cotton thread.
- Use a size 75 or 80 quilting needle.
- Determine a guide or mark on your walking foot that is ¼" from the needle. Another option is to move the needle so that it is ¼" from the right edge of the walking foot.
It is important to have a true ¼" seam when adding the sashing.

1. Cut (7-9) 1 ¾" strips for the front sashing (these sashing strips will be used to join the rows to each other). You may use all the same fabric or cut each strip from a different fabric.
2. Fold the strip in half lengthwise wrong sides together, and press.
3. Cut (7-9) 1 ⅛" strips for the back sashing.
4. Place the back sashing strip under the bottom edge of Row #1 with right sides together.
5. Place the folded sashing strip on the bottom edge of Row #1 with raw edges together.
6. Pin through all layers.
7. Sew both sashing strips to the row with a ¼" seam.
8. Trim sashing even with edge of row.
9. Press back sashing strip away from row.
10. Repeat steps 4-9 for the remaining rows.
11. To join Row #1 to Row #2, place Row #1 on top of Row #2 so the bottom edge of Row #1 is aligned with the top edge of Row #2 and the backsides of the rows are together.
12. Pin the back sashing strip of Row #1 to the top edge of Row #2 and stitch with a ¼" seam.
13. Repeat steps 11-12 to join Row #3 to Row #4 and to join Row #5 to Row #6.
14. Repeat steps 11-12 to join the 3 pairs of rows together.

MACHINE SETUP:

- Put the walking foot on your sewing machine.
- Thread your machine with monofilament thread.
- Use a size 75 or 80 quilting needle or a smaller needle.
- Set machine to a small zigzag (stitch length and width about 1.5-2.0)

1. Test your stitch length and tension on your test piece. Adjust as needed.
2. Press the top sashing strip away from the row it is attached to.
3. Pin sashing to the adjoining row.
4. Zigzag over the folded edge of the sashing strip to finish joining the rows.

Seminole Sampler

Add Borders

1. Cut (6) 6" strips of your main fabric from selvage to selvage.
2. Cut (6) 7" strips of your backing fabric from selvage to selvage.
3. Cut (2) 7" strips of fusible batting the length of your rows plus 1".
4. Fuse one backing strip to each batting strip.
5. Smooth a main fabric strip over each batting strip and make sure the strips are as straight as possible.
6. Fuse the main fabric strip to the batting. These are your top and bottom border strips.

MACHINE SETUP:

- Put the walking foot on your sewing machine.
- Thread your machine with 30 or 40 wt. rayon or cotton quilting thread.
- Use a size 90 quilting needle.
- If possible, set your machine to the needle down position.

7. Quilt the top and bottom border strips.
8. Trim the top and bottom of the strip even with the main fabric. Trim to the length of your rows.

MACHINE SETUP:

- Put the walking foot on your sewing machine.
- Thread your machine with 50 wt. neutral colored cotton thread.
- Use a size 75 or 80 quilting needle.
- Determine a guide or mark on your walking foot that is ¼" from the needle. Another option is to move the needle so that it is ¼" from the right edge of the walking foot.
It is important to have a true ¼" seam when adding the sashing.

9. Add sashing strips to the bottom edge of the top border piece.
10. Attach to the top of the quilt.
11. Attach the bottom border piece to the bottom row of the quilt using the sashing strip on the bottom row.
12. Measure the length of the quilt.
13. Join 2 strips of the border fabric strips to create one long strip. Join 2 more strips to create another long strip. These will be your side borders.
14. Join the backing strips to produce 2 long strips for the back of the borders.
15. Cut (2) 7" strips of fusible batting the length of your quilt plus 1".
16. Smooth a main fabric strip over each batting strip and make sure the strips are as straight as possible.
17. Fuse the main fabric strip to the batting. These are your side border strips.

Seminole Sampler

MACHINE SETUP:

- Put the walking foot on your sewing machine.
- Thread your machine with 30 or 40 wt. rayon or cotton quilting thread.
- Use a size 90 quilting needle.
- If possible, set your machine to the needle down position.

1. Quilt the side border pieces.
2. Trim the top and bottom of the strip even with the main fabric. Trim to the length of your quilt.
3. Cut (4) 8" X 1 3/4" pieces from your main fabric
4. Cut (4) 8" X 1 1/8" pieces from your backing border fabric
5. Use a 1/4" seam to join the small strip of front border sashing to one end of a front sashing strip. Do the same with the back border sashing and the back sashing strip.
6. Lay the pieced sashing strips on the long edge of the quilt. Line up the pieced sashing with the top border on the quilt. Smooth out the strip of sashing to the bottom border and mark the sashing where the other piece of border sashing should be added.
7. Trim the sashing strip 1/4" past the mark and add the small piece of border sashing with a 1/4" seam.
8. Press the seams open.
9. Pin the sashing to the border strip and sew with a 1/4" seam.
10. Repeat for the other border strip.
11. Pin the side borders to the quilt being sure to match the sashing joints.
12. Attach borders to quilt and sew down sashing with monofilament.

Add Binding

1. Cut binding fabric into (8) 2 1/2" strips from selvage to selvage.
2. Join the strips end-to-end at 45° angles to create one continuous strip.
3. Fold the strip in half lengthwise wrong sides together and press.
4. Sew the binding to the front of the quilt joining the ends. Flip the binding to the back of the quilt and blind stitch by hand to finish the binding (or use your favorite method).
5. Add a quilt label and call it DONE!

Recommended Reading

For more on Seminole piecing:

Simply Seminole by Dorothy Hanisko, The Quilt Digest Press (ISBN 0-8442-2647-5)

If you enjoyed this "quilt-as-you-go" method, Sharon Pederson's Reversible Quilts books will give you more inspiration.

Reversible Quilts by Sharon Pederson, Martingale & Co. (ISBN 1-56477-410-4)

More Reversible Quilts by Sharon Pederson, Martingale & Co. (ISBN 1-56477-556-9)