



# "Feather" Pillow

Flk B002

Featuring one 8" square bird block from *The FLOCK*

**Finished pillow size, 16" square**

Designed by Joan Ford, Hummingbird Highway  
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*Accent your decor with a FLOCK of cheery pillows! These bird-themed pillows easily migrate between rooms! Choose your favorite bird block, and make this project as quickly as you can say "Ruby-throated Hummingbird!"*

*The samples pictured feature the Eastern Bluebird, the Gray Catbird, and the American Robin blocks from *The FLOCK*.*

## Materials needed

One 8½" square block

Inner border fabric: 1x42"

Outer border/backing print: ⅔ yard

*Possibly more, if the print is directional.*

2" coordinated scrap squares: 28

Single-sided fusible batting: 18½" square

Paper-backed fusible web: two 2x16½" strips

16" square pillow form

## Cutting

### From Inner border fabric:

- Cut two 1x8½" strips and two 1x9½" strips.

### From Outer border/backing print:

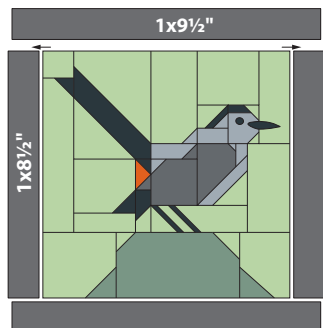
- Cut two 3½x42" strips. From *each* strip cut one 3½x12½" strip and one 3½x18½" strip.
- Cut two 14x16½" rectangles for the pillow backing.

## Construction

### Add the Inner Borders

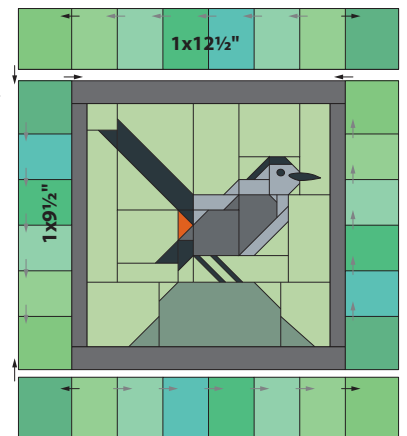
Refer to the illustration on the right.

- Sew a 1x8½" inner border strip to each side of the bird block. Press the seam toward the strip.
- Sew a 1x9½" inner border strip to the top and the bottom of the block. Press the seam toward the strip.
- The block measures 9½" square with inner borders.



### Add the Scrappy Border

- Sew six 2" scrap squares in a row. Press the seams to one side. Each scrappy side border strip measures 2x9½". Make two.
- Similarly, sew eight 2" scrap squares in a row. Press outer seams as shown on the right, and press the remaining seams to one side. Each top/bottom border strip measures 2x12½". Make two.
- Sew the scrappy side border strips, then the scrappy top/bottom border strips to the block assembly. Press the seams toward the inner border after each addition.
- The block assembly measures 12½" square.



## Construction (continued)

**Add the Outer Borders** Refer to illustration A.

- Sew a  $3\frac{1}{2}\times 12\frac{1}{2}$ " border strip to each side of the block assembly. Press the seams toward the outer borders.
- Sew a  $3\frac{1}{2}\times 18\frac{1}{2}$ " border strip to the top and bottom of the block assembly. Press the seams toward the outer borders.
- The pillow top measures  $18\frac{1}{2}$ " square. It will be trimmed in the next step.

## Quilt (Optional) the Top and Trim

*Backing the pillow top with single-sided fusible batting, then quilting it, will encase the raw edges from the piecing on the back of the pillow top, making it less apt to fray.*

- Fuse the batting to the wrong side of the pillow top. Quilt.
- Centering the design, trim the pillow top to  $16\frac{1}{2}$ " square.

## Make the Back

*Important: For directional fabric, lay out the pillow back pieces and note the upper edges before hemming.*

- Place the fusible side of the  $2\times 16\frac{1}{2}$ " fusible web strip aligned with one  $16\frac{1}{2}$ " backing rectangle edge. Fuse the web in place, remove the paper, fold the fabric 2" from the edge, fuse again. Fold the fabric one more time 2" from the edge and crease firmly with an iron. Edgestitch, then topstitch about  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " from the fold.
- Repeat for the second backing piece.

## Mark the Corner Seam Adjustment

*This is an upholsterer's 'secret weapon' adjustment to keep the pillow corners squared.*

- Place the pillow top right side down on your work table. Make a mark  $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the corner as shown. Make a second mark on each adjacent side 4" from the corner. Draw a line on the batting connecting the marks. Repeat for all four corners.

## Assemble

Refer to illustration D

- Place the pillow top, right side up on a large work surface.
- Place one backing piece, right side down, on the pillow top with raw edges aligned.
- Place the second backing piece, right side down, on the pillow assembly, aligning the raw edges on the opposite side of the pillow top and overlapping the center hemmed openings.
- Pin liberally around the entire pillow assembly to secure the edges.
- Flip the entire assembly so the wrong (marked corner) side of the pillow top is facing up. Sew a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance around the entire outside edge, tapering at the corner markings, following the dashed line as shown in illustration C.
- Trim the corner seam allowances to  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Zigzag or serge along the outside edge to keep the raw edges from fraying with use.
- Turn the pillow assembly right side out through the opening in the back. Insert the  $16$ " pillow form.

