Applique Crab Feast by Mimi Dietrich

I love Baltimore Album quilts! But I also love to applique quick and easy fun designs. These crabs are just another type of Baltimore quilt! Make the quilt with blue fabric to show crabs in the Chesapeake Bay or stitch it in red to represent the steamed crabs we love to eat here in Baltimore!

Finished Quilt Size: 271/2" square

Finished Block Size: 7"

Materials:

- 44"-wide fabric
- 3/8 yd. light fabric for crab background
- 3/4 yd. fabric for crab "shells" and outer border
- 3/8 yd. fabric for crab "claws" and inner border
- 3/4 yd. print fabric for setting squares, triangles, and binding
- 1 yd. fabric for backing
- 36" x 36" piece of batting
- eight 3/8" round black buttons for eyes

Cutting

All measurements include 1/4"-wide seam allowances.

- 1. From the light fabric, cut 4 squares, each 7 1/2" x 7 1/2" for the crab backgrounds
- 2. From the "shell" fabric, cut 4 strips, each 3 ¹/₂" x 40" for the outer borders; cut 4 crab shells and 8 crab legs for applique
- 3. From the "claw" fabric, cut 4 strips, each 1 1/4" x 40" for the inner borders; cut 8 hearts for the claw appliques
- 4. From the print fabric, cut 1 square 7 ½" x 7 ½" for the center square; cut 1 square 11 1/4" x 11 1/4", crosscut twice diagonally for the 4 setting triangles; cut 2 squares, 6" x 6", crosscut once diagonally for the 4 corner squares; cut 3 strips, 2" x 40" for the binding.

Making the Crab Applique Blocks

- 1. Mark the design on the background squares.
- 2. Applique the legs, shell and hearts using your favorite applique technique.

Assembling the Quilt

- 1. Refer to the photo of the quilt, and arrange the crab squares, setting squares and triangles.
- 2. Sew the squares and triangles together to make the center of the quilt. Use 1/4" seams.
- 3. Sew two 1 1/4" strips to opposite sides of the quilt; trim them to match the edges of the quilt. Sew the remaining 1 1/4" strips to the top and bottom of the quilt. Trim.
- 4. Sew two 3 ½" strips to the sides of the quilt. Trim. Sew the remaining 3 ½" strips to the top and bottom of the quilt. Trim.

Finishing

- 1. Mark the quilt top with a design of your choice.
- 2. Layer the quilt top with batting and backing; baste.
- 3. Hand or machine quilt as desired.
- 4. Trim the batting and backing even with the edges of the quilt top. Sew the binding to the quilt.
- 5. Make and attach a label to your quilt.
- 6. Happy Crab Feast!

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This pattern should be 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " when printed. If it is not, please make sure that the "Fit to Page" checkbox is NOT checked when you print.