



Pattern of the Month - April 2019

"Scrappy Prickly Pear Cactus" (Fusible Applique Method)

A design by Val Hintze

From your scrap box, choose a variety of fabrics for each of your cactus pads. Use the layout or change the design using fewer or more pads or add other elements of choice to your block.

Fusible applique is quick and great for small designs allowing you to cut precise motifs. For this project, light-weight iron-on fusible is used, follow package instructions to prepare fabric cactus pads using the four patterns provided below.

Choose a light beige for your background, cut 7" wide x 9" long. Cut a second fabric (suggest brown or other earthy color) 7" wide x 2 1/2". Using a 1/4" seam, sew a strip of earth to bottom of beige rectangle. Next, if you wish to add a border to your block, cut a strip of light green or your choice of color 2 1/2" x 40" to add to top, bottom and each side of your block.

Arrange cactus pads on your block as shown in sample (or in similar manner). Follow package instructions to iron your applique pieces to the background.

After cactus pads are ironed onto background, decide if you want to use a decorative machine stitch to sew around each pad. This isn't necessary but adds interest to your design.

This project adapts well as a single block for a mini wall hanging or by changing background dimensions, make nice place mats.

I know you will have as much fun making this simple project as I did.

