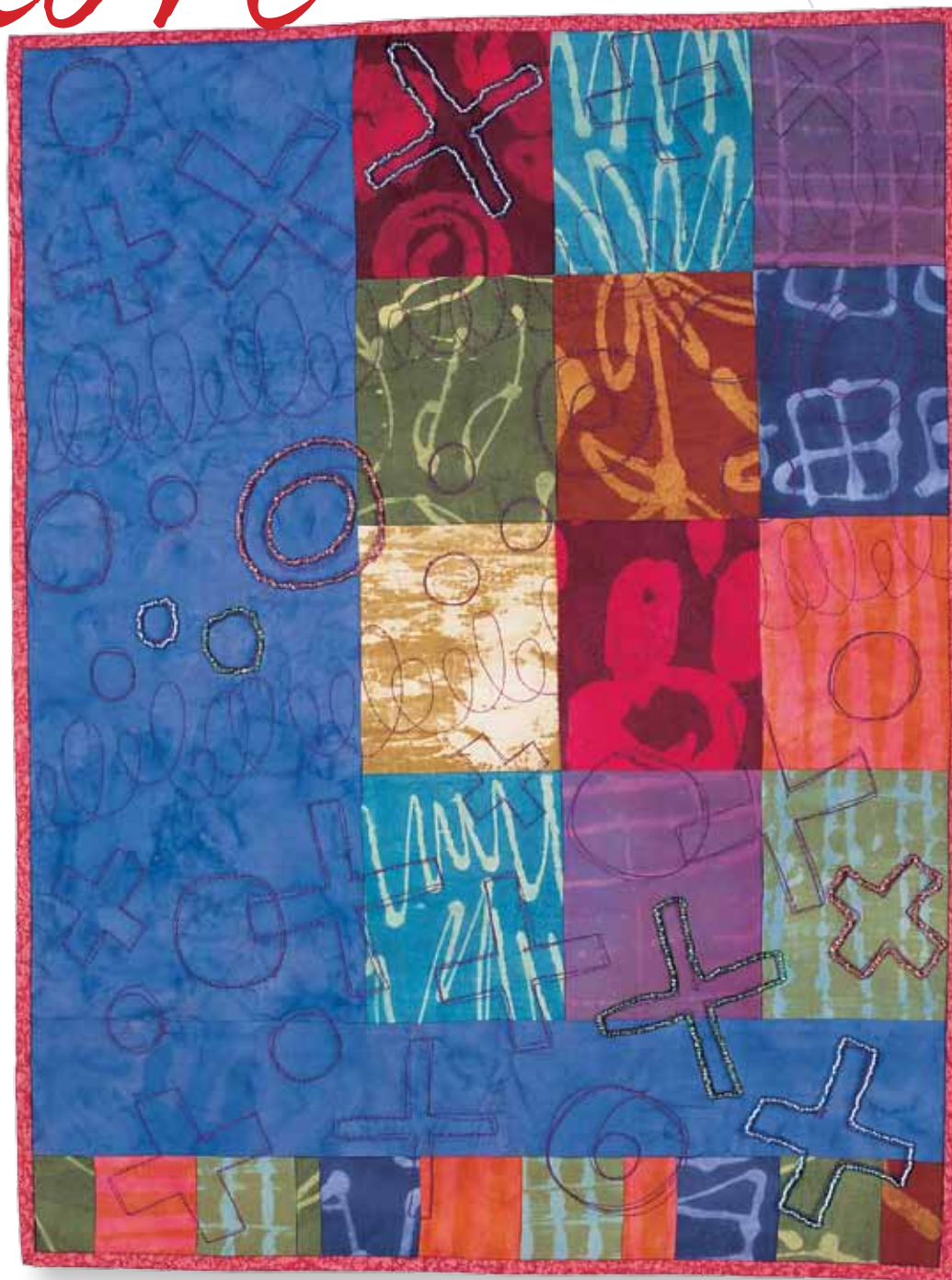


# Love letters



*This quilt is a fresh interpretation of a traditional nine-patch pattern. The addition of the borders creates an asymmetric composition that also forms a big “L” for love. The quilting and beading motifs represent handwritten hugs and kisses.*



**DESIGNER:**  
DEBORAH BOSCHERT

**FINISHED SIZE:**  
approximately 25 x 19 inches (63.5 x 48.3 cm)

## Materials

### Quilt top:

12 assorted cotton print fabrics, each 4 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches (11.4 x 14 cm)

Blue batik cotton fabric, 20 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches (52 x 14 cm) and 20 1/2 x 3 1/4 inches (52 x 8.3 cm)

15 assorted cotton print fabrics, each 2 x 1 1/2 to 3 inches (5 x 3.8 to 7.6 cm)

### Batting:

Low-loft batting, 27 x 21 inches (68.6 x 53.3 cm)

### Backing:

Cotton fabric, 28 x 22 inches (71.1 x 55.9 cm)

### Beads:

About 300 seed beads of each color: green, fuchsia, and teal

### Binding:

Pink batik cotton fabric, three 45 x 1-inch (114.3 x 2.5 cm) strips

### Hanging sleeve:

Cotton fabric, 18 1/2 x 4 1/2 inches (47 x 11.4 cm)

### Thread, etc:

Purple sewing thread

Green, fuchsia, and teal nylon beading thread, size D

## Tools & Supplies

Small hand-sewing needle for beading

1/4-inch (6 mm) seam allowance



## Instructions

- 1 Arrange the 12 assorted fabrics in four rows of three pieces each with the longer sides touching. Sew the pieces in each row together. Press the seam allowances to one side, alternating the direction with each row. Sew the rows together for the quilt top. Press the seams toward the bottom row.
- 2 Sew the 5 1/2-inch-wide (14 cm) blue piece on the left-hand side of the quilt top with right sides together. Press the seam toward the blue fabric.
- 3 Sew the other blue piece on the bottom of the quilt top with right sides together. Press the seam toward the blue fabric.
- 4 Sew the 15 assorted print fabrics together to make a border at least 20 1/2 inches long (52 cm). Press the seams to one side. Sew the border to the bottom of the quilt top with right sides together. Press the seam away from the border.
- 5 Stack and baste the quilt layers.





6 Adjust the sewing machine for free-motion quilting. Thread the needle and fill the bobbin with purple thread. Stitch looping lines that suggest handwriting. Add several circles and X shapes, stitching over each two or three times roughly. If desired, echo some of the print motifs in the pieced section of the quilt top with the stitching. Press the quilt.

7 Thread the hand-sewing needle with thread to match each bead color. Use a backstitch to outline a few of the quilting motifs with a row of beads.

8 Bind the quilt, using a 1/4-inch (6 mm) seam allowance and mitered corners.

9 Attach the hanging sleeve.



“ The free-motion quilting in this piece has a ‘sketchy’ quality about it. Rather than outline a motif just once with precise stitches, I traced over it several times, making it look more spontaneous and intentionally untidy. ”

- DEBORAH BOSCHERT, DESIGNER