Rag Quilt Tree Skirt

Sew Practical Pattern 016

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This pattern includes directions for 3 different rag quilted tree skirts. Please read all pattern instructions and my eight page Rag Quilting Basics BEFORE beginning your rag quilt project. You can download the Basics at no extra charge from the website above. The Basics are based upon my experience with rag quilting that help you find short cuts that will make your rag quilting experience easier—especially if this is a new area of crafting for you. Refer to the Rag Quilting Basics if you have any questions. Of course, if you cannot find the answers in the Basics, feel free to email us with your questions. Your finished tree skirt will finish between 38" and 54" in diameter depending on the technique you choose to use. The skirt pictured above measures 54" in diameter. I have offered 3 different ways in which to make tree skirts with this pattern. I have listed the supplies I used to make the tree skirts pictured. Simply substitute your favorite colors or prints to match your home décor or theme. Have fun with it.

Supplies for homespun skirt (traditional Christmas colors pictured above)

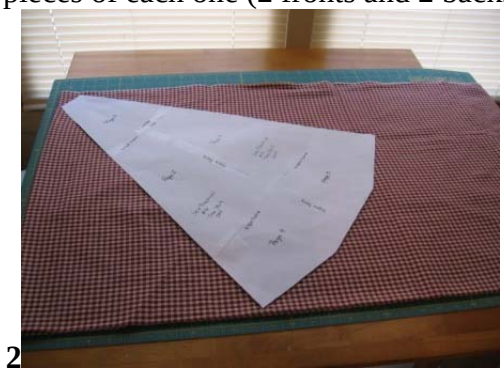
1 yd solid cranberry homespun
1 yd solid green homespun
2 yards cranberry/natural check homespun
2 yards cranberry hounds tooth homespun
2 yards green/natural check homespun
2 yards green/natural plaid homespun
1 spool of thread to match each of the homespun colors
1 spool of natural colored thread
1 bag of crib size batting (optional for quilting)
Lint roller
Free Appliqué Patterns from website above

Cutting fabric and batting for tree skirt

- Print and cut out the patterns at the end of this document and tape together where indicated
- **Double** the solid cranberry fabric
- Trace and cut out the pattern so that you have 2 pieces (front and back)
- **Repeat** for the solid green fabric
- **Quadruple** (see picture below) the rest of the fabrics that you purchased in 2 yard increments.

Pic 1

- Trace at an angle (see picture below) and cut out the pattern so that you have 4 pieces of each one (2 fronts and 2 backs)

Pic 2 

- When you're finished cutting you will have 10 fronts with 10 matching backs.
- Cut out 10 batting pieces the same size as the fabric pieces.

Layering the Tree Skirt

- Place batting on bottom pieces
- Place top pieces on top of batting and bottom pieces
- Pin "sandwiched" pieces together to prevent slipping.
- Place stitches 1" from the edges to hold pieces together. **See picture 3 below.**

Pic 3

- Pin back the front and back edges to expose the middle batting overhang.

Pic 4

- Carefully snip away the excess batting around all the edges.

Pic 5

Quilting the Tree Skirt/Adding Appliqués

- If you'd like, quilt a pattern onto the skirt pieces---square & diamond patterns are easy. **See picture below.** You can also buy quilting stencils. Download my free appliqué pattern from my website to use as appliqué and quilting patterns. When you add the appliqués, you are also quilting a pattern onto the back of the skirt. **See Appliqués & Embroidery on pp. 5 & 6 in my Rag Quilting Basics.**
- **Add any buttons, facial embroidery, or other embellishments before adding the back sections to any quilted item.**
- **If you are going to snip & rag the appliqués, use at least 2 pieces of fabric so that you will have a pretty ragged effect.**

Piecing and Snipping the Skirt

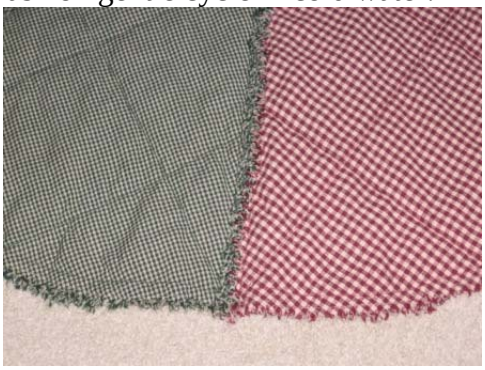
- Sew the pieces together using a ½” Seam allowance.
- Leave open between two sections so you can place it around the tree trunk

Pic 6

- Sew around the edges using a ½” seam allowance.

Pic 7

- Snip the edges and seams.
- Wash on gentle cycle in cold water.

Pic 8 

- Dry on low setting.
- Remove excess shedding with lint roller.
- **See more washing and drying instructions in Rag Quilting Basics.**

Supplies for Americana Tree Skirt

NOTE: I selected an Americana theme as my next example of how to use this pattern. You may choose any colors and fabrics you like best. Ü

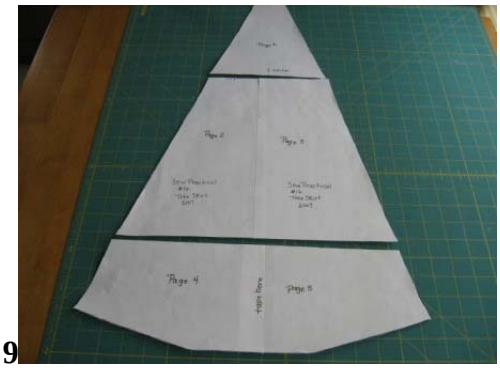
Finished skirt size is about 44".

Fabric 1 = 1 yard natural homespun
Fabric 2 = 3 yards Americana homespun
Fabric 3 = 2 yards of a different Americana homespun
2 spools neutral thread
1 bag crib size batting (optional for quilting)
Lint roller

Free Appliqué Patterns from website above

Cutting Fabric & Batting for Americana Tree Skirt

- Print and cut out the patterns at the end of this document.
- You will use 3 different sections to complete this tree skirt.
- **Page 1** is the top section.
- Tape **pages 2 & 3** of the pattern together. This is the middle section.
- Tape **pages 4 & 5** of the pattern together. This is the bottom section.

Pic 9 

Tape the sections so that the bottom & top edges line up

- **Double** each fabric.
- Trace and cut out the pattern on each fabric so that you have 2 pieces (front and back).
- Use picture below as a guide to cut your fabric so you will have enough to finish your project.

Pic 10

- Use fabric 1 for the top section pieces.
- Use fabric 2 for the middle section pieces.
- Use fabric 3 for the bottom section pieces.
- When you're finished cutting you will have 10 fronts with 10 matching backs for each section.
- Cut out 30 batting pieces. Cut 10 for the top section. Cut 10 for the middle section. Cut 10 for the bottom section.

Layering the Tree Skirt

- Place batting on bottom pieces.
- Place top pieces on top of batting and bottom pieces.
- Pin "sandwiched" pieces together to prevent slipping.
- Place stitches 1" from the edges to hold sandwiched pieces together.
- If you want ruffled seams, leave the batting the same size as your fabric. If you want a true rag quilt look, carefully trim away the excess batting now.
- **See pics 3, 4 & 5 for reference.**

Quilting the Tree Skirt/Adding Appliqués

- If you'd like, quilt a pattern onto the skirt pieces---square & diamond patterns are easy. **See picture 7 above.** You can also buy quilting stencils. Download my free appliqué pattern from my website to use as appliqué and quilting patterns. When you add the appliqués, you are also quilting a pattern onto the back of the skirt. **See Appliqués & Embroidery on pp. 5 & 6 in my Rag Quilting Basics.**
- **Add any buttons, facial embroidery, or other embellishments before adding the back sections to any quilted item.**
- **If you are going to snip & rag the appliqués, use at least 2 pieces of fabric so that you will have a pretty ragged effect.**

Piecing and Snipping the Skirt

- Use ½" seam allowance to sew each section together.
- Sew Fabric 2 to bottom of Fabric 1.
- Then Sew Fabric 3 onto bottom of Fabric 2.
- If pieced sections are **uneven like picture 11** below, then trim off the excess so that the sections will be **even as seen in picture 12** below.

Pic 11

Pic 12

- Sew these sections together.
- Leave open between two sections so you can place it around the tree trunk. **See pic 6 above.**
- Sew around the edges using a ½" seam allowance.
- Snip the edges and seams.
- Wash on gentle cycle in cold water.
- Dry on low setting.
- Remove excess shedding with lint roller.
- **See more washing and drying instructions in Rag Quilting Basics.**

Supplies needed for Shabby Ruffled Tree Skirt

Finished skirt size is about 38”

(10) different 2/3 yard cotton fabrics (24” each)
2 spools matching (or neutral) thread
1 bag crib size batting
Lint roller
Free Appliqué Patterns from website above

Cutting Fabric & Batting for Shabby Ruffled Tree Skirt

- Print and cut out pages 1, 2, & 3 of the patterns at the end of this document.
- Tape **pages 2 & 3** of the pattern together.
- Tape pages 2 & 3 to the bottom of page 1.
- **Double** each fabric.
- Trace and cut out the pattern on each fabric so that you have 2 pieces (front and back).
- When you’re finished cutting you will have 10 fronts with 10 matching backs for each section.
- Cut out 10 batting pieces for each section.

Layering the Tree Skirt

- Place batting on bottom pieces.
- Place top pieces on top of batting and bottom pieces.
- Pin “sandwiched” pieces together to prevent slipping.
- Place stitches 1” from the edges to hold sandwiched pieces together.
- If you want ruffled seams, leave the batting the same size as your fabric. If you want a true rag quilt look, carefully trim away the excess batting now.
- **See pics 3, 4 & 5 above for reference to trim away batting.**
- **See pic 13 below for ruffled look.**

- **Pic 13**

Quilting the Tree Skirt/Adding Appliqués

- If you'd like, quilt a pattern onto the skirt pieces---square & diamond patterns are easy. **See picture 7 above.** You can also buy quilting stencils. Download my free appliqué pattern from my website to use as appliqué and quilting patterns. When you add the appliqués, you are also quilting a pattern onto the back of the skirt. **See Appliqués & Embroidery on pp. 5 & 6 in my Rag Quilting Basics.**
- **Add any buttons, facial embroidery, or other embellishments before adding the back sections to any quilted item.**
- **If you are going to snip & rag the appliqués, use at least 2 pieces of fabric so that you will have a pretty ragged effect.**

Piecing and Snipping the Skirt

- Sew the pieces together using a ½" Seam allowance.
- Leave open between two sections so you can place it around the tree trunk. **See pic 6 above.**
- Sew around the edges using a ½" seam allowance. **See pic 7 above.**
- Snip the edges and seams.
- Wash on gentle cycle in cold water.
- Dry on low setting.
- Remove excess shedding with lint roller.
- **See more washing and drying instructions in Rag Quilting Basics.**

Pic 14

Zigzag edges of appliqués if you aren't going to snip them.

Congratulations! You've finished the tree skirt. If you have any questions, please email us at the address above. Feel free to make these skirts to sell on Ebay or other auction sites, on your website or at craft shows. Use your own imagination to create different looks with this pattern to create your own unique skirt. Please do not resell the pattern. If you wish to sell our e-patterns, please contact us for permission. Please do not share. Our patterns are priced low so everyone can afford to purchase them. We would appreciate it if you will give pattern credit to Sew Practical. Thanks so much!

Sew Practical

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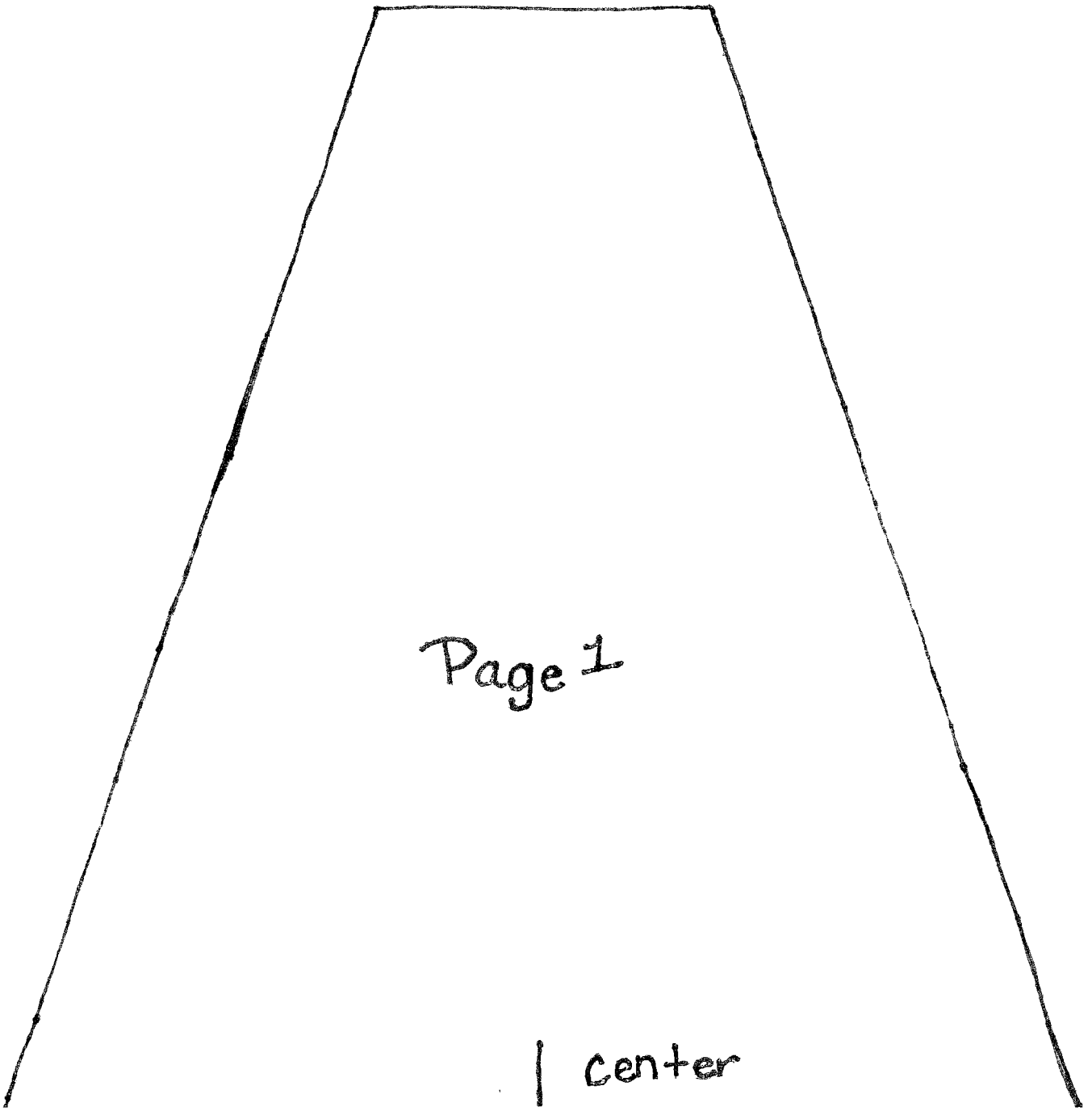

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