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The Magic
in the Middle

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Patchwork Sketch Book Cover

Skill Level: Beginner



Mini charm squares are a great way to have an entire fabric line in one small project. This patchwork sketch book cover is also a terrific project for favorite fabric scraps. Sample used an Unruled Composition Notebook.

Fabrics Needed

Mini charm squares or 2-1/2" squares for cover	54
Lining fabric	1/2 yard
Flap fabric	1/2 yard

Materials Needed

Pellon® 987F Fusible Fleece	1/2 yard
Pellon® 809 Décor-Bond® (soft cover book only)	1/2 yard
Ribbon	One 14" length
Sketch book or composition book	One
Clover® Wonder Clips	
Dritz® Fray Check™	

Tools Needed

Sewing machine and related supplies
Rotary cutter and related supplies

Use 1/4" seam allowances unless otherwise directed.

Step 1. Cutting instructions.

Lining fabric	Cut one 12-1/2" x 18-1/2" rectangle.
Flaps	Cut two 17" x 12-1/2" rectangles.
Fusible Fleece	Cut one 15" x 21" rectangle.
Décor-Bond®	Used only for soft cover books. Cutting instructions in Step 6.

Step 2. Arrange the mini charms into six rows of nine squares each. Sew the top row together into a strip. Press the seams to the left.

Sew the second row together into a strip. Press the seams to the right.

Continue creating strips, alternating pressing seams to the side.



Step 3. Sew rows 1 and 2 together. Sew rows 3 and 4 together. Sew rows 5 and 6 together. Press all seams open.

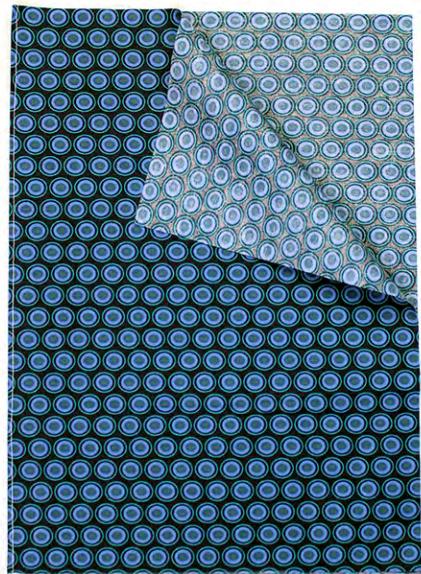
Sew the three pairs of rows together until the front of the book cover is complete. It will measure 12-1/2" x 18-1/2".



Step 4. Fuse the wrong side of the patchwork cover to the rough side of the Fusible Fleece rectangle following manufacturer's instructions. Quilt as desired. Trim the excess Fusible Fleece.



Step 5. Fold each flap rectangle in half with wrong sides together. Press. Stitch 1/8" from the folded edge.



Step 6. For a sketch book with soft covers, trace the exact size of the book while it is closed twice onto the Décor-Bond®. Cut out the two pieces. Center one piece each into the folded flaps. Fuse following manufacturer's instructions. For a book with hard covers, skip this step.

Step 7. Place book cover right side up on a flat surface. Place the fused side of the flaps facing down. Align the rough edges of the flaps with the left and right edges of the cover. Tuck the ribbon over the top center of the cover. Pin or use a clip to hold the ribbon in place.

NOTE: Use Fray Check™ to prevent fraying on the end of the ribbon.



Step 8. Place the lining right side down on top. Pin or clip the layers together.

Step 9. Place the book on top of the lining, centered and on the left. With a disappearing ink marker or chalk pencil, trace 1/8" around the book. Roll the book over the spine carefully on the spine to the right and trace 1/8" around the other side.

NOTE: For smaller books, there will be considerable excess. Trim 1/2" outside the line that was just traced if necessary, moving and replacing the ribbon so it isn't cut by the rotary cutter.



Step 10. Starting on the bottom left of the ribbon and leaving a 4" gap on the bottom center of the book cover, sew along the traced line. Backstitch at the beginning and end of the seam.

Step 11. Clip corners, turn book cover right side out and press. Check book fit before handstitching the opening closed. Adjust as necessary.

Step 12. Hand sew the opening closed.

