

Paradise Bubbles

michael miller
FABRICS LLC.

by Rob Appell for Michael Miller Fabrics



Supplies for "Paradise Bubbles"

- CJ3833 "Paradise Reef" - 1 yard
- CJ3834 "Coral Paradise" - 1/3 yard
- CJ3835 "Fish School" - 1/3 yard
- CJ3836 "Clown Fish" - 1/3 yard
- C3060 "Water Spot" color Nite - 1 yard
- C3060 "Water Spot" color moss - 1/2 yard
- C3060 "Water Spot" color Lava - 1/2 yard
- CM376 "Fairy Frost" color Kiwi - 1/2 yard
- CM376 "Fairy Frost" color Mermaid - 1/2 yard
- CM376 "Fairy Frost" color Turquoise - 1/2 yard
- Backing 1-1/2 yards

Back shown for Quilting

Finished Size About 48" x 42"

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This is a super fun and easy adventure into curved piecing and fusible, raw-edge appliqué. The quilt top is constructed in two phases. First, the curved pieced background featuring the following five fabrics from Left to Right: "Water Spot" color Nite, "Water Spot" color Moss, "Fairy Frost" color Kiwi, "Water Spot" color Nite repeated "Fairy Frost" color Mermaid, "Fairy Frost" color Turquoise, and then repeated in reverse order.



Once you have completed your first cut and sew, you will agree, "Hey, that was easy." From here, please cut each fabric and sew it to the grouping of fabrics one at a time. The angles of the cuts and the widths, are up to each quilt maker, so have fun with building your background.

Now the background is completed, it is time for the bubbles.

Using the "Paradise Reef,"

"Coral Paradise," "Clown Fish," and "Fish School" please put your favorite fusible web on the backside of all of the above listed fabrics. The fusible will help stabilize the bubbles so that they may be cut with a rotary circle cutter.

Cut a variety of sizes of circles of each print. Keep in mind that these circles form the bubbles that show us the seen of our reef. It is recommended to cut larger circles of the "Paradise Reef" and "Coral Paradise, and smaller circles of the Blue color from the top of the "Paradise Reef" and the "Clown Fish" and "Fish School."

Once you feel that your quilt top design is balanced with the placement of the circles in size and color, you are ready to press down the circle appliques.

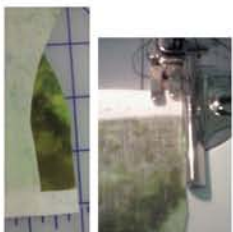


For the quilting, start in the middle of the quilt top with an orange thread and start free motion machine quilting around all the circles. Quilt all the circles with the orange thread, then switch to a light blue thread and finish by quilting between all the bubbles. This will add contrast and visual texture. Finish with "Water Spot" color Lava for the binding.



Simple Curve Piecing Steps:

Start with your first two fabrics on your cutting mat, both pieces Right-Sides UP. Overlap the two fabrics by three inches. Cut with your rotary cutter through both fabrics, creating gradual curves. It is wise to cut an inch or two at the beginning as a straight cut, as this will help you align the fabrics for the piecing with a quarter inch foot. For this quilt the lines of fabrics that run through the background all converge in the center of the quilt. Once the two fabrics are cut, you need to separate them into matching sets.



This shows the straight cut in the first inches, the fabrics are separated for the visual. Align both fabrics at the edge as you approach your sewing machine.

Piecing the curves together is best done slowly, by placing the top fabric in your left hand and your bottom fabric in your right hand. Then, you may steer your peaks and valleys together.