

# Virginia Reel Pillow



A complimentary design by Amanda Murphy.

AMANDA *AM* MURPHY

## Virginia Reel Pillow

<http://www.amandamurphydesign.com>

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*I named the quilt that inspired this pillow "Virginia Reel" because the pinwheels that are suspended from pairs of columns remind me of dancers spinning through a colonial reel. For the pillow, those columns wrap completely around the pillow form onto the back, for a unique, professional finish.*

### Materials

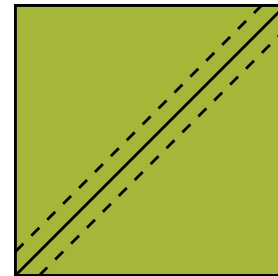
- 1/4 yard dark pink and gold diamond fabric (AAM-11491-239)
- 1/4 yard white dotted fabric (AAM-11492)
- 1/4 yard yellow floral (AAM-11485-238)
- 1 (2-1/2") aqua floral strip (AAM-11488-70)
- 1 (2-1/2") dark pink tulip strip (AAM-11486-239)
- 2 (4") green dotted squares (AAM-11492-218)
- 1 (8-3/4" x 16-1/2") pink paisley rectangle for back center panel (AAM-11484-239)
- 16" pillow form
- 3 (1") buttons
- 2 (2" x 16-1/2") strips of fusible interfacing

### Cutting

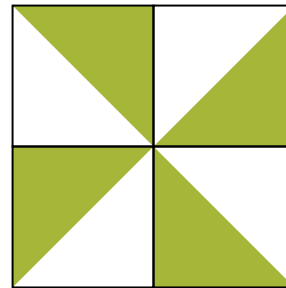
- From diamond fabric cut 1 (2-1/2") strip and 1 (4-1/2") strip. From (4-1/2") strip, cut 6 (4-1/2") squares.
- From white dotted fabric cut 1 (2-1/2") strip, 2 (4") squares, 2 (1-1/2" x 6-1/2") rectangles, and 2 (1-1/2" x 8") rectangles.
- From yellow floral cut 1 (2-1/2") strip. From strip, cut 4 (2-1/2" x 4-1/2") rectangles and one (2-1/2" x 16-1/2") rectangle. Cut a (4-3/4" x 16-1/2") rectangle from the remainder of your fabric.
- From aqua floral strip, cut 8 (2-1/2" x 4-1/2") rectangles.
- From (2-1/2") dark pink strip, cut 4 (2-1/2" x 4-1/2") rectangles and 4 (2-1/2") squares.

## Pillow Front

1. Draw a diagonal line on the back of each of the both green (4") squares. Draw another line 1/4" on each side of the diagonal, as shown in **Diagram 1**. Stitch over the outer lines and then cut in half on the original diagonal. Press seams open and trim to 3-1/2" squares. Sew 4 squares into a pinwheel formation as shown in **Diagram 2**.

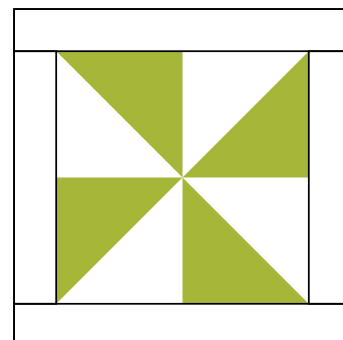


**Diagram 1**



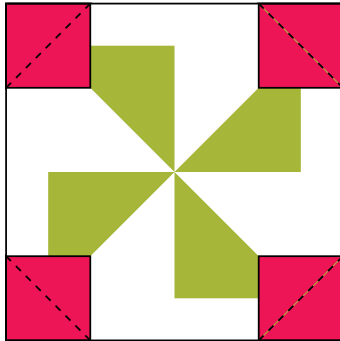
**Diagram 2**

2. Sew a (1-1/2" x 6-1/2") background rectangle onto the sides of the pinwheel, pressing seams toward pinwheel. Sew a (1-1/2" x 8-1/2") rectangle onto the top and bottom of the pinwheel, as shown in **Diagram 3**, pressing seams away from pinwheel.



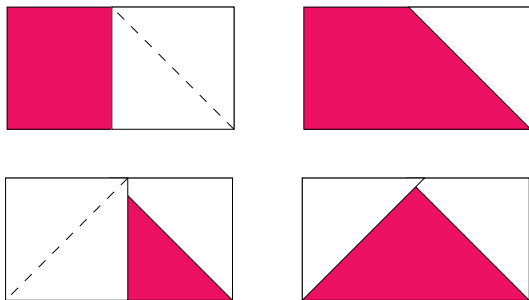
**Diagram 3**

3. Draw a diagonal line on the back of each (2-1/2") dark pink square. Sew a square onto each corner of your pinwheel unit, following the diagonal line, as shown in **Diagram 4**. Trim seam allowance, and press out.



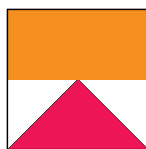
**Diagram 4**

4. To make flying geese draw a diagonal line on the back of each (2-1/2") white dotted square. Position a square on top of a (2-1/2" x 4-1/2") rectangle **RIGHT SIDES TOGETHER** as shown in **Diagram 5** and sew on top of the diagonal line. Trim seam allowance and press **OPEN**. Position the other square on top of this unit **RIGHT SIDES TOGETHER** as shown below and sew on top of the diagonal line. Trim seam allowance and press open. Make 4 flying geese.



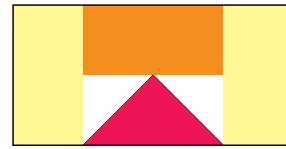
**Diagram 5**

5. Join a (2-1/2" x 4-1/2") diamond rectangle to the top of each of your flying geese, as shown in **Diagram 6**.



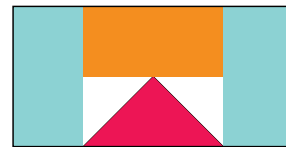
**Diagram 6**

6. Join a (2-1/2" x 4-1/2") yellow floral rectangle to each side of 2 of the flying geese, as shown in **Diagram 7**.



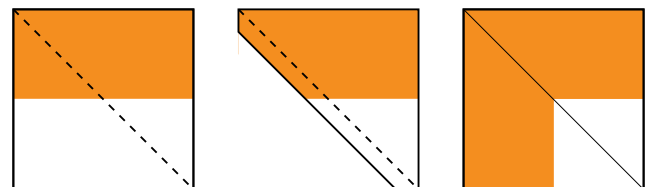
**Diagram 7**

7. Join a (2-1/2" x 4-1/2") aqua floral rectangle to each side of 2 of the flying geese, as shown in **Diagram 8**.



**Diagram 8**

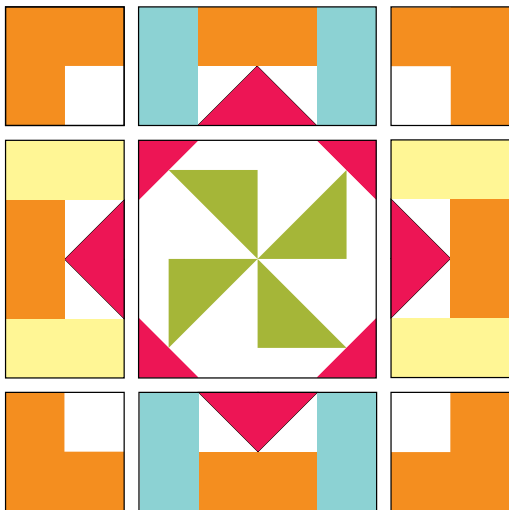
8. Join the long side of the (2-1/2") white strip to the (2-1/2") diamond strip **RIGHT SIDES TOGETHER**. Cut in half. Press seam toward the white fabric for one half of the strip, and cut 4 (4-1/2") units from that strip. Press seam toward the diamond fabric for the other half of the strip, and cut 4 (4-1/2") units from each strip. Draw a diagonal line on the back of each of these 4 units.
9. Pin a (4-1/2") unit from each set **RIGHT SIDES TOGETHER**, making sure that the rectangles are oriented the same way and the seam locks. Stitch on top of your diagonal line, following **Diagram 9**. Trim seam allowance to 1/4", **making sure that you are trimming the side with more white fabric**. (Don't ask me how I know this!) Press seam open.



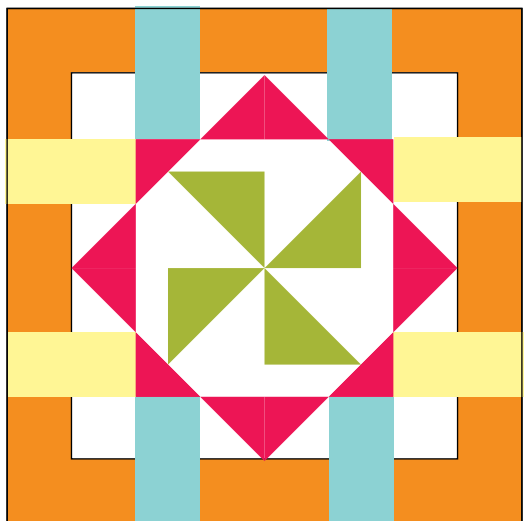
**Diagram 9**

10. Join blocks into rows, as shown in **Diagram 10**

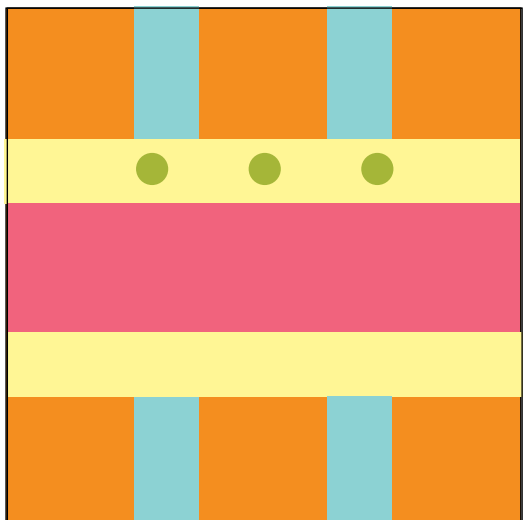
**10.** Join rows. Set pillow top aside.



**Diagram 10**



**Pillow Front**



**Pillow Back**

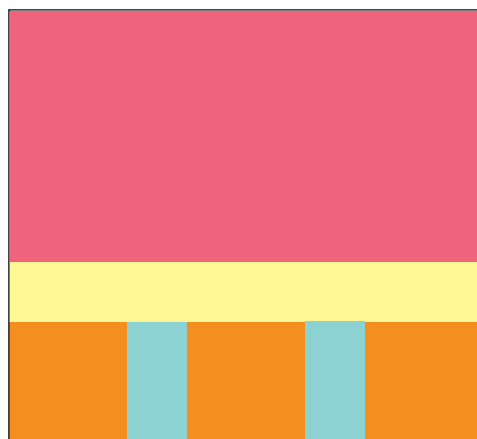
## Pillow Back

1. Making sure to orient diamond print vertically, join 3 (4-1/2") diamond squares with 2 (2-1/2" x 4-1/2") aqua rectangles, as shown in Diagram 11. Repeat to make 2 units.



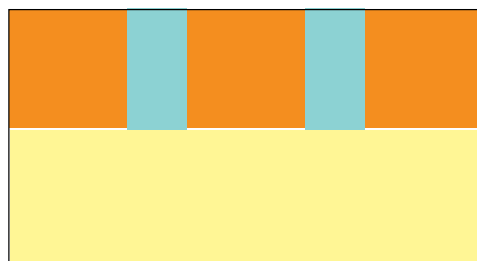
**Diagram 11**

2. To make the "button panel", join 1 of these diamond units to the (2-1/2" x 16-1/2") yellow rectangle, as shown in Diagram 12. Join the other long edge of the yellow rectangle to the (8-3/4" x 16-1/2") pink paisley rectangle.



**Diagram 12**

3. Turn the remaining long edge of the pink rectangle under 1/2" and press. Turn under the same side 2" and press. Slip in an interfacing strip into this fold and press to fuse. Turn this unit **WRONG SIDE UP** and topstitch 1/8" from the edge of the first fold to secure.
4. To make the "buttonhole panel", join the remaining diamond units to the (4-3/4" x 16-1/2") yellow rectangle, as shown below.



**Diagram 13**



5. Turn the remaining long edge of the buttonhole panel 1/2" and press. Turn under the same side 2" and press. (Your first folded edge will meet the seam that joins the buttonhole panel to the diamond unit.) Slip an interfacing strip into your buttonhole panel. Press to fuse interfacing. Turn this unit RIGHT SIDE UP and topstitch 1/8" from the seam, encasing the back side of the buttonhole panel in the process.
6. Make a light pencil mark in the center of the buttonhole panel and make another mark 3-1/2" on either side. Sew horizontal buttonholes in those locations. Open buttonholes. Set aside.
7. Baste top and bottom units together, so that the edge of the top unit just overlaps the topstitching on the bottom unit, and the entire unit is 16-1/2" in square. Open up buttonholes a little and mark button placement on bottom panel.

### **Pillow Assembly**

1. Pin front of pillow to back of pillow RIGHT SIDES TOGETHER, lining up seams, and stitch 1/4" from edge. Clip corners. Remove basting, turn right side out, and apply buttons.
2. Slip in your pillow. If it is too tight (the stuffing for one of my 16" pillow forms is a bit on the generous side) remove some of the stuffing. Enjoy your pillow!