Dresden Bed Runner

Learn this quick and easy technique to make Dresden Plate Blocks, and you'll enjoy putting several together in our quilted Dresden Bed Runner, with no tricky piecing, and guaranteed "Wow" factor!

We chose muted creams and coffee brown fabrics for our Dresden 'Flowers', but you can easily change the colours around to suit your home décor.

This quilted bed runner is 92 inches long and 19½ inches wide. It is pictured on a Queen sized bed.

You Will Need: (The suggested fabrics relate to the ones we used.)

3 yards/metres plain dark beige for background, blocks and backing (Colour 3)

1/3 yard/metre cream print with squares (Colour 2)

Fat Quarter or equivalent of pale spotty print (Colour 7)

Fat Quarter or equivalent of pale swirl print (Colour 5)

¾ yard/metre plain mid beige for blocks and binding (Colour 4)

Fat Quarter or equivalent of dark spiral print (Colour 6)

Fat Quarter or equivalent of plain cream fabric (Colour 1)

Batting measuring at least 96 x 22 inches

Small amount of fusible webbing for applique

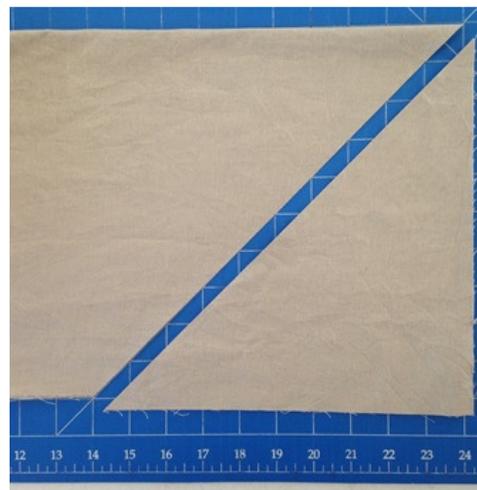In order, shown are colours 3, 2, 7, 5, 4, 6 and 1.

Cut:

From the plain dark beige fabric (Colour 3), cut one long strip measuring 92 x 20 inches for the background.

Cut a second strip measuring 96 x 22 inches for the backing. Put it aside for now.

Fold the <u>background</u> strip in half lengthways and lay on your cutting board with the fold at the top. Line up one end on a 45 degree line (on your board or use your ruler) and trim the corners away as pictured. **Make sure you have the fold at the top to cut as pictured.**

Repeat for the other end. This will give each end a perfect point.

The **Large Centre Flower** has a 16 inch large outer ring, with a 10 inch middle ring, and a 6 inch ring on top.

For the 16 inch outer ring – use the 5 blade template and cut: Cut 10 from Colour 1

Cut 10 from Colour 2

For the 10 inch middle ring – use the 4 blade template and cut: Cut 8 from Colour 3

Cut 8 from Colour 4

For the 6 inch top ring – use the 3 blade template and cut: Cut 6 from Colour 5

Cut 6 from Colour 6

There are two **Medium Flowers**, each with a 10 inch bottom and 6 inch top ring.

For the 10 inch bottom ring – use the 4 blade template and cut: Cut 16 from Colour 6

Cut 16 from Colour 4

For the 6 inch top ring – use the 3 blade template and cut: Cut 12 from Colour 7

Cut 12 from Colour 2

There are two **Small Flowers**, with a single 6 inch ring for each.

For the 6 inch ring - use the 3 blade template and cut: Cut 12 from Colour 5

Cut 12 from Colour 1

The **ends of the runner** end in 90 degree points, and there is a quarter Dresden Plate with a 16 inch bottom and 10 inch top ring on each end.

For the 16 inch bottom ring – use the 5 blade template and cut: Cut 6 from Colour 6

Cut 4 from Colour 4

For the 10 inch top ring – use the 4 blade template and cut: Cut 4 from Colour 7

Cut 4 from Colour 1

Piecing:

Making the blades for your Dresden Plate Blocks is easy.

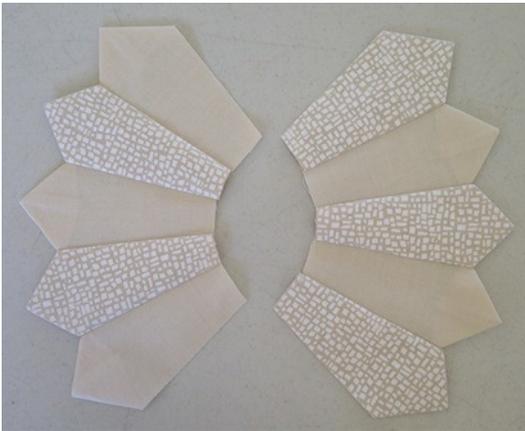Using the templates provided, cut the required numbers of fabric shapes for your blocks.

With right sides together, fold the wide top in half, matching the corner points.

Sew across the top with a ¼ inch seam.

Trim the corner and turn right sides out.

Fold so the seam runs down the centre at the back and press to make one Dresden blade.

For the large centre flower, you will use colours 1 and 2.

With right sides together, join the blades together in sets of 5, alternating the colours. Two of these quarter blocks will start and end with Colour 1 and two will start and end with Colour 2.

Press seams well. (You may like to press these open.)

Join your quarters together, so you make a full circle with alternating colour blades as pictured.

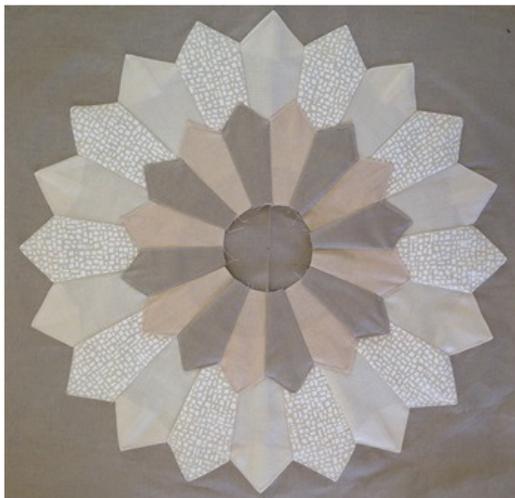Fold your background strip in half and iron a crease to mark the centre.

Position your circle evenly over the centre line and pin in place.

Using matching thread, topstitch around the outer edge to applique your Dresden Plate in position.

Don't worry about the inner edge, as the next ring will cover it.

Using colours 3 and 4, and your 4 blade template, cut and piece the middle ring.

Using the centre line crease again, position the middle ring over the large outer ring.

The points will not line up – just use the seam lines to line it up with the centre crease.

Pin, and topstitch in place around the outer edge.

Using colours 5 and 6, and the 3 blade template, cut and piece the small top ring.

Position so it is centred on top of the middle ring, and pin and applique in place around the outside edge.

Leave the centre for now, and continue on with the rest of the Dresden Plates.

Using colours 6 and 4, and your 4 blade template, cut and piece TWO rings with alternating blades.

Place these rings centred on the background and 2 inches away from the large Dresden flower in the middle. There will be one medium sized flower either side of the large centre one.

Pin and topstitch in place.

Using colours 7 and 2, and the 3 blade template, cut and piece TWO small plates as pictured.

Align the top ring evenly on the bottom ring and pin and topstitch in place around the outer edge to finish the medium sized flowers.

Leave the centres for now.

Using colours 5 and 1, and your 3 blade template, cut and piece TWO plates for the small flowers.

These smallest rings are positioned on the background so they are centred and 1½ inches away from the edges of the medium sized flowers.
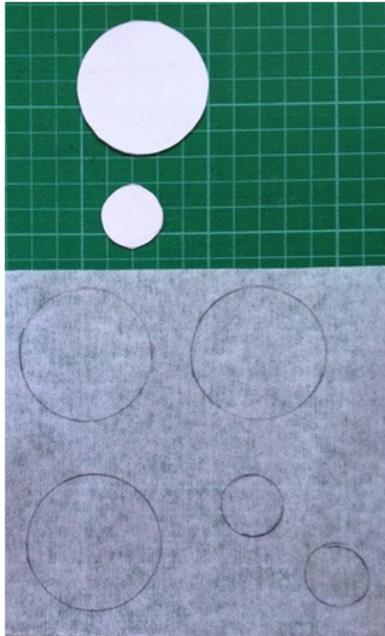
Pin and topstitch in place.

Finally, make the two quarter plates for the pointed ends of the runner.

Using colours 6 and 4, and the 5 blade template, cut and piece TWO bottom ring quarter plates. Both are the same.

Using colours 7 and 1 and the 4 blade template, cut and piece the TWO top ring quarters.

Position them so the raw edges line up and topstitch in place, each in turn.

Use the circular templates to make the middles for each of your flowers.
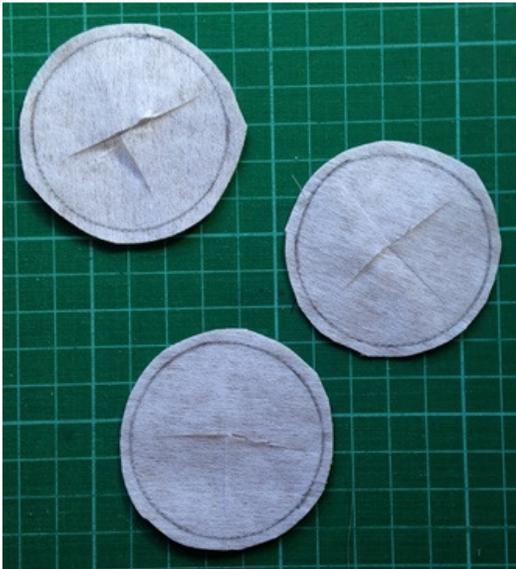
You will need to trace 2 of the large circles; 3 of the medium circles and 2 of the small circles on the non-fusible side of your fusible webbing.

The centres are all the same Colour 3.

Place the fusible side of the webbing on the right side of the fabric, and sew around each of the drawn circles.

Cut out each shape.

Carefully cut a cross in the middle of the webbing side of each circle shape.

Turn right sides out, and smooth the seam with your finger or the end of a blunt pencil.

Place the appropriately sized circle so it covers the centre of each flower, and press in place.

Topstitch around the circle to finish.

(The two large circles are for the pointed runner ends; the three medium sized circles are for the three middle flowers, and the 2 small circles are for the two little flowers at each end.

Trim the excess from the pointed ends once positioned and sewn.)

Quilting:

Place your backing fabric face down on a flat surface, then smooth the batting on top. Put your runner on top of that, centred and smoothed flat.

Pin the layers together in preparation for quilting. We echo quilted around each of the appliqued Dresden Plate layers, and around the centre circles. To keep this simple and more modern, we decided on straight line quilting for the background, on matching 45 degree angles, but you can quilt yours as you'd like.

Finishing:

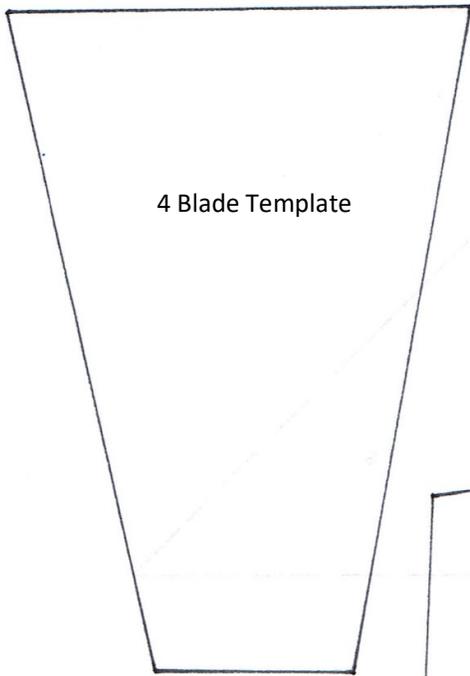Trim the batting and backing to match your quilt top.

Cut sufficient 2¼ inch binding strips from the remainder of the Colour 4 fabric (or your choice) and join together with 45 degree seams. Press the ¼ inch seams open, then fold the strip in half, right sides out and press.

Join the binding to the right side of the quilt edge with a quarter inch seam, mitring each corner as you go. Turn the folded edge of the binding to the back and slip stitch it in place with thread that matches the binding to finish.

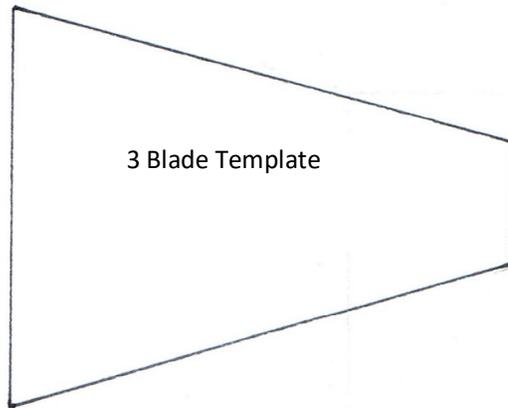~~~~~~

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www.OnlineQuiltMagazine.com .

There's a Free Monthly Magazine, or upgrade to our Premium Magazine for even more Patterns and Hints and Tips.
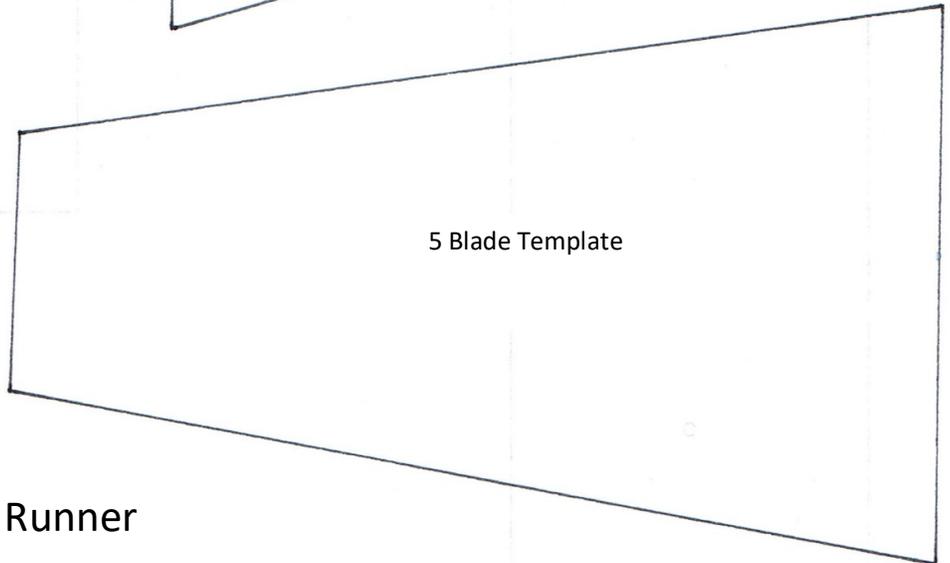
And don't forget, if you haven't already, visit www.3DollarQuiltBOM.com again and select your next quilt project so you can get started right away!
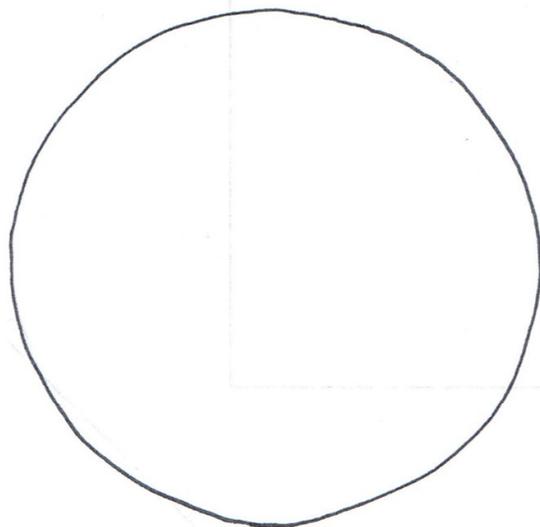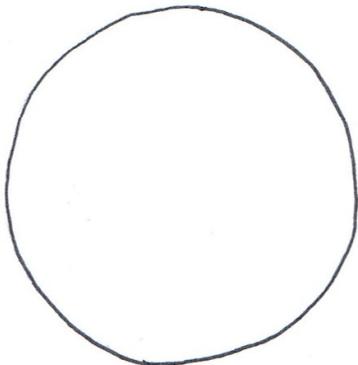
4 Blade Template

3 Blade Template

5 Blade Template

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Templates

Centre Circle Templates