

# Fire Island



The large pieces and simple design are very forgiving for those wanting to practice their techniques. The large picket-fence units that star in the quilt provide a substantial opportunity to feature your favorite fabrics, and offer lots of space to try out a variety of custom quilting motifs.

Designed by John Q. Adams, pieced by Daisy Mier Fredericks; quilted by Angela Walters.

FINISHED QUILT: 68½" × 76½"



## Cutting

**From the lengthwise grain of the red solid, cut:**

1 strip, 68½" long; cut the strip into:

3 strips, 4½" × 68½"

10 strips, 4½" × 32½"

1 strip, 32½" long; cut the strip into 8 strips, 4½" × 32½"

**From the remainder of the red solid, cut:**

4 strips, 4½" × 42"; cut into 32 squares, 4½" × 4½"

**From each assorted print, cut:**

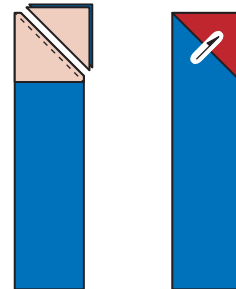
4 rectangles, 4½" × 16½" (32 total)

**From the red print, cut:**

8 strips, 2½" × 42"

## Making the Picket-Fence Patchwork

1. Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the wrong side of each red square. Place a marked square on one end of a print rectangle, right sides together. Sew on the marked line. Trim the excess corner fabric, leaving a ¼" seam allowance, and press the resulting triangle open. Make a total of 32 units that are 4½" × 16½".



Make 32 units,  
4½" × 16½".

## Materials

Yardage is based on 42"-wide fabric. Fat quarters measure 18" x 21".

3⅔ yards of red solid (or shot cotton\*) for background

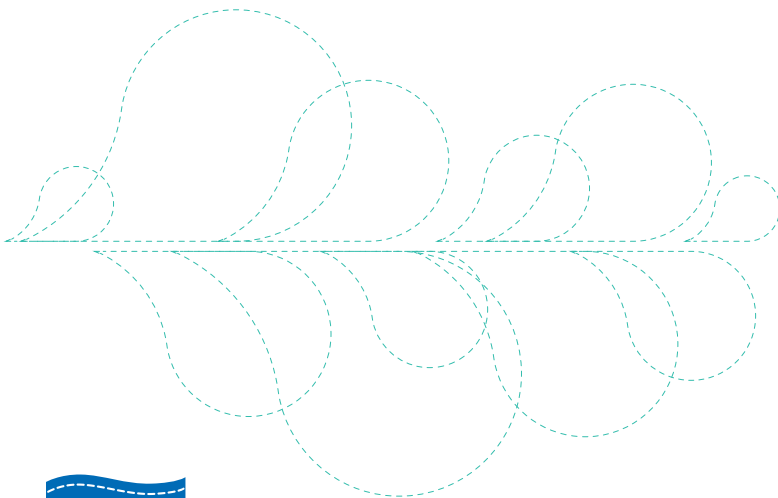
8 fat quarters of assorted prints for picket-fence units

⅔ yard of red print for binding

4¾ yards of fabric for backing

77" × 85" piece of batting

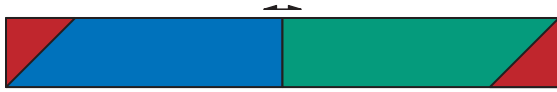
\*John used shot cotton, which uses one thread color for the warp and a different thread color for the weft, giving the fabric depth and visual interest.



## SEW EASY

If you want to eliminate marking a diagonal line, you can simply "eyeball" the diagonal line for stitching. Or you can fold the squares in half diagonally and crease them to mark the sewing line. Just make sure to sew a straight seam from corner to corner.

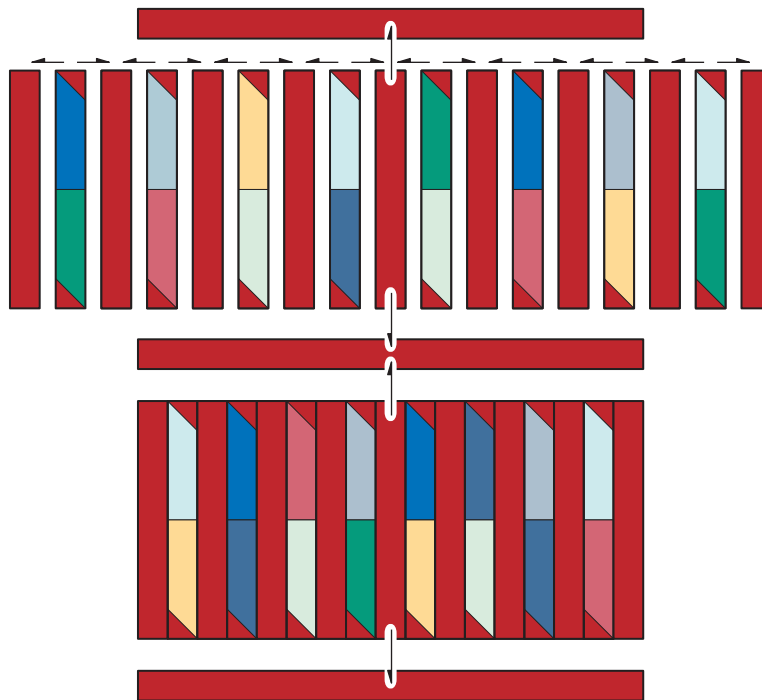
2. Randomly sew the units together into pairs to make 16 eye-pleasing picket-fence units that measure  $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 16\frac{1}{2}''$ . Press the seam allowances open.



Make 16 units,  
 $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 32\frac{1}{2}''$ .

## Assembling the Quilt Top

1. Join eight picket-fence units and nine red  $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 32''$  strips to make a row, alternating the units and strips as shown in the quilt assembly diagram below. Press the seam allowances toward the red strips. Repeat to make a second row. The rows should measure  $32\frac{1}{2}'' \times 68\frac{1}{2}''$ .



Quilt assembly

2. Lay out the two pieced rows and the three red  $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 68\frac{1}{2}''$  strips, alternating them as shown in the quilt assembly diagram. Sew the rows and strips together to complete the quilt top. Press the seam allowances toward the red strips. The quilt top should measure  $68\frac{1}{2}'' \times 76\frac{1}{2}''$ . Trim and square up the quilt top as needed.

## Quilting and Finishing

1. Piece and trim the backing fabric so it is 6" to 8" larger than the quilt top. Layer the quilt top with batting and backing and quilt! (See quilting ideas on page 4.)
2. Use the red print  $2\frac{1}{2}''$ -wide strips to make double-fold binding; sew the binding to the quilt.





Show off your quilting prowess by featuring a variety of favorite designs, both in the patchwork pickets and in the red background. Here you'll notice ribbon candy, woodgrain, echoed spirals, parallel diagonal lines, and more.