

Yardage Needed for Luana Rubin's Vintage Cowgirl Quilt,  
Finished size 62" x 62"

Fabric Needed:

1. Little Girl Allover Print –  $\frac{3}{4}$  - 1 yd for "Fussy Cutting."
2. Allover Western Shirt Print – Blue Ground –  $\frac{3}{4}$  yd.
3. Allover Western Shirt Print – Cream Ground – 1 yd
4. Horse Stripe Print – Desert Colors – 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  yd
5. Bandana Panel – 1 full Panel (has 8 Bandanas – you will use 4)
6. Marbles by Patrick Lose:
  - A. PLMRBLCO - 1/3 yard (PAT 1006 GOLD) - Golden Brown
  - B. PLMRBLBL - 2" strip (PAT 1006 DELFT) - Medium Blue
  - C. PLMRBLRU - 1 yard (PAT 1006 RUST) - Copper
  - D. PLMRBLBU - 1 to 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  yards (PAT 1006 RASPBERRY) - Burgundy
  - E. PLMRBLNV - 1/2 yard (PAT 1006 INDIGO) - Dark Blue
7. Backing: 2 yards ( We used the Little Girl Allover print)

A.  $\frac{3}{4}$  - 1 yard – Little Girl Allover, Cream ground

Choose 5 little girls to "fussy cut" into diamond shapes:

These will be 8" squares turned on point.

If necessary, cut an 8" template from translucent template sheets, so you can accurately place the little girl figure in the center of the diamond.

Uses  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1 yd, depending on how "fussy" you are.

Make sure that your 8" diamonds are spaced so they don't overlap when cut out.

Because these blocks are cut on bias, you may wish to stabilize them with a lightweight fusible like Wonder Under, Heat 'N Bond Lite (Purple), or Touch O' Gold. This will keep the blocks from stretching while you assemble the quilt. If you want a softer look, you can use a fusible water soluble stabilizer like Hoop It All, or a tear-away stabilizer.

B.  $\frac{3}{4}$  yd - Western Shirt Allover, Blue ground

Choose central motifs from the pattern, and fussy cut 4 more 8" square diamonds.

You may choose to focus on the same motifs used in the original quilt:

Western Shirt, Cowgirl Vest & Boots, Saddle, and Fringed Skirt.

If these diamond/square blocks are cut off grain, you may wish to stabilize them with a lightweight fusible as well.

Sashing: Central 9 Block Diamond Section

These 9 fussy cut diamond blocks (above) will be join by a brown and light blue sashing:

C. Cut five  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " strips of brown, across width of fabric. ( $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x 44")  
Cut these into 24 bars: 8" x  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " (5 bars per strip)

D. Cut 16 light blue squares:  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $1\frac{3}{4}$ "

Lay out the 9 diamond blocks as shown.

Create 3 large rows by connecting 3 blocks with 2 brown bars between.

Sew together 4 sets of strips, alternating 3 brown bars with 2 lt. Blue squares joining them together.

Join 3 large block rows together with these brown and lt. Blue strips.

You will now have the large diamond section almost complete, except for the last two border strips.

Sew 2 more strips to complete central section:

Each will have 3 brown bars alternating with 4 lt. Blue squares.

Match up these strips to the blocks and sashing of the central section.

Central Section: Dark Blue outer sashing. (H.)

Cut all of your Dark Blue Sashing Strips now:

Four 2" x 44" strips across width of fabric for Large Inner Diamond,

And four more of these 2" x 44" strips for the outside of the large square.

Total 8 Strips, 16" x 44". (1/2 yd of Dark Blue)

Sew 4 of these dark blue strips around the Inner Large Diamond section.

E. Now you will make the "Sunrise Star" Corners that make the Large Inner Diamond into a Larger Square.

Draw an 18" square on a piece of foundation paper, divide it in half diagonally – you will have a right angle triangle with two sides 18" and the one long side appx.  $25\frac{1}{2}$ " long.

Look at the Star Shape on the corner. Draw 7 star points going from  $\frac{1}{8}$ " at the top, to  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " at the bottom. Space the points evenly, as shown in the diagram.

Make 3 more copies of this paper foundation, so you have 4 corner foundations to piece your fabrics onto. If you need to, you can use a stabilized fabric as a foundation. You want to make sure this piece does not shrink or stretch. There is a little extra added to these dimensions, so you can trim them down to match each other and fit onto the Inner Diamond section.

Cut large strips of Burgundy and Copper for piecing the Star.

I cut 3" strips of these two colors.

F. Cut 6 long strips (appx 3" x 44") of the Burgundy.

G. Cut 6 long strips (appx 3" x 44" across fabric) of the Copper.

Between the Copper and Burgundy star points, you will be somewhat fussy cutting and foundation piecing the Western Shirt Allover, Cream ground. Look at the quilt photo for ideas about what and how to piece between the star points.

Depending on how fussy you cut, you will need about 1 yd of this cream ground allover.

Fussy cutting and piecing this star is probably the hardest part of the quilt.

If you are a beginner you may wish to substitute the cream allover print with a coordinating solid. But, if you want to try fussy cutting, you can have large motifs continue from one side to the other side of a star point for an exciting "see through" effect.

When all four star point corners (triangle sections) are pieced, stack them up and trim. Start with the right angle. Make sure the long side stays at a 45 degree angle. After trimming, your 18" sides will come down to about 17 1/2", and the finished size is about 17 - 17 1/4" depending on trimming. See diagram.

H. Your Inner Large Diamond section has a blue sashing already. Add these 4 star point corners to make one large square shape. Trim and square again. Sew on the 4 dark blue strips around the large square. Your overall quilt should now be about 42" x 42".

Horse Borders and Bandana Corners:

There are 8 Bandanas per Panel, in the Bandana print.

4 of these have Black, and can be used with the black/red versions of the other cowgirl fabrics.

4 of these are more of a soft Southwestern color combination. These are the ones used in my cowgirl quilt.

Carefully square up the Panel before cutting. You may need to stretch the fabric a bit on the bias if the bandanas are not perfectly square. This occurs when the fabric is rolled onto bolts with giant double-and-roll machines, but you can fix it easily! You will want to cut around each of the 4 chosen bandanas with seam allowance added. The bandanas are 9 3/4" square, and with 1/4" seam allowance they will be 10 1/4" square.

Next prepare and cut the horse borders.

You will need 1 1/2 yds of the Horse Stripe print.

There are 2 sets of borders:

The trotting horse border which I have at the top and bottom,  
And the horse portraits (heads) which run up and down the side borders.

There are narrow decorative borders above and below these images on the fabric.  
Cut each border panel to include the appx 1" borders above and below the horses.

For the trotting horses, cut 5 horses across, about 42" long across the width of the fabric.  
This piece will be 7 3/4" high including the narrow decorative borders and seam allowance, 7 1/4" finished.

For the Horse Portrait Border Panel, again cut about 42" across, including 7 horse heads.  
This piece will be 6 1/2" high including the narrow decorative borders and seam allowance, 6" finished.

Now cut the sashing strips to fit on the top and bottom of the horse panels.

For the trotting horse panel, cut 4 strips of Copper across the width of the fabric:  
You will need the strips to be 1 ¾" wide, 1 ¼" finished, and it will be appx 42" long.  
**4 strips 1 ¾" x 42" of Copper.**

For the Horse Portrait panel, cut 4 strips of Copper across the width of the fabric:  
You will need the strips to be 2 ½" wide, 1 7/8" finished when trimmed to fit the width of the bandana corner, and it will be appx 42" long.  
**4 strips 2 ½" x 42" of Copper.**

Sew the appropriate strips together with the panels:

Horse head panel with the 2 ½" strips,  
And the trotting horse panel with the 1 ¾" strips.

You are now ready to join the bandanas and panels together to make the finished border.

Make sure that the horse panels and strips are the same width as the Bandana corner connectors: The bandanas cannot be trimmed, but the panel strips can be trimmed to fit!

When the borders are attached as shown in the finished quilt, you are ready to add batting and backing for the quilt sandwich.

On the quilt shown, first it was quilted with "stitch in the ditch" method around the geometric shapes. Then it was freemotion quilted around the figures/horses. Silver metallic and variegated rayon threads were used to pick up the colors in the fabric.

When you have finished quilting, block and square the quilt.

If you are making sleeves, cut and attach them next, before the binding, so the binding will cover the seam.

Cut binding:

For a ½" foldover binding, cut about 8 yds of Burgundy strips, 2 ½" wide.

Cut along the length of the fabric to avoid stretching and wavy edges.

Join strips with 45 degree seams.

Press in half along the length. The strip will now be 1 ¼" wide folded.

Lay the binding along the front of the quilt and sew ¼" from edge all around, starting at the middle of the bottom. Allow extra at corners for mitered edges.

After the binding is attached, fold the binding over the seam allowance to the back, and stitch down to the back of the quilt.

This method of binding is discussed in more detail on the Fabric Passion Forum, by Vimala McClure who did the quilting on this piece. To read about this method of binding, go to:

<http://equilter.com/cgi-bin/index.cgi?read=2140>

**See the next page for a fully detailed pattern.**

