

About our Animal Shelter Quilt Project

This year for our Charity Night Sew In, we wanted to offer various ideas for quilt projects. One idea was to provide quilts for animals waiting to be adopted in a local shelter.

We contacted Last Hope Animal Shelter in Wantagh, NY and they would love to have our quilts. The shelter plans to use our quilts for the cats and kittens while they are waiting to be adopted (we are coming into kitten season!). The dogs will go home with a quilt once they are adopted. The shelter personnel are very excited to receive these quilts and they need as many as we can make. Last year they adopted out about 500 cats and 300 dogs.

There is a website, www.kennelquilts.com, which provides eight different variations of a kennel quilt that was designed for animals waiting in shelters. The editor of **The Quilt Pattern Magazine** began this effort shortly after Superstorm Sandy. Please visit the website for information about the Kennel Quilt project, and to find the patterns to use for cats, kittens, and small dogs. Eight different patterns may be downloaded. These quilts have a finish size of 12" x 18".

Larger Dogs

To adapt these patterns **for larger dogs**, I took the **One Block** pattern (on the website) and wrote up changes for it. These larger size quilts would finish at 21" x 35 ". Please see, below.

(Please refer to Guidelines for Small Kennel Quilts on the original patterns)

Materials:

Use pre-washed, 100% cotton fabrics and batting.

Two cut pieces of 22"x 36" fabric, one for the top and one for the bottom

One cut piece of 22" x 36" batting

Directions: **Please use ½" seams!**

1. Place one fabric rectangle right side **up** on a flat surface. Place the second fabric rectangle on it, right side **down**. Place the batting on top. Align the raw edges. Pin the layers together.
2. Starting $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way down one of the long sides with a backstitch, sew around all the raw edges, stopping 7" away from where you started. Backstitch. This leaves an opening for turning the fabrics to the right side.
3. Press the seams open by pressing the top layer of the seam allowance toward the inside, the bed itself. The bottom layer points outward. This will help get a sharper fold when turned right side out.
4. Trim corners on an angle. This will give you sharper points.
5. Turn right side out. Push out the corners. Press well, turning the edges of the open section ½" to the inside. You can whipstitch to close the seam although subsequent topstitching should also close seam.
6. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the outer edges. The top stitching also serves to sew the open section together.
7. Quilt in a simple pattern to keep the batting place. The project is complete!