

Ginger's Doodle Heart Tablemat

Ginger from El Cajon, CA absolutely ran away with your votes for the favorite Doodle Hearts Project in our recent contest! She's shared her pattern here... we've fleshed out her instructions and added the diagram and supply list to help you make it your own. Congratulations, and thanks so much to Ginger! Finished size is approximately 25" x 37"

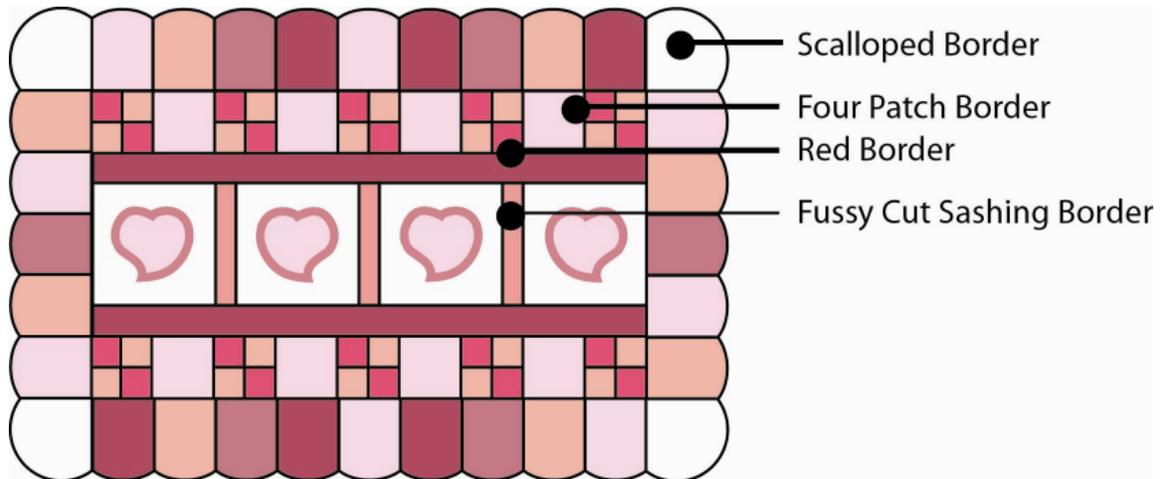


Supplies Needed:

- Four squares of white fabric 8" x 8" for background of heart embroidery
- Approx. 45" jumbo red rick rack
- Assorted white, pink, and red fabric scraps
- Heavyweight cutaway stabilizer to fit your hoop
- Backing fabric, a piece of muslin, and batting approx. 28" x 40"



- 1. Embroidery.** Embroider all four Doodle Hearts, now available for purchase in the Valentine's Day section at our website, www.sanfranciscostitchco.com. Ginger used her own thread color palette to match her fabrics. When embroidery is complete, center each of the hearts in a 6-1/2" square and trim to that size. Stitch red jumbo rick rack to both sides of each heart, at a point where the 1/4" seam line will catch it in the middle. (See close-up photo on page 1.)



- 2. Fussy Cut Sashing Border.** You will need three lengths of fabric 1-1/2" x 6-1/2" for the sashing in between the hearts. Ginger "fussy cut" her fabric with the word "LOVE" on it. You can find an element in your fabric to fussy cut, or you can just leave it plain. Using 1/4" seam, sew the sashing between the hearts as shown in the diagram. Press seams toward the sashing. The piece will measure 27-1/2" x 6-1/2" when complete.
- 3. Red Border.** Cut two long rectangles to 2" x 27-1/2" and piece them to the top and bottom of your hearts. Press seams toward the red border.
- 4. Four Patch Border.** Make ten little four patch blocks with pink prints by cutting 2" squares and sewing them together checkerboard fashion. At this point, they will measure 3-1/2" x 3-1/2". Cut eight additional 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" light pink squares. Sew the little four patches and the light pink squares alternately as shown in the diagram; then add these strips to the top and bottom of the main piece. Press towards the red border.
- 5. Scallop Border.** Make a scrappy scallop! Begin by cutting 28 assorted red, pink, and white rectangles to 3-1/2" x 5." Make two strips of nine rectangles each, sewing along the 5" edge. Pressing the seams open on these will greatly help marking your scallops later. Sew these two strips to the top and bottom of the piece; press towards the four patches. Then make two more scrappy strips of five rectangles each. Cut four additional scrappy corner squares to 5" x 5," and add one to each end of the five rectangle pieces. Again, press seams open on these strips. Sew them to the sides of the main piece; press toward the four patches. Piecing is finished!
- 6. Mark scallops.** Now you'll need a small bowl! See what you have and pick one that will give you nice, defined scallops and a smooth curve on the corner blocks. Mark them with a very

sharp pencil on the back of your pieced top, $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the edges of your piece. This will be your stitching line.

- 7. Make a "sandwich."** Press muslin, backing fabric, and pieced top. Working on a flat surface, first lay down the muslin, then the batting, then backing face up, and pieced top face down. Pin about every 4-6" starting in the center and working out; pin heavily around the edges, but away from the stitching line. Starting at the bottom with backstitching, stitch all the way around on your marked scallop line. Sew up the left side, across the top, back down the right side, and turn the corner to the bottom again. Again, backstitch the end of this seam. On the bottom, leave as much open as you think you need to turn—we recommend at least 6".

Trim the excess fabric and batting away from the edges to within $\frac{1}{4}$ " of the stitched line. Clip a dart towards the indent on each scallop; if your scallops are not gentle ones, you may need to clip the curves as well, but don't snip into your stitching line. Remove all pins. Now, turn the project right side out between the front and back layers. Stick a pencil, eraser end, inside the piece to gently form the scallops. When finished, press the scallops at the opening and then slipstitch the opening closed.

- 8. Quilting.** Pick a thread color to blend in with your fabrics. Starting inside and working your way out, first quilt $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the edges of each heart. Then stitch diagonally across the heart background one way, and then the other way for the next block. (See photos.) Stitch in the ditch through all seams. Zigzag through the four patched strips if desired.
- 9. Finishing.** Ginger added some extra beading to the hearts, and even made some floral yoyos to stitch to the top. Use your imagination and add some extra special touches!