

# X Marks the Spot

by Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen

A great way to use up your scraps: 5" squares and 'strings' too. It is remarkable how graphic & coordinated the design is, even though it uses pure scraps.



## **Fabric needed:**

- Lots of 5" squares. Stack and press into piles of 5 or so.
- The same number of 1.5" x 8.5" strips. They can be all the same fabric or scrappy too.

**Cut** the squares in half diagonally.

**Lay** a triangle right side down onto a 1.5" strip, right side up. Eyeball it so the centers match up.

**Tip:** if you don't feel comfortable 'eyeballing' the center, then fold both items in half and clip a small V off the fold. Then you can match the Vs up instead of using pins.

**Sew** a scant quarter-inch seam. Assembly-line this process by doing the same thing to all the half

triangles in that pile. Chain-piece all of them.

**Cut** apart the chain, keeping everything in order. Now that pile should match up with the 2<sup>nd</sup> pile of halves.

**Sew** that second half triangle onto the other side of the 1.5" strip. Again, match up the centers of both sides to aid in getting them square. Again, chain-piece the pile.

**Press** both seams to one side.

**Trim/Square up** block to 5" or 5  $\frac{1}{4}$ ", depending on your seam allowances. A great tool for this is a 6" to 8" square-up ruler with a diagonal line that runs corner to corner. Place that line near your diagonal fabric to help trim properly.

**Make a bunch!** **Lay** all the blocks out in a pleasing color design. Stand back. Ooh and Aah.

**Sew** the blocks together, quilt and bind!

(this block can, of course, can be made in any size. I had a bunch of 5" square scraps, and you might too!)

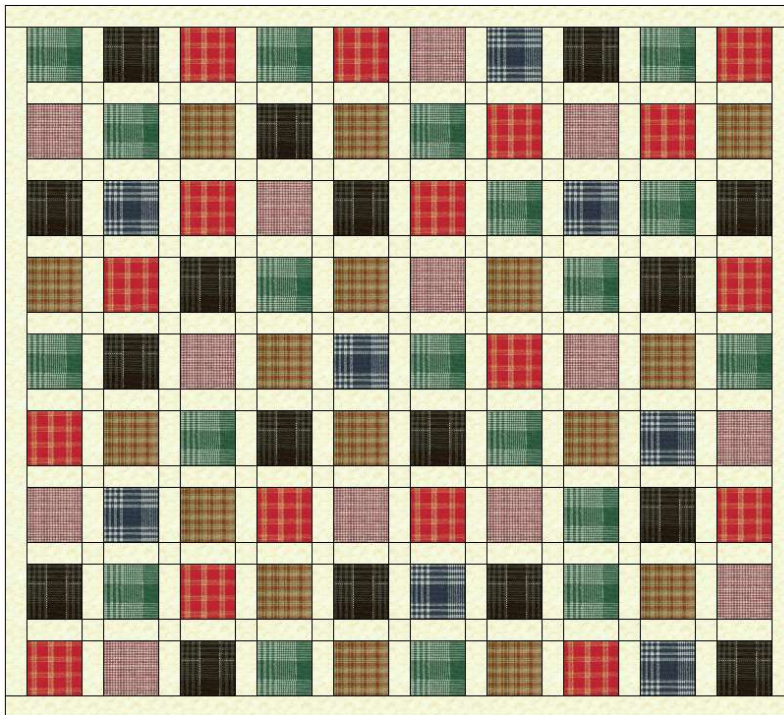
# Flannel Squares (or "what to do with flannel shirts")

*by Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen*

What to do when you take delivery of 7 or so well-loved flannel shirts? Chop them up of course, and make a quilt! I included pockets in some of my 5" squares, so it's a fun quilt to hide trinkets in. I used my serger for this quilt. Of course that isn't necessary, but if you have a serger, using two needles will help keep the flannel from raveling. This quilt would also work well with 5" packs (nickel packs).

## **Fabric needed:**

- 7-10 flannel shirts.
- Light fabric(s): 3 yards (I used Southern Belle off-white muslin)
- Batting : don't forget to buy white batting if your light is very white
- Backing and binding fabrics



**Cut** the flannel shirts: cut out the 'bones/seams' and then cut up the resulting fabric into 5" squares.

**Cut** the light fabric(s) into 2.25" strips on the lengthwise grain.

**Sub-Cut** a few of the light strips into 2.25" x 5" pieces. You will need almost as many pieces as there are flannel pieces. The last row doesn't need them.

**Sew** one little light strip onto one side each flannel square. Now you have a stack of "twosies". Leave enough flannel squares for the last row **without** that light strip.

**Lay** out your twosies into a pleasing arrangement.

**Start** sewing up those twosies into long rows, then sew those rows onto long strips of light. Be sure to match up your squares side by side as best you can.

The border is made with more 2.25" strips.



# Storage Pods



Finished Size: 5 ½" x 9 ½" x 5"  
(13.97cm x 24.13cm x 12.7cm)

## Supplies Needed

- 2 Fat Quarters — 18" x 21" (45.72cm x 53.34cm)
- 18" x 21" (45.72cm x 53.34cm) Cotton batting
- Coordinating thread
- Rotary cutter, mat, and acrylic ruler
- Basic sewing supplies
- Sewing machine
- Iron and pressing surface

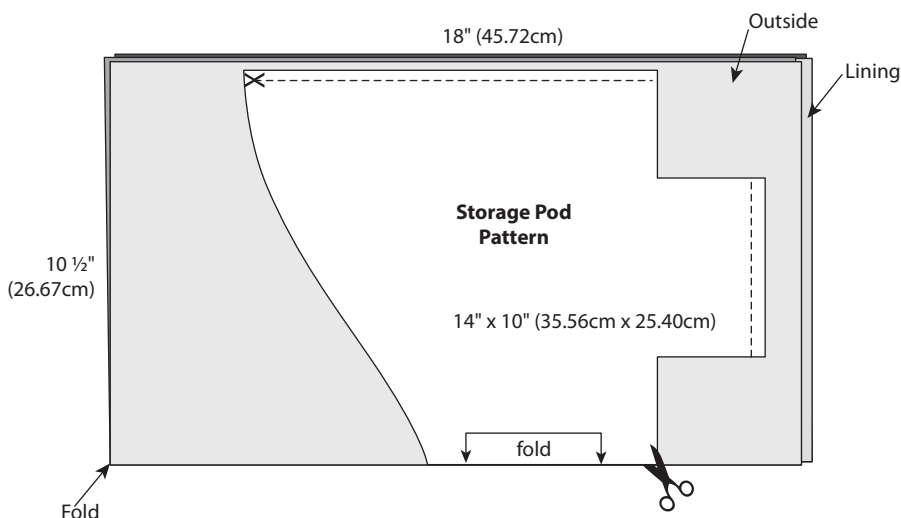
## Before You Begin

Read all instructions before beginning project. Do not prewash fabrics. Press fabrics with a dry iron on cotton setting before cutting. Use ¼" (6.35mm) seam allowance and sew fabrics with right sides together (RST) unless otherwise noted. Press seams in direction of arrows. wof = width of fabric.

Print Pattern at 100% scale. Check measurements after printing to ensure correct size. Cut out Storage Pod Pattern along outside lines.

## Cutting

1. Fold each Fat Quarter RST as shown. Layer the two Fat Quarters on top of each other with edges matching (or even) to cut both pieces at one time. Pin pattern to fabric matching fold with folded edge of fabric. Cut along outside line of pattern.
2. From remaining Lining fabric, cut out one rectangle 2 ¼" x 6" (5.72cm x 15.24cm) for Hanging Loop.
3. Use pattern to cut one piece of batting.



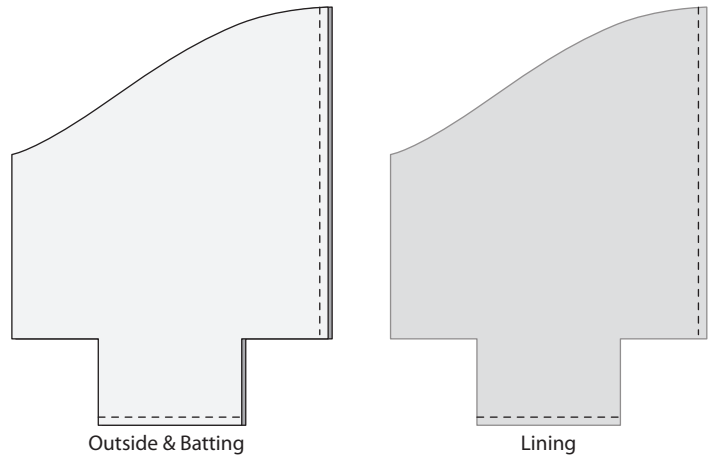


# Assembly

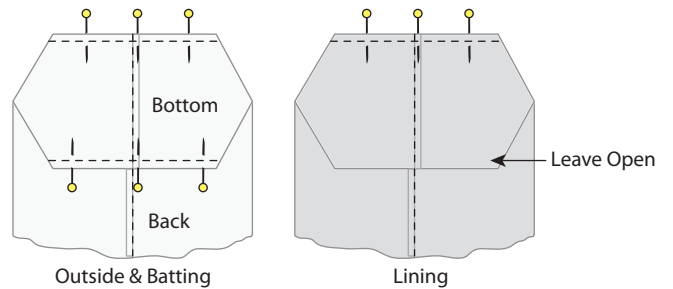
4. Layer batting with the **wrong** side of the Outside fabric and align cut edges. Fold RST as shown.

**Tip:** Press the batting and fabric together. The little bit of static helps them stay together during sewing.

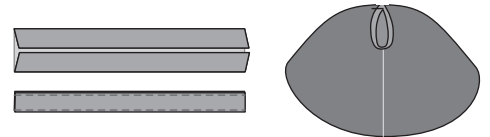
5. Pin and sew the back and bottom seams RST for the Outside and press. Repeat for the Lining.



6. Box both corners of the Outside bag. Open the bottom cut-out, align back and bottom seams, pin and stitch. Repeat for the other cut-out but align the center front and bottom seams; pin and stitch. Box one corner of the Lining leaving the front open for turning later.

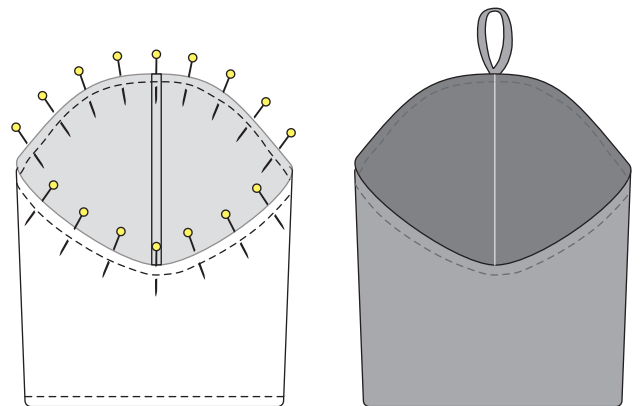


7. Fold strip 2 1/4" x 6" (5.72cm x 15.24cm) in half lengthwise, **wrong** sides together, and press. Open and re-fold each side to the center and press. Fold as shown and topstitch along both long edges. Fold strips so ends meet to form a loop. Center loop over back seam of Lining. Align at top edge and baste.



8. Turn Lining right side out and insert RST into the Outside. Match back seams and cut edges; pin well. Sew around the top edge.

Turn right side out through opening in Lining. Push out bottom corners and Hanging Loop; press top edge. Topstitch around the top close to the edge. Handstitch opening closed on the Lining.



## Finished Care Instructions

Machine wash in cold water, with mild detergent on gentle cycle. Lay flat to dry or tumble dry low; press.

