

# **FESTIVE FLORA**

## **Cushion Pattern**

Designed by Suzanne Campion for Liberty

FINISHED SIZE 24" x 24"

Skill Level – Advanced Beginner / Intermediate

## **FESTIVE FLORA CUSHION PATTERN**

I have taken inspiration from the curves of the holly leaves and ivy sprig twists in the Festive Flora print to create this contemporary cathedral window cushion. Glowing red berries from behind the folded windows showcase prints from this collection

#### **SKILL LEVEL: ADVANCED BEGINNER / INTERMEDIATE**

This pattern requires an intermediate knowledge of quilting techniques and terminology. The quilt and block diagrams portrayed are virtual images. The layout and look of your project may differ when using actual fabric.

**Top Tip** - If it is your first time trying this machine pieced cathedral window technique, I recommend reading through my 'How to' Guide included with this pattern (pages 17-18) and having a go at making the sample before cutting into your fabric to make this project.

| Sewing Supplies  | Sewing Equipment   |
|--|--|
| Cushion Feather Pad / Pillow<br>67cm x 67cm / 27″ x 27″  | Cotton thread - 50 wt<br>Optional metallic thread for quilting detail                              |
| Cotton Wadding / Batting<br>75cm x 75cm / 30″ x 30″  | Straight pins, scissors, fabric marking pen / pencil, fabric<br>clips<br>Quilters template plastic |
| Calico / Lining for front panel  | Rotary cutting equipment - mat, ruler, cutter  |
| 75cm x 75cm / 30″ x 30″  | Sewing machine with ¼" foot and a zipper foot  |
| Piping Cord - 5.00m x 4mm  | Iron   |
| Zip for cushion back   |  |
| 25″ length of zipper tape from continuous roll is ideal or a longer zipper that can be cut to size |  |

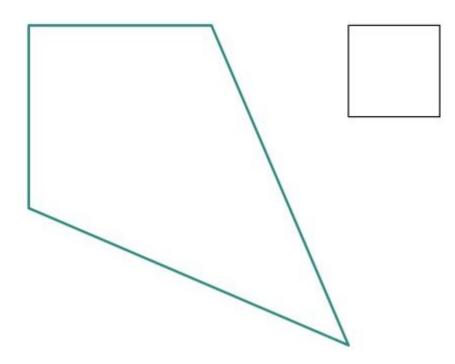
#### **EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

## FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

| Fabric Key | Cutting details  | Fabric Quantity                 | Fabric Details  |          |
|------------|--|---------------------------------|---|----------|
| Fabric A   | 8 x 4½" squares<br>8 x 2½" x 4½" rectangles<br>1 x 4" x 25" feature panel<br>on cushion back | 50cm x 110cm WOF<br>(20" x 44") | Festive Flora<br>Item Code: 01667342 A                              | MBERTEY  |
| Fabric B   | 64 x 2½″squares  | 50cm x 110cm WOF<br>(20" x 44") | Festive Flora<br>Item Code: 01667342 B                              | LIBERTY4 |
| Fabric C   | 20 x 2½″squares<br>4 x 1½″x 22″ strips   | 1x Fat Quarter<br>(20" x 22")   | Wiltshire Shadow<br>RUBY<br>Item Code:<br>01666515 A / 04775683 Z   |          |
| Fabric D   | 40 x 2 ½″ squares<br>8 x 2½″ x 4½″ rectangles<br>4 x 1½″ x 22″ strips                        | 50cm x 110cm WOF<br>(20" x 44") | Wiltshire Shadow<br>FOREST<br>Item Code:<br>01666559 A / 04775707 Z |          |
| Fabric E   | 4 x 1½″x 22″ strips  | 1x Fat Eighth<br>(10" x 22")    | Wiltshire Shadow<br>OLIVE<br>Item Code: 01666563 A                  |          |
| Fabric F   | 4 x 2 ½″ squares   | 1x Fat Eighth<br>(10" x 22")    | Chiming Bells<br>Item Code: 01667348 A                              | LIBERTY  |

| Fabric G |                             |                  | Robin's Song            | an and a star and a star    |
|----------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
|          | 4 x 2 ½″ squares            | 1x Fat Eighth    |                         |                             |
|          |                             | (10/1 22//)      | Item Code: 01667351 A   |                             |
|          |                             | (10" x 22")      |                         |                             |
| 2        |                             |                  |                         |                             |
| Fabric H | Cut border strips first     |                  | Snowy Rooftops          |                             |
|          |                             | 50cm x 110cm WOF |                         |                             |
|          | 4 x 3"x 20" strips vertical |                  | Item Code: 01667352 A   | A CONTRACT OF A CONTRACT OF |
|          | 2 x 3"x 27" horizontal      | (20" x 44")      |                         |                             |
|          | 4 x window inserts using    |                  |                         | LIBERTY                     |
|          | template below*             |                  |                         |                             |
| Fabric I | •                           |                  | Wiltshire Shadow        | AL- TANK                    |
|          | Cushion back panels         | 75cm x 110cm WOF | GOLD                    | いたとなる                       |
|          |                             |                  |                         |                             |
|          | 1 x 14″ x 25″               | (30" x 44")      | Item Code:              |                             |
| 1        | 1 ~ 1 5 " ~ 2 5 "           |                  | 01666572 A / 04775755 B |                             |
|          | 1 x 15″ x 25″               |                  |                         |                             |
|          |                             |                  |                         |                             |

\* **TEMPLATE** When printing please check your printer is set to actual size. The square should measure  $1^{"}$ .



## **MAKING INSTRUCTIONS**

Cut all your fabrics as per chart requirements.

All seams are  $\frac{1}{4}$  unless stated otherwise.

All seams are to be pressed open to enable the precision needed for this machine pieced cathedral window technique.

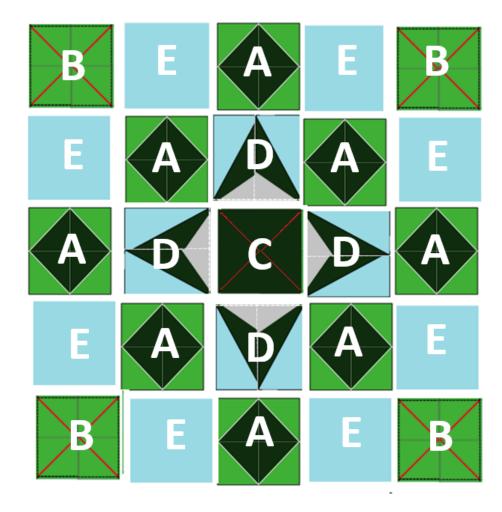
WS – Wrong side of fabric RS – Right side of fabric

#### To make the Cathedral Window sections of the front cushion panel

If it is your first time trying this technique, I recommend reading through my 'How to' Guide (pages 17-18) and having a go at making the sample before cutting into your fabric to make this project.

For ease of construction, I have divided the cushion central block into units. Each unit is a 4½ "square.

Each section has individual making instructions for you to follow with layout plans and a list of the fabric pieces required to make each section.



| Unit A   | 8 units required     |  |
|----------|----------------------|--|
|          | Fabric cuts required |  |
| Fabric B | 32 x 2½″squares      |  |
| Fabric D | 32 x 2½″squares      |  |

Fold and press fabric **D** squares, **WS** together to form triangles.

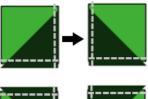
Sew the triangles to each of the base squares (fabric B) **RS** together. Stitch with a normal stitch length within the seam allowance at approx. $\frac{1}{3}$ , the inside marker of your  $\frac{1}{3}$  piecing foot is a guide.

Sew a pair **RS** together using a ¼″seam. Press seams open.

Pin the two pair units into a four patch, matching the centre seam.

Sew **RS** together using a  $\frac{1}{4}$  seam. Press seams open.

Finished unit should be  $4\frac{1}{2}$  square, trim if required.





| Unit B   | 4 units required     |  |
|----------|----------------------|--|
|          | Fabric cuts required |  |
| Fabric C | 16 x 2½″squares      |  |
| Fabric B | 32 x 2½″squares      |  |

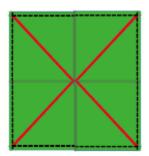
Fold and press fabric B squares, **WS** together to form triangles.

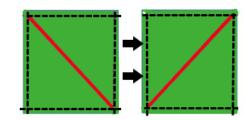
Sew two triangles to each of the base squares (fabric C), **RS** together. Stitch with a normal stitch length within the seam allowance at approx.  $\frac{1}{8}$ , the inside marker of your  $\frac{1}{4}$  piecing foot is a guide.

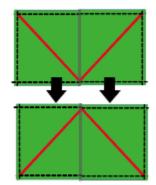
Sew a pair **RS** together using a  $\frac{1}{2}$  seam. Press seams open.

Pin the two pair units into a four patch, matching the centre seam. Pay attention to the direction of the diagonals as per diagram. Sew **RS** together using a  $\frac{1}{4}$  seam. Press seams open.

Finished unit should be  $4\frac{1}{2}$  square, trim if required.





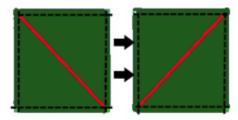


| Unit C   | 1 unit required      |  |
|----------|----------------------|--|
|          | Fabric cuts required |  |
| Fabric C | 4 x 2½″squares       |  |
| Fabric D | 8 x 2½″squares       |  |

Fold and press fabric D squares, **WS** together to form triangles.

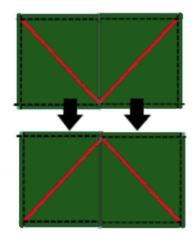
Sew two triangles to each of the base squares (fabric C), **RS** together. Stitch with a normal stitch length within the seam allowance at approx.  $\frac{1}{8}$ , the inside marker of your  $\frac{1}{4}$  piecing foot is a guide.

Sew a pair **RS** together using a  $\frac{1}{2}$  seam. Press seams open.



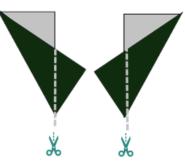
Pin the two pair units into a four patch, matching the centre seam. Pay attention to the direction of the diagonals as per diagram. Sew **RS** together using a  $\frac{1}{2}$  seam. Press seams open. Finished unit should be  $4\frac{1}{2}$  square, trim if required.





| Unit D   | 4 units required         |  |
|----------|--------------------------|--|
|          | Fabric cuts required     |  |
| Fabric A | 8 x 2½″ x 4½″ rectangles |  |
| Fabric D | 8 x 2½″ x 4½″ rectangles |  |

Place two fabric D rectangles **RS** down and fold on the diagonal bringing **WS** together, one up on the right and one up on the left. Press and trim off excess.



Place D triangles on base fabric A rectangles, **RS** together.

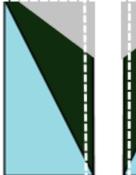
Ensure the raw edges are facing up as in diagram.

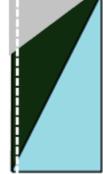
(If you put them the other way then when you fold window edges over the raw edges will pop out: I speak from experience!)

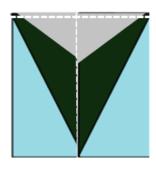
Stitch the triangles with a normal stitch length within the seam allowance at approx.  $\frac{1}{8}$ ".

Sew the rectangles into pairs, RS together using a  $\cancel{4}''$  seam.

Press seams open.







| Unit E   |                      | B  |
|----------|----------------------|--|
|          |                      |  |
|          |                      |  |
|          |                      | E A D A E  |
|          | Fabric cuts required | BEAEB  |
| Fabric A | 8 x 4½″ squares      | These are just squares of fabric with no cathedral window elements |

Ensure all units are arranged as per layout chart and work down the columns, piecing the units into pairs. Sew **RS** together using a  $\frac{1}{2}$  seam. Press seams open.

Continue by joining into rows, stitching the rows **RS** together using a ¼″ seam. Press seams open.

Now the fun part of adding the window inserts!

Cut your window insert fabrics on point /  $45^{\circ}$  if using a directional print.

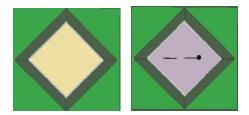
To add feature fabrics to the A Units, refer to layout out shown right.

Cut 4 x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares from fabrics F and G.

Cut 8 x  $2\frac{1}{4}$  squares from wadding



Place and centre the wadding square and feature window fabric in the centre of window frames. Pin in place.



To enclose the window inserts, fold over the top right corner first. You can finger press and pin into position. Start with a lock stitch, and then top stitch close to the folded edge using a stitch length to suit your fabric. Work around the window in a clockwise direction.

**Top Tip** When you have finished each window quarter, keep the needle in the down position and lift presser foot as high as possible to give more room for you to fold next edge over. Pin, pivot and continue top stitching.

Cut 4 x fabric H window inserts using the provided template.

This print is directional so cut 2 horizontal and 2 verticals.

To enclose these window inserts, fold over the top right of the rectangle corner first, as marked with star on diagram below.

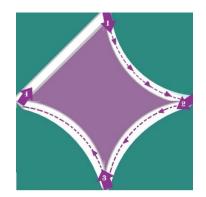
Work around the window in a clockwise direction.

Corner B Units do not have any inserts.

Work around in a clockwise direction, topstitching close to the edge.







#### **CUSHION ASSEMBLY**

Now you can add quilting to your cushion front.

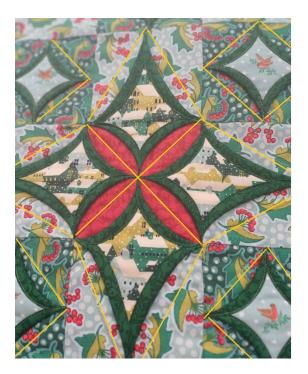
Please note that the lining fabric and wadding are larger than your cushion front panel. You will be adding the piping and border strips after you have quilted the cathedral window panel

Layer your quilt sandwich by placing your cushion front lining fabric right side down. Then place your cotton wadding down and finally centre your cushion front panel, right side up.

Baste all layers with quilter's safety pins or your preferred method.

Quilt as desired. I used a metallic thread for a subtle Christmas sparkle.

I have quilted on the diagonal around the window shapes as shown by gold lines below.



Once you have completed quilting the centre panel, the piping cord can be added. I have not cut the fabric strips on the bias as they are being used as straight borders.

Prepare 4 cord pieces in fabrics D and E by folding fabric strip around 4mm piping cord. Using a zipper foot, and a long basting stitch, stitch as close to the cord as possible.



Now attach fabric E piping cord to the right and left sides of the front cushion panel.

Using your zipper foot, stitch as close as possible to the cord by moving the needle position.

Repeat, adding cord to the top and bottom of the panel as shown below.





Now attach the second row of piping fabric D to the right and left sides of the front cushion panel.

Using your zipper foot, stitching as close as possible to the cord by moving the needle position.

Repeat adding cord to the top and bottom of the panel.

By adding the cords in the same order, you will achieve a nice, mitered corner as shown below.





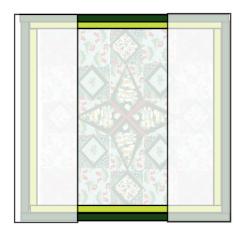
The outer borders of the cushion use fabric H which is a directional print.

For the right and left borders, you need to cut  $2 \times 3^{n} \times 22^{n}$  strips – this can not be achieved from a half metre cut of fabric, so I have suggested cutting  $4 \times 3^{n} \times 20^{n}$  strips vertical.

Join 2 strips and trim to 22" with a 1/4" seam.

With **RS** together, attach the borders to the centre panel. Sew a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam using your zipper foot, stitching as close as possible to the cord by moving the needle position.

Flip and press, being careful not to catch wadding with iron.

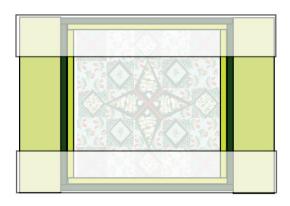


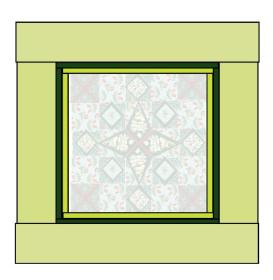


For the top and bottom borders, you need to cut 2 x 3" x 27" strips across the width, horizontal.

With **RS** together, attach these borders to the centre panel. Sew a  $\frac{1}{2}$  seam using your zipper foot, stitching as close as possible to the cord by moving the needle position.

Flip and press being careful not to catch wadding with iron





Trim cushion front to 26" square.

### **Cushion Back Panels**

This feature panel conceals a zip fastening. From your cushion back fabric I: Cut 1 x 14" x 25" for the base Cut 1 x 15" x 25" for the top which will have feature panel attached.



Fold over ½" on one of the 25" edges of the base fabric.
Fold over another ½" and press.
Pin this hemmed edge to the left-hand side of the zipper.
Ensure the zipper pull is out of the way and then using your zipper foot, top stitch to zipper tape.

#### Optional piping cord detail.

Prepare 2 cord pieces in fabric C by folding fabric strip around 4mm piping cord. Using a zipper foot, and a long basting stitch, stitch as close to the cord as possible.

Place the **RS** of the feature fabric strip (4" x 25") to the **WS** of the long edge of Top back panel, (15" x 25")

Add the piping cord between these layers

Stitch ¼″ seam.

Press to the right side (front) of the panel.

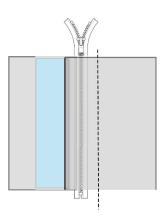
Press under  $\frac{1}{2}\tilde{}''$  on the other long edge and add piping cord to this edge.

Before stitching this panel closed, you need to attach to the zipper.

Overlap the top panel on base panel, by 2". Pin in place.

Stitch to zipper, making sure the feature panel is folded out of the way to the left.





Once sewn to zip, you can flip over feature panel and tip stitch in place. This will hide the stitching line to the zipper. Before squaring the back panel, ensure the zipper pull is moved in, so that it is not in the %" seam allowance

Sew the cushion front and the back together with a ½" seam, right sides together. You will need to attach your zipper foot to sew as close as possible to the piping cord.

Trim and finish seams as required. Turn right side out. Press and place cushion pad in.

#### Sit back and enjoy your cushion!



### How to Guide on machine pieced cathedral window technique

| Fabric Requirements | to create one window sample block |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|

| 4 x <b>4 ½</b> ″ squares | Fabric for window frames  |
|--------------------------|---|
| 4 x <b>4 ½</b> ″ squares | Base fabric squares   |
| 1 x <b>4 ½</b> ″ square  | Window insert, feature fabric.<br>This square is inserted on point. Cut on a 45° angle if using a fabric with<br>a directional print. |
| 1 x <b>4 ¼″</b> square   | Cotton Wadding  |

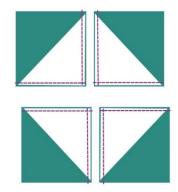
Fold and press your window squares WS (wrong sides) together. As the fold is on the bias this will enable the windows to fold over and form the curve of the window.

Press with a dry iron, do not use steam.

Lay out base fabric squares RS (right side) facing up and place folded window triangles as per layout diagrams.

Sew the triangles to the base squares, RS together. Stitch with a normal stitch length within the seam allowance at approx.<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, the inside marker of your <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> piecing foot is a guide.

If your base fabrics have directional prints, take extra care to make sure your triangles are sewn in the right direction / angle on the square.



Sew a pair RS together using a ¼″ seam. Press seams open.

Pin the two pair units into a four patch, matching the centre seam. Sew RS together using a ¼" seam. Press seams open. Finished unit should be 8 ½ "square, trim if required.

Now the fun part of adding the window insert!

Place and centre the wadding square and feature window fabric in the centre of window frames. Pin in place.

To enclose the window inserts, fold over the top right corner first. You can finger press and pin into position. Start with a lock stitch, and then top stitch close to the folded edge using a stitch length to suit

your fabric. Work around the window in a clockwise direction.

Top Tip When you have finished each window quarter, keep the needle in the down position and lift presser foot as high as possible to give more room for you to fold next edge over. Pin, pivot and continue top stitching.

