

**Directions for the Foot-Warmer “Lime, Pink and Red Flora”, to fit a full, queen or king size bed.**



**Supplies:**

Strata (set of strips sewn together) of at least 74 strips and some supporting fabrics see photograph, you can use the same fabrics more than once in your strata.



Supporting fabrics

See pdf of template for the Curved Diamond

Cut the correct shapes from strata and regular fabrics, see quilt (you will need 67 curved diamond shapes) but placement is your choice!

Here are general sewing instructions for this design:

***General sewing directions for the Curved Diamond design:***

*In the Strips and Curves technique, we have, in the past, always lined up our stripes that were created by the strata, but in this new design it is **not** necessary. Isn't that the best news you have heard yet! There is only one way to construct these diamond shapes. When you are ready to construct them, you need to take three pieces of the wall and sew them together to create a hexagonal shape, as seen in the photographs below.*



*Make sure that each and every time you sew a curve, the bite or concave side is on the top and the belly or convex side is always on the bottom. The most important tip: **do not sew the entire seam, but rather start ¼" from the beginning and stop ¼" from the end.** In other words you have to leave the ¼ inch seam allowances open! This will make it easier for the shapes to fit into each other, but better yet, it makes the pressing foolproof and you have a lot less bulk that way. If you always press the seams in the same direction, clock wise or counter clock wise the center will just lay nice and flat, which will in turn, be so much easier for the machine quilting later.*



Sew them in sections as shown above.



Sewn into rows.



All the sections sewn to each other to create the top.

Please refer to the photographs to construct the quilt using the correct sewing procedures. Sewing sets of three, then rows and eventually sewing the rows to each other to complete the quilt top. See photographs. Make sure you always sew only one curve at a time and keep the "bite" side on top and the "belly" side on the bottom and always leave open a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " at the beginning and end of the seams. You are now ready to quilt the piece.

Keep the quilting rather simple by sewing the strata shapes with an even-feeder/walking-foot and using some of the decorative stitches you may have on your sewing machine. I like to use the fancy stitches in the middle of the strips and using a plain stitch in the ditch. When it comes to the pieces cut out of fabric I simply suggest you quilt what you see by outlining some of the images of the fabrics. I have also gone back after

completely quilting the piece and added some interest to the centers of the flowers made by the diamond shapes, see below.



Once the quilt top is completed you are ready for the artist binding or rather the facing we are going to use, to preserve some of the curved edges of this piece. But before we take the necessary measurements you need to know we are going to make this facing into a frame, not unlike a picture frame, so that the facing will be easy to attach. The first thing you have to address is cutting the points off, see photograph below to create gentler curved edges.



Then cut all the excess

batting and backing off. I like to stitch all around the edge about 1/8" from the edge of the piece, I also press with steam the entire quilt top.

Now you are ready for some measurements, you need to establish what the length is and what the width is. And because it is curved, you want to make sure you get the longest and widest measurement possible.

In my case the measurements were: 86" by 30". I like to add about an inch to that for good measurement. So that makes it 87" by 31". You see you just need this facing to be the same size as the quilt, but a little leeway is always a good suggestion. I used six 5 1/2" strips for the facing to accommodate the curves in this piece. So add 5 1/2" and 5 1/2" which is 11 inches to subtract it from the measurements,  $86 - 11 = 76$  and  $31 - 11 = 20$

or 76 by 20 for the inside measurements of your frame.



Make sure you miter these frame (binding) strips see photo above. Once your frame is completed you need to place it on a counter top or other workspace, **right side up** and place the quilt top on it **right side down**, in other words right sides are touching. You are looking at the backside of the quilt. See next photograph.





Stitch all around at  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge; I like to use an even-feeder or walking-foot for this procedure, see photograph.



After stitching all around, you are able to cut off the excess beyond the stitching see photograph below.



The last step is to turn the facing to the back by pinning first and pressing and finally by hand stitching the facing to the back of quilt....voila the piece is completed and the curves are preserved! Remember this technique, because you can use it with any irregular edged quilt. Enjoy!

