



Quilted Christmas Tree Pillow

By: Aaron Hoskins

Did you know you could make a fun and festive pillow from a simple quilt block? Create a simple Christmas tree block and your pillow is almost finished! Once you see how quick it comes together, you may even want to make a whole quilt to match!

Skill Level: Intermediate

Materials:

- 1/2-yard white grunge fabric for background
 - Cut (3) – 18" x 18" squares from white grunge background fabric
 - Sub-Cut (2) rectangles 2 ½" x 4 ¼", (2) rectangles 2 ½" x 3 ½", (10) rectangles 2 ½" x 2 ½", and (2) rectangles 1 ½" x 10 ½" for inner left and right borders and (2) rectangles 1 ½" x 12 ½" for top and bottom inner borders.
- ½ yard white fabric for pillow backing
 - (2) – 15 ½" x 18" (fold in half along 15" edge and press along fold)
- Christmas Jelly Roll
 - (4) - 2 ½" x WOF strips of green for tree
 - Sub-Cut (1) rectangle 2 ½" x 10 ½", (1) rectangle 2 ½" x 8 ½", (1) rectangle 2 ½" x 6 ½", and (1) rectangle 2 ½" x 4 ½"
 - (2) - 2 ½" x WOF strips of green for outer border
 - (2) – 2 ½" x WOF strips of red for outer border
 - (2) 2 ½" x WOF strips of blue for outer border

- (1) -2" x 2 ½" square of brown for tree trunk
- ½ yard Shape-Flex™ Interfacing
Trim to a 15" square
- 16" x 16" pillow form
- White thread
- FriXion pen
- 24" Quilters Ruler
- "J" Foot (comes standard with machine)
- 45mm Rotary cutter
- Rotary cutting mat
- Iron and ironing board

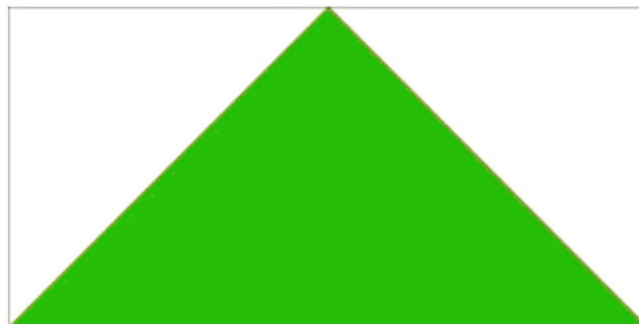
Tools:

- Baby Lock Jubilant OR (any Baby Lock Sewing Machine)

Steps:

Making the Christmas Tree block

1. Begin by drawing a diagonal line on the wrong side of 8 – 2 ½" x 2 ½" white squares.
2. Place a white 2 ½" square right sides together with a green rectangle. Sew on the drawn line and press out. Trim the extra background and green fabric leaving a ¼" seam. Repeat for the remaining three green rectangles. (Note: trim blocks to square them as needed throughout)
3. Repeat with another 2 ½" white square on the opposite side of the rectangle. Repeat for the remaining rectangles.
4. The top of the Christmas tree will look like figure 1.

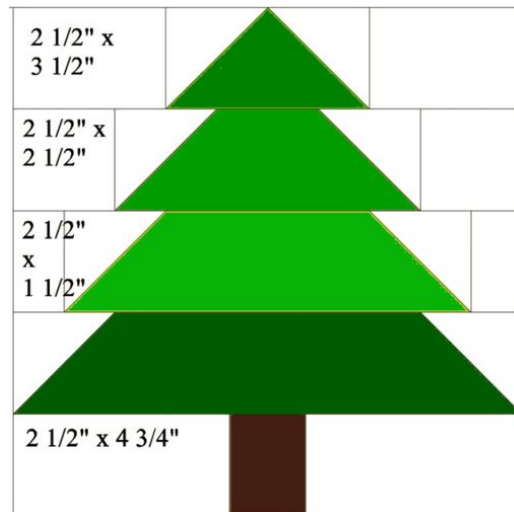


5. The remaining three parts will look like figure 2.



Assembling the tree block and inner borders

1. Add the remaining background rectangles and squares to either side of the tree rectangles as shown in figure 3.

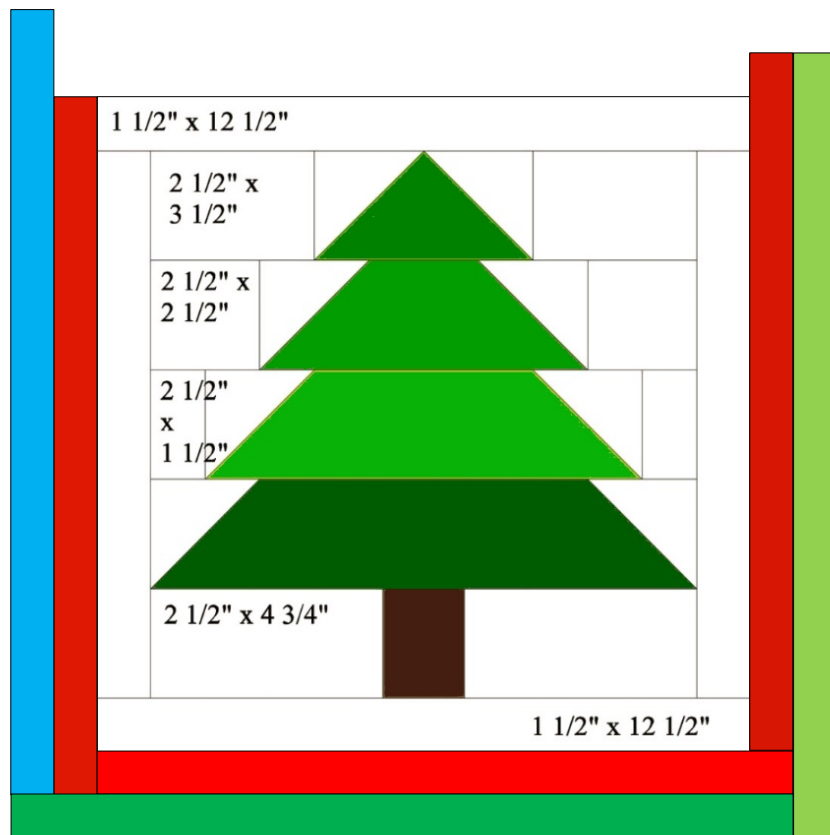


2. Set your machine to Piecing Stitch (right) #15. Guiding your fabric along the right edge of the foot will give you a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.

3. Sew the tree block rows together. Press seams in one direction.

4. Add the $1 \frac{1}{2}$ " x $10 \frac{1}{2}$ " red, green, and blue background border rectangles to the left and right sides of the tree block. Press out toward the background rectangles as shown in figure 4.





Quilting your pillow front

Fuse the block to the Shape-Flex and mark your quilting lines with the ruler and FriXion Pen. I used a zig-zag stitch #29 on my sewing machine. I think wavy straight-line quilting or sashiko stitching would be equally cute for this project.

Finishing

Line the raw edges of your folded fabric backing pieces to the top and bottom of the pillow front with right sides together. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance around the perimeter of the pillow, then trim fabric bulk from each corner and turn right side out. Insert your pillow form and enjoy!