Sew around the pinned areas using a 1/2-inch (1.3 cm) seam allowance. Trim the seam allowance down to 1/4 inch (6 mm). Clip into every curve, and trim every corner.

Turn the entire vest right side out through one of the back shoulder openings. Press the vest thoroughly, making sure that all pointed edges are sharp (fig. E).

With right sides together, pin the shoulder seams together. Do not catch the back lining’s pressed seam allowance (fig. F). Stitch closed using a 1/2-inch (1.3 cm) seam allowance. Turn all seam allowances toward the back, and hand stitch the lining shoulder seam in place (fig. G).

**finishing**

Topstitch close to the edge around the perimeter of the vest and armhole (fig. H). Hand quilt around the diamond shapes with embroidery floss.

Add three buttons and buttonholes. Sew three buttonholes horizontally on the left side for boys and on the right for girls.

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**wonky cottage LAP QUILT**

Cozy up on the porch under this wonderfully wonky lap quilt. Off-kilter house blocks and stitched details add to the charm.
make the wonky house blocks

1. Gather the stash fabrics in assorted colors and use roof templates A, B, and C to cut six A roofs, six B roofs, and six C roofs. From the white fabrics, cut 18 strips that measure 4 1/2 x 18 inches (11.4 x 45.7 cm). Each house block uses one strip.

2. From one of the white strips, cut a portion that measures 10 1/4 inches (26 cm) in length. Lay roof A onto the 10 1/4-inch (26 cm) strip of white fabric, centering the bottom edge of the roof on the strip.

3. Using a quilter’s ruler, cutting mat, and rotary cutter, cut the white fabric along the roofline. Remove the white fabric underneath the patterned fabric roof and stitch the patterned roof piece to the white background pieces along the roofline (fig. A).

4. Repeat steps 2 to 3 for the remaining A, B, and C houses.

5. For each house block A, cut one piece of coordinating fabric that measures 4 1/2 x 5 inches (11.4 x 12.7 cm). From the remainder of a white fabric strip, cut two pieces that measure 4 1/2 x 2 3/4 inches (11.4 x 7 cm). Sew together the fabric pieces to complete the house portion of each block (fig. B).

6. Stitch together the pieced top and bottom portions of each block. You will notice a slight bit of excess fabric on the top portions of the blocks. This extra fabric allows you to exaggerate the “wonkiness” of the house block, if desired, by nudging the roof a bit more to one side. After piecing, flip over the entire wonky house block, press the block, and use a rotary cutter to trim off excess fabric so that it measures 8 5/8 x 8 5/8 inches (21.6 x 21.6 cm) (fig. C).

7. Using the same techniques as for wonky house block A, use the following measurements to create wonky house blocks B and C:
   - For each block B: Cut a piece of coordinating fabric that measures 4 1/2 x 4 inches (11.4 x 10.2 cm). From the remainder of a white fabric strip, cut two pieces that measure 4 1/2 x 2 3/4 inches (11.4 x 7 cm).
   - For each block C: Cut a piece of coordinating fabric that measures 4 1/2 x 4 inches (11.4 x 11.4 cm). From the remainder of a white fabric strip, cut two pieces that measure 4 1/2 x 2 3/4 inches (11.4 x 6.4 cm).

8. From your fabric stash, cut small rectangles and trapezoids to make doors and windows. There are no templates for these pieces. Dare to exaggerate proportions to achieve a playful look. Pin and zigzag stitch in place (fig. D).

finishing

1. From assorted white fabrics, cut 17 blocks that measure 8 5/8 x 8 5/8 inches (21.6 x 21.6 cm). Line up the house blocks, alternating with the white blocks, to create a total of seven rows. Stitch together the blocks in each row. Press the seams toward the solid white blocks. Then stitch the rows together.

2. If needed, piece together coordinating fabrics to create a backing that measures 43 x 57 inches (109.2 x 144.8 cm). Layer the quilt top with the batting and backing, and pin the layers together.

3. Stitch in the ditch around all the blocks. Then free-motion quilt in the large white squares, and topstitch 1/4 inch (6 mm) from the seams around the roofs and houses. Use embroidery floss to add hand quilting around the windows and doors of some of the houses.

4. Cut fabric for binding that is 2 1/4 inches (5.7 cm) wide and 6 yards (5.5 m) long. Press the fabric in half lengthwise. Pin and stitch the binding to the outside edge of the quilt top (fig. E). Trim any excess from the fabric layers.

5. Turn the binding over the edge and blind stitch the binding in place.
the shoulder strap

1. From a coordinating fabric, cut two strips that measure 4 x 32 inches (10.2 x 81.3 cm) and one strip that measures 2 x 7 inches (5.1 x 17.8 cm).

2. Fold the larger strips in half lengthwise with right sides together, and stitch, using a 1/4-inch (6 mm) seam allowance, pivoting at the corner on one end of each strip. Clip the corners diagonally and turn the strips right side out.

3. Fold the quilt in half lengthwise and roll it up. Mark 6 inches (15.2 cm) from the outer bound edge and the folded edge just above the binding on the quilt. Sew a long strip at each mark (fig. F).

4. Press the smaller strip in half lengthwise and then press in both unfinished edges 1/4 inch (6 mm). Stitch the strip closed along the folded edge. Cut the strip into two pieces measuring 3 1/2 inches (8.9 cm).

5. While the quilt is rolled up, mark placement for the smaller strips, which will serve as loops. Fold the ends of the smaller strips under 1/4 inch (6 mm). Place them on the quilt, lining them up with the straps, about 7 inches (17.8 cm) from the bound and folded edges of the quilt. Allow the strips to bow just a little, then stitch in place to make loops.

6. Thread the straps through the loops and tie the straps in a bow as desired to create a shoulder strap.

variation!

Make the quilt to match your neighborhood. Surrounded by greenery? Nestle your houses among patchwork trees. Need something more urban? Try little wonky apartment buildings.
Hobo bag
(enlarge 400%)

Template A

Heart
Template cut 6

Little sweetheart dress
(enlarge 200%)

Template A

Wonky cottage lap quilt
(enlarge 200%)

Template B

Sew on the go kit
(enlarge 200%)

Template G

Dresden plate rug
(enlarge 200%)

Template A
Template B
Template C
Template D
Template E
Template F

Sew on the go kit
(enlarge 200%)

Template C
Template B
Template A