

## Seasonal Mini Basket

Finished size approximately 12" x 12".

Original design by Mimi Shimp.

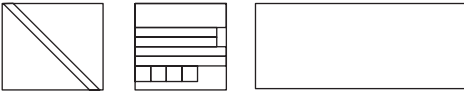
Fabrics (except white) from the Meadow Song and Etchings collections by FreeSpirit Fabrics.

Background fabric (yellow) fat eighth (9" x 22")  
Basket fabric 1, Inner border, handle, binding (orange) ¼ yard  
Basket fabric 2 (white) scrap 2½ x 9½"  
Outer border and backing (darker yellow) fat quarter (18" x 22")  
Buttons (from Just Another Button Company)  
Fabric Mate Pen – green, optional for leaves and stems  
505 Spray and Fix  
¼" bias tape maker  
Sulky Tear Easy or stabilizer of your choice  
¾" Half Square Triangle Paper  
14" square Matilda's Own wool batting

1. From background fabric, cut one rectangle 5" x 10". Cut two strips 4½" x 1¼". Cut one square 6" x 6", then cut in half diagonally. Cut one square 2" x 2".

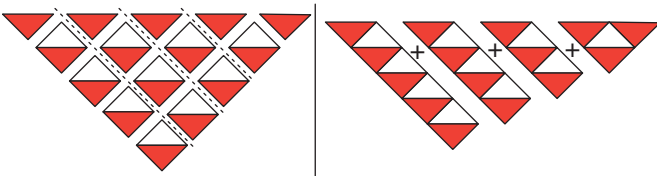
2. Trace leaves and stems on 5" x 10" rectangle, if desired, with Fabric Mate Pen.

3. Cut the ¼ yard of orange basket fabric into 3 sections: section one – 10½" wide for bias handle, section two – 9½" wide for basket triangles and inner borders, and the third section is for the binding.

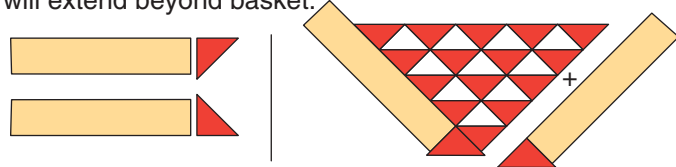


4. From the 9½" section of orange basket fabric, cut one strip 2½" x 9½". Layer this orange strip right sides together with the white fabric. Cut one horizontal row from ¾" half square paper; place on wrong side of white basket fabric strip. Stitch, cut, tear, snip dog ears. Press seams open – an exception to pressing seams toward darker fabric.

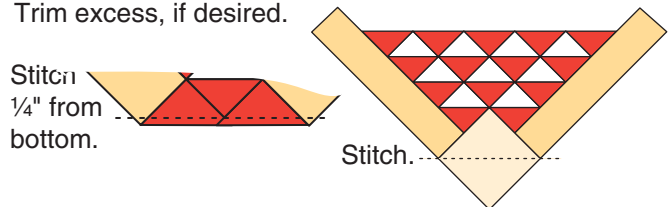
5. From orange basket fabric section 2, cut four squares 1⅝" x 1⅝", then cut in half diagonally. Stitch half square triangles and single triangles together into rows, then stitch the rows together.



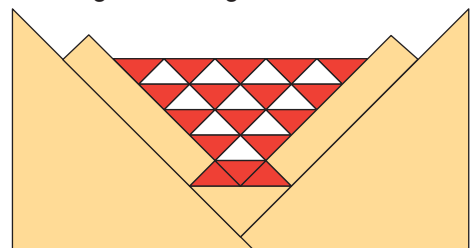
6. Stitch single triangle to one end of each 1¼" x 4½" strip. Stitch these to sides of basket. Background strip will extend beyond basket.



7. Press 2" square in half across the diagonal. Place the square right sides together and ¼" in from bottom of basket. Stitch across diagonal of square as shown. Trim excess, if desired.



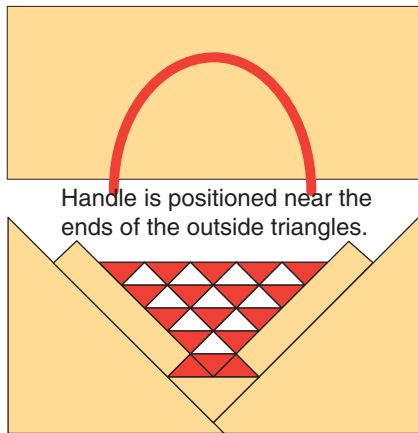
Finally, stitch the large triangles to the sides of the basket. Triangles are larger than needed.



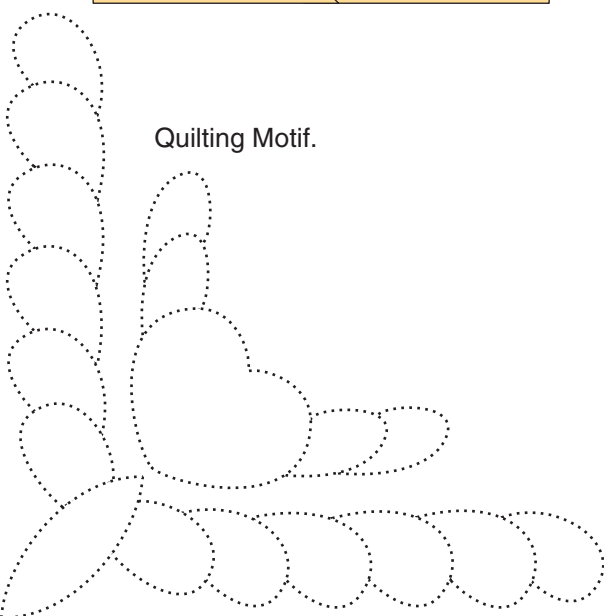
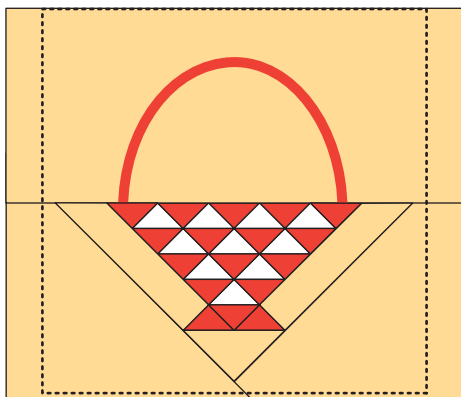
8. From orange basket fabric section 1, cut one bias strip ¾" x 12". Insert into bias tape maker and press with a hot dry iron as you pull it through the tape maker. Spray wrong side of strip with 505 Spray and Fix to hold handle in place. Position strip on large rectangle. It is a good idea to position the top and bottom (basket part) of the block together so the handle will be placed in the right location.

Stitch handle to rectangle by hand or machine. I used the blanket stitch on my sewing machine as narrow as I could make the stitch and matched thread to handle. Use stabilizer underneath to keep the piece from being too wiggly (or unstable!)

Stitch top and bottom halves of basket block together.

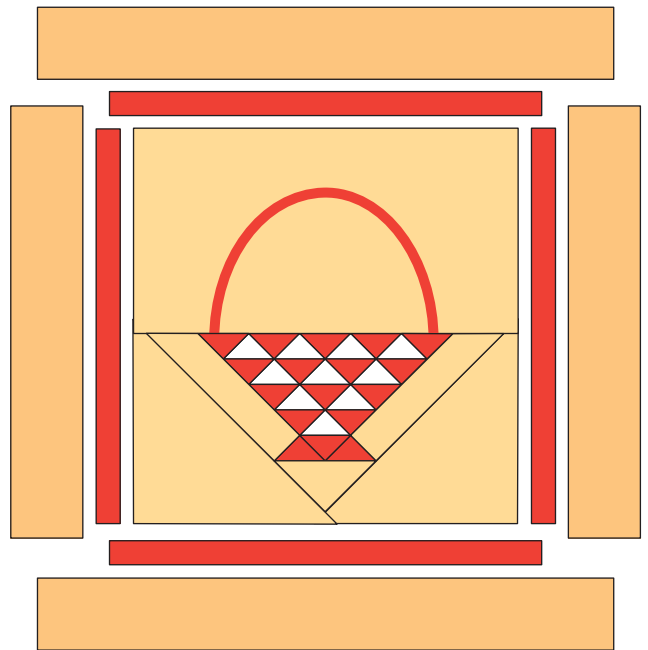


8. Square block to 8½" x 8½".



9. For inner border, cut 2 strips 1" x 8½". Stitch to sides of basket block. Cut 2 strips 1" x 9½". Stitch to top and bottom of basket block.

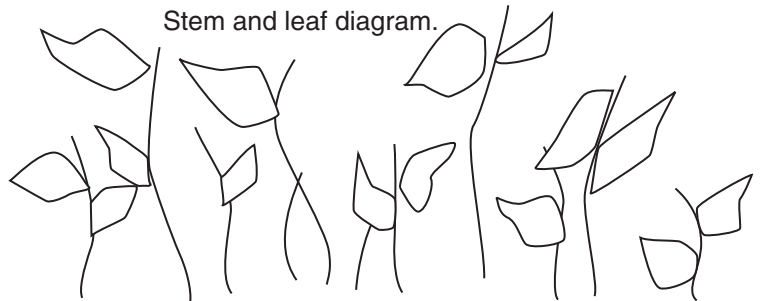
For outer border, cut 2 strips 2" x 9½". Stitch to sides of basket block. Cut 2 strips 2" x 12½". Stitch to top and bottom of basket block.



10. Cut backing and batting 14" x 14". Layer by spray basting with 505 Spray and Fix.

11. Quilt and bind. Cut binding strips 2½" wide.

Stem and leaf diagram.



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