



Golestan



Michelle Gilder from Iran, or Persia as it is sometimes called, says, "The architecture and ceramic tiles from the mosques and palaces, the Kilims and carpets all lend themselves to patchwork and quilting." She drew on some of this inspiration when creating this pieced and appliquéd project, incorporating designs from old ceramic tiles in Golestan Palace in Teheran and block tiles from the Shah Cheragh in Shiraz. In quite a departure for our readers, this project is worked entirely in metric measurements, not imperial ones. The seam allowance is 7.5mm throughout.

Finished size: 1m x 1m

Finished block size: 20cm

Materials

- 1.2m white or cream fabric (background and appliqué)
- 60cm gold fabric (piecing and appliqué)
- 60cm aquamarine fabric (piecing, appliqué and binding)
- 25cm turquoise blue fabric (piecing)
- 10cm square of Persian blue fabric (appliqué)
- 1.1m backing fabric
- Batting at least 110cm x 110cm
- Double-sided fusible web
- Threads to match the appliqué fabrics
- Rotary cutter, ruler and mat



Cut the fabric

From the white or cream fabric, cut:

- Five strips, 6.5cm and crosscut 36 rectangles, 6.5cm x 11.5cm
- Three strips, 6.5cm and crosscut 48 squares, 6.5cm
- Six strips, 6.5cm and crosscut 24 strips, 6.5cm x 21.5cm
- Two strips, 11.5cm and crosscut 12 squares, 11.5cm.

From the gold fabric, cut:

- Seven strips, 6.5cm and crosscut 108 squares, 6.5cm
- One strip, 11.5cm and crosscut nine squares, 11.5cm.

From the aquamarine fabric, cut:

- One strip, 11.5cm and crosscut eight squares, 11.5cm (appliquéd blocks)
- One strip, 11.5cm and crosscut 12 rectangles, 6.5cm x 11.5cm (white blocks)

- Five strips, 6cm by the width of the fabric (binding).

From the turquoise blue fabric, cut:

- One strip, 11.5cm and crosscut eight squares, 11.5cm (appliquéd blocks)
- One strip, 11.5cm and crosscut 12 rectangles, 6.5cm x 11.5cm (white blocks).

Make the appliquéd blocks

1. Arrange two 11.5cm squares of aquamarine fabric and two 11.5cm squares of turquoise blue fabric as a four-patch. Sew the pieces in pairs, press the seams in opposite directions and join the rows to make one block. Make four blocks in total. They should measure 21.5cm x 21.5cm raw edge to raw edge.
2. Trace the appliquéd shapes from the pattern sheet onto fusible web with a pencil. You will need 16 of shapes 1 and

3 and four of shapes 2 and 4. Cut them out roughly in groups.

3. Iron the 1 shapes onto the back of gold fabric, the 2 and 3 shapes onto white or cream fabric, and the 4 shapes onto Persian blue fabric. Cut them out accurately.

4. Working on one block at a time and referring to diagram 1 as a guide, centre a white

circle 4 shape over the block and tuck four gold 1 shapes under it with the points on the seam lines. Position four of the white 3 shapes so their side points just meet at the seams and finally centre a Persian blue shape 4 in the middle of the white circle. When you are happy with their positions, iron the block to fuse the pieces in place.

5. Sew around the shapes by hand or machine using threads to match the appliqué fabrics. Michelle blanket stitched around her appliqué in both matching and contrasting threads. Please see close-up photo of block.

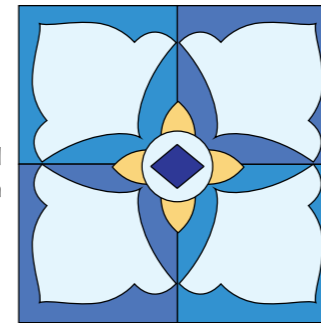


Diagram 1

Make the gold blocks

1. Rule a diagonal line on the back of 72 of the 6.5cm gold squares.

2. Referring to Diagram 2, place a marked square, right sides facing, on one end of a 6.5cm x 11.5cm white rectangle with three edges aligned. Sew along the marked line, trim the small triangles and press. Repeat with a second 6.5cm gold square on the other end of the white rectangle. Make a total of 36 Flying Geese units.

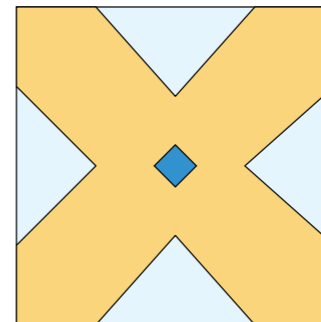


Diagram 2

3. Arrange four Flying Geese units, four 6.5cm gold squares and one 11.5cm gold square as shown in diagram 3. Join the pieces in three rows and then sew the rows together to complete the block.

4. Make a total of nine gold blocks. They should measure

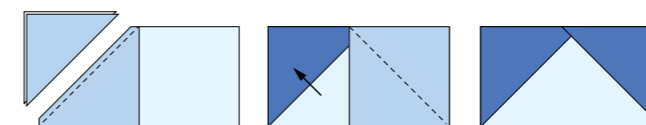


Diagram 3

21.5cm x 21.5cm raw edge to raw edge.

5. Trace nine of shape 5 from the pattern sheet onto the paper side of the fusible web and iron it on the back of a piece of aquamarine fabric. Cut the shapes out accurately, peel off the paper and fuse them to the centre of the gold blocks. Appliqué them as before. See diagram 4.

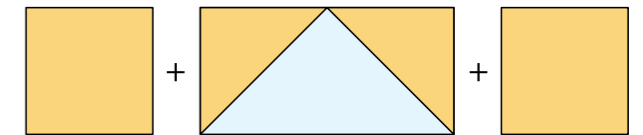
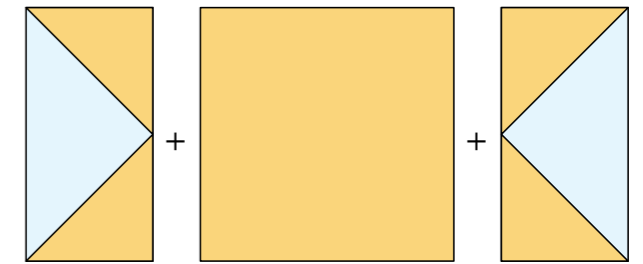
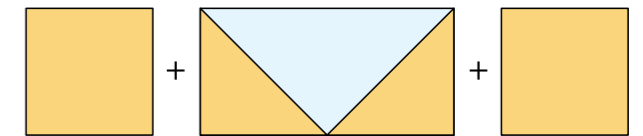


Diagram 4

Make the white blocks

1. Rule a diagonal line on the back of 48 white 6.5cm squares.

2. Using the 6.5cm x 11.5cm aquamarine and turquoise rectangles, make 12 Flying Geese units of each colour in the same way as for the gold blocks.

3. Arrange two 6.5cm x 21.5cm white strips, one 21.5cm white square and four matching Flying Geese units as shown in diagram 5.

4. Sew the units together in the middle row, then join the three rows together to complete the block. Make

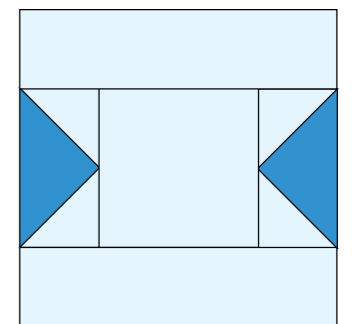


Diagram 5

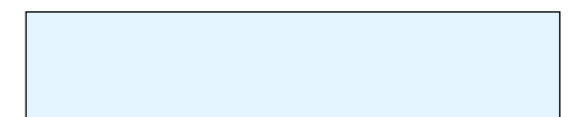
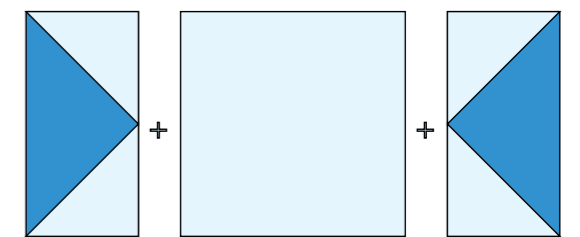


Diagram 6

six blocks in each colour. They should measure 21.5cm x 21.5cm raw edge to raw edge.

5. Trace 12 of shape 5 from the pattern sheet onto fusible web and iron it to the back of some gold fabric. Cut the shapes out accurately and fuse one in the middle of each block as shown in diagram 6. Appliqué them in place as before.

Assemble the quilt

1. Arrange the 25 blocks in five rows of five on a large table or the floor, referring to diagram 7 and the photograph of the quilt as guides. Make sure you position the aquamarine and turquoise points of the white blocks correctly to create Michelle's clever secondary design.
2. Sew the blocks in rows, pressing the seams of alternate rows in opposite directions.
3. Sew the rows together to complete the quilt top. Press.

Finishing

1. Following the instructions for Preparing the Quilt Layers in Basics on page xxx, pin or baste the quilt top, batting and backing fabric together.
2. Quilt as desired. Michelle's quilt is machine quilted. The gold blocks are echo quilted, the appliqué blocks are stipple quilted on the blue fabrics and the white blocks feature a free-motion grid and swirl quilting design.
3. Following the instructions for Binding the Quilt in Basics

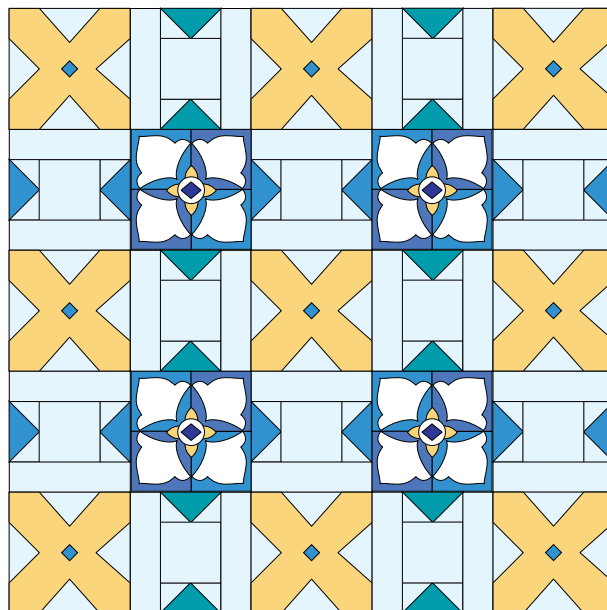


Diagram 7

on page xxx, use the five 2½in aquamarine strips to bind the edge of the quilt.

Michelle Gilder of Patchiran designs Islamic and Iranian quilts and encourages the students she teaches to be inspired by the wealth of design material that surrounds them. For contact details see the Stockists & Contacts list.

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