

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.

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, the manufacturer of precut batting strips now makes the strips 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.**

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.
- **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.
- **Mary Ellen’s Best Press (optional)**
- **Jeans needles and universal needles** for your sewing machine (size 14 or 16).
 - The jeans needle is designed to sew through heavy fabric and reduces the likelihood of needle breakage.
 - For many students/sewing machines, the jeans needle is a good choice for stitching through the many layers of fabric and batting. However, for some students/sewing machines, particularly with batik fabrics, a Universal needle gives better results.
- **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.)

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