

TENDER TOUCH QUILT FOR ALZHEIMERS PATIENTS.

These quilts are made for Alzheimer’s patients that respond to the sense of touch. Even though these comforts are referred to as quilts, they are not filled with batting as normal quilts are, but backed with a heavy fabric, to give them stability and wearability.

Each quilt has 36 – 7” x 7” blocks as the base of the quilt. Each block is embellished in different ways to offer a tactile feel and interest for the user. No buttons or items that can be swallowed are included. Fabrics used are those that offer a different textural feeling like leather, velour, satin, lace, fur, corduroy, silk, polar fleece, velvet. Specialty fabrics like tulle, netting and cereal box plastic inserts (which give a great sound effect) are also used. Bright colours are recommended, but not essential. Once the blocks have been created, put them together using any technique that suits, back the quilt top with backing fabric and either bind or bag out to finish. A reminder: these quilts are not filled with batting, nor quilted.

Here are some photos and their recipes for inspiration.

Image of block	Recipe for Block
	<p>This block has a plain cotton background with three yo-yo (or Suffolk Puffs) machined onto the block.</p>
	<p>Four layers of fabric are placed on top of each other. A square grid is drawn on the top fabric layer.. The grid is 16 equal squares. Machine on all the grid lines With sharp scissors, cut from the centre of each of the squares, diagonally both ways, being very careful about not snipping the machine stitching. After completing the cutting, use a clothes brush to open the triangles.</p>
	<p>This base block is made with a very textured fabric similar to upholstery fabric and has a square of cotton fabric, folded into a triangle shape and fixed with stitching to the base block.</p>
Image of block	Recipe for Block

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This block has a cream base block made from wool, and has two ribbons stitched diagonally across the square.

There is also a navy blue cotton square that has been folded into a triangle and sewn into the corner, leaving the folded edge flapping. An orange square of fabric has been folded into a triangle and the raw edge sewn to the edge of the block, giving a prairie point finish that flaps also.



The top square has two fabrics, a blue and yellow fabric sewn together to form a block. A couple of Ding Dangs have been made. Ding Dangs are made with a piece of cording and a 3" square. Fold an edge $\frac{1}{4}$ ", place the cord in between the bottom fabrics. Put right sides together and stitch the bottom and side edges (leave the turned edge at the top) fixing the cord to the bottom seam. Pull the cord through, turning the square right side out with square hanging from cord. Fill with stuffing and then fix with top stitching to stop stuffing from coming out.

The red block has Cornelli work on it and gives a very textural feeling.



This block base is made from Polar fleece, and has a square of netting that has been folded into a triangle, and raw edges sewn into the seams, leaving the folding edge flapping.



Easy block with a cotton base and four pieces of ribbon, woven on the top and stitched into the side seams. This leaves the ribbon loose on the top.

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	<p>This block is a black and white spot cotton for the base and has some ric-rac sewn in an interesting formation.</p>
	<p>This block is a piece of silk that has pin tucks machined over it. Very tactile.</p>
	<p>A piece of lace is laid over a pink spotted cotton fabric base.</p> <p>The lace is sewn into the seams, and the scalloped edge of the lace is left flapping.</p>
	<p>Another use of lace, this time on a woollen orange base.</p> <p>The lace is just sewn down the centre, which leaves the edges free.</p>
	<p>Red, Yellow Black and White are the colours that are easily seen by the visually impaired.</p> <p>Here a black ribbon is sewn to a white cotton base, with red ribbon folded, and sewn under the black ribbon, and two squares of yellow and white are folded into a triangle and the raw edges sewn under the black ribbon.</p>

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	<p>A very simple square, but very tactile. A beige polar fleece is the base block, with some terry towelling in pink, cut into a circle and machine stitched onto the base block.</p>
	<p>Another simple block, this time the base is a beige fur, with gingham square folded into a triangle and raw edges sewn into the seam, leaving the folded gingham edge free.</p>
	<p>Interesting block with white and grey stripes as the base, a red square folded into a triangle and raw edges sewn into the seam. A black triangle with lace attached and to finish off some lace sewn diagonally across the base block.</p>
	<p>A pink base block, with gathered lace stitched on the side and top of seams. A Prairie Point triangle in gingham stitched to the side seam and a piece of suede cut in an oval shape, stitched into the seam, but the curved edge left flapping.</p>
	<p>A woollen plaid is the base block, with a red square folded into a triangle and stitched into the corner seam.</p> <p>A lovely cotton lace is attached into the side seam on one side, leaving the other side open and flapping.</p>

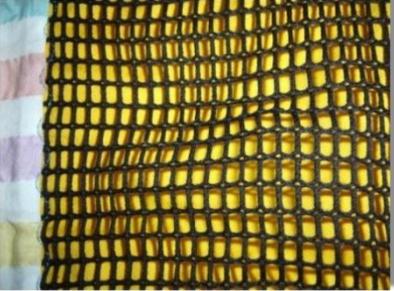
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	<p>Great use of big ric-rac on a blue gingham block base and a corner black and white triangle, raw edges stitched into the side seams.</p>
	<p>Gathered ribbon and lace sits free of this block which has a red and white cotton base.</p>
	<p>The lime green base fabric is a plush velvet, and has a couple of embellishments sewn diagonally. A small braid and a huge orange ric-rac, stitched only down the centre.</p>
	<p>The base block here is an upholstery fabric, quite thick and tactile. A square of fabric has three sides stitched, turned right side out and then stitched to the side seam.</p>
	<p>The base fabric is a sequin fabric, the sequins are safely fixed to the fabric. Two square triangles have been stitched to opposite side seams</p>
	<p>A beige cotton base block, with ribbon embellishments that have been fixed into the side seams, leaving them open over the block. A yellow triangle has been sewn into the corner, leaving the folded edge free.</p>

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	<p>The base block is blue denim with a triangle of red lace attached to the side seams.</p>
	<p>This "David Jones" fabric is wool, with two ribbons sewn into the top and bottom seams.</p> <p>A blue striped square is folding into a triangle and stitched into the side seam.</p>
	<p>This is a fabulous block, simple made with a plush velour pile.</p>
	<p>Another simple block, this time plush velvet.</p>
	<p>A yellow cotton base block, with a strip of green ribbon holding down five or six pieces of "eye lash" wool.</p>

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	<p>This block is made with two rectangles of cotton fabric, one purple one purple spots. In the centre seam a piece of thick yellow tulle is folded over and sewn into the seam.</p>
	<p>This block is a simple cotton green base block, with a velvet blue ribbon sewn diagonally being caught in the side and bottom seam.</p> <p>A Knotty is sewn into the top seam. A Knotty is simply a piece of fabric (this one is polar fleece) stitched into a tube and knotted at one end, then fastened into the side seam.</p>
	<p>The use of fringe embellishment is very effective on an upholstery fabric. A blue and white star cottons square is folded into a triangle and stitched into the corner, but with two pieces of braid hanging from underneath.</p>
	<p>A very effective block, with yellow cotton base block covered in a green netting.</p>

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Another fringe used effectively across the diagonal line of the block.



Fringe again, running across the centre of the base block, and three ribbons hanging freely from the top seam.