

Jelly Roll Rug – Carol Wilhoit

Supply List and Preparation Instructions

If you have questions about the preparation, email Carol Wilhoit at carolquilts123@gmail.com.

The jelly roll rug is an oval or rectangular rug stitched on a zigzag sewing machine using batting strips and 2 ½” wide strips of fabric. This easy and fun to make project creates a rug that is reminiscent of a braided rag rug. Choose colors to match your décor, add a festive touch for a holiday, or show your team spirit. One jelly roll makes an oval rug approximately 30” x 44” in size or four oval placemats.

This is a two-session class. Plan to attend both sessions. At the first session, participants will begin to join the fabric strips and stitch them into a long batting-filled tube. Complete this stitching at home to prepare for the second session. At the second class, attendees will begin to coil and stitch the batting-filled tube into a rug.

Pattern:

- Jelly-Roll Rug by RJ Designs

Materials

- **One jelly roll** (40 strips of fabric, each 2 ½” wide by the width of the fabric (about 40” - 44”)
 - You may use a purchased jelly roll or you may cut your own strips from fabrics that you select. If you choose to cut your own strips, I suggest that you cut them prior to class so that you have more time in class to sew.
- **Thread** – You will need a large spool, at least 1200 yards of 50 weight thread. The thread does show, so select a color that looks good with your fabrics. You can choose a solid color or a variegated thread, or you may choose to use different thread colors on different fabrics.
- **100% cotton batting** – See comment below and choose ONE of the following options:
 - two 25-yard rolls or one 50-yard roll of 2 ½” wide batting strips
 - OR**
 - two 25-yard rolls or one 50-yard roll of 2 ¼” wide batting strips
 - OR**
 - 1 ½ yards of 96” wide batting, cut into 18 strips, each 2 ¼” wide or 2 ½” wide by the width of the batting (about 96”). If you choose to cut your own strips, I suggest that you cut them prior to class so that you have more time in class to sew.

Please note that it is important to use 100% cotton batting.

COMMENT on width of batting strips: The Jelly Roll pattern calls for 2 ½” wide batting strips. However, precut batting strips are now available in two widths: 2 ¼” and 2 ½”. I tested the two widths and found that it is a little easier to work with the narrower (2 ¼”) batting strips and that there is little, if any, change in size of the finished rug. Either the 2 ½” wide or the 2 ¼” wide batting strips will be fine for class. **Please note that the width of the FABRIC strips remains at 2 ½” regardless of which size of batting is used.**

See page 2 for tools and sewing supplies.

Other Supplies

- **Sewing machine** that will sew a zigzag stitch at least 5 mm wide. The machine also needs to be able to sew a straight stitch and be able to stitch through multiple layers of fabric and batting.
 - Be sure that your sewing machine is in good working order and that you know how to operate your machine.
 - Be sure to bring bobbins for the machine, the foot pedal and the electric cord.
 - Some students prefer to bring a lightweight machine to class. However, this is a project that requires a machine with enough power to stitch through many layers, and some lightweight machines may produce disappointing results.
- **Extension table for your machine** if you have one. The larger the flat surface that you have around the machine, the easier it will be to make a flat rug.
- **Presser feet** for the machine: bring an all-purpose foot that allows you to zigzag. If you have them, also bring a ¼” foot, an open toe foot and a walking foot, though these are not essential. The “best” foot for this project can vary, depending upon the particular sewing machine.
- **Sewing machine needles:**
 1. **Needle for piecing:** such as a size 80/12 Universal needle.
 2. **Needle for finishing the rug: Size 100/16.** The best type of needle for stitching through all of the layers in the rug may vary from one sewing machine to another. While Jeans needles are recommended by the pattern designer, my experience and that of previous students is that a size 100/16 Topstitch needle or 100/16 Universal needle may work better than the Jeans needle.
- **Basic sewing supplies** (scissors, pins, machine needles, bobbins, seam ripper, safety pins, scissors, tape measure, etc.)
- **Pencil and marker for fabric**
- **Rotary cutter** with a sharp blade, cutting mat
- **Quilters’ rulers:** You will need a short ruler. If you have not cut your fabric or batting strips prior to class, also bring a 24” long ruler.
- **Wonder Clips** or small binder clips. (Bring one package, or as many as you have.)
- **For the second session:**
 - Bring a bowl, basket or box that is large enough to hold the ball of fabric/batting that you created. The bowl, basket or box will be placed on the floor under your machine.
 - **OPTIONAL:** You may want to try using a pair of quilting gloves or a seam ripper with a rubber end. If you already have these tools, bring them. I suggest that you not purchase them before class as they will be available to try in class. Some people find them to be helpful while others do not.