The Bean Bag Quilt

60” x 60”

By Margo J. Clabo

Not only a quick, easy quilt, but a fun game! Toss a bean bag onto a matching quilt block!

Make a tube so children can “Toe the Line”!
FABRIC REQUIREMENTS:

Absolute minimum fabric requirements are given, with yardage that I would purchase in parenthesis.

Yardage assumes that borders will be cut on lengthwise straight of grain.

I chose bright cheerful colors with prints appropriate to the age group.

* 16 assorted fabrics 10-1/2” x 15-3/4” (16 assorted fat quarters)

* 50-1/2” x 25” minimum (1-1/2 yard) for sashing and inner border

* 60-1/2” x 24-1/2” minimum (1-3/4 yard) for outer border and corner stones

* 128” minimum (3-2/3 yards) for backing

* 14” x 40” minimum (1/2 yard) binding for 2” wide binding strips

* Approximately 4-1/2 pounds of dried beans to fill the bean bags and the tube.

CUTTING DIRECTIONS:

From each fat quarter, cut a square 10-1/2” x 10-1/2” for the quilt, and two 5-1/4” squares for a bean bag. The size of the bean bags is arbitrary, but I wouldn’t make them much larger than this.

From ONLY ONE of the fat quarters cut a 4” x 18” strip to use for a tube to “Toe The Line”.

Set aside the large squares for the quilt. We will make the bags and tube first.
ASSEMBLY FOR BEAN BAGS:

For each fabric, draw a circle on the back of one of the small squares. I used an Olfa Rotary Circle Cutter to make a 5” circle template out of a piece of a recycled manila folder, and just used a Sharpie marker to draw the shape on the back of one of the squares.

The tube to “Toe The Line” is a great place to take advantage of a small border print!

With right sides together stitch ¼” inside the drawn circle of each pair of circles, leaving a one to two inch opening. Trim on the drawn line.
ASSEMBLY FOR THE TUBE:

From the 4” x 18” rectangle, form the tube to “Toe The Line” by folding right sides together; stitch the long side and one short end.

OR…….Because I wanted to center the border motif on the front of the tube, I pressed the seam allowance in the center of the back then stitched one end closed. I used a tube turner to turn the tube right side out.

I used a large funnel to fill each bean bag with approximately ½ cup of dried beans then stitched the opening securely closed. For the tube I used 1 cup of beans, and left enough slack for the tube to be folded in half. A small gift bag makes a great tote for all the bags and tube, or you can easily make a tote bag out of the leftover fabric from the fat quarters!

(Be aware that this tube and the bags are likely to be used as weapons by some children!
I’m just sayin’…….)
CUTTING DIRECTIONS FOR QUILT:

For inner borders, cut:  
2 lengthwise strips 2-1/2” x 50-1/2”
2 lengthwise strips 2-1/2” x 46-1/2”

For sashing strips, cut:  
6 lengthwise strips 2-1/2” x 50”
(sub-cut each of these strips into 4 sashing strips -
2-1/2” x 10-1/2” for a total of 24 sashing strips)

For outer borders, cut:  
2 lengthwise strips 5-1/2” x 60-1/2”
2 lengthwise strips 5-1/2” x 50-1/2”
9 sashing cornerstones 2-1/2” x 2-1/2”

For binding, cut and piece:  
7 strips 2” wide to make
approximately 260” of straight of grain binding

ASSEMBLY DIRECTIONS FOR QUILT

Assemble 4 rows alternating 4 squares with 3 sashing strips:

Assemble 3 rows alternating 4 sashing strips with 3 cornerstones:

Assemble center of quilt by alternating the assembled rows.

Add top and bottom inner borders, then left and right inner borders.

Add top and bottom outer borders, then left and right outer borders.

Layer with batting and backing; quilt as desired; bind and add a label.
I got the idea for this quilt and bean bags from TQS member Bridget473

http://www.thequiltshow.com/os/profile.php/screenname/Bridget473

and made it for the children of friends of my oldest son. They were a huge hit with the children and the mom, who said that the tube was great to keep them from standing right over the quilt and dropping the bean bags!

I hope you enjoy making a set for some children in your life, and would love it if you could send me pictures!

http://www.thequiltshow.com/os/profile.php/member_no/1008258