

Half Circle Rug

*Margaret Moorehead's*

## Virtual Sewing Guild OnLine Class

### Half Circle Rug



## Supply List:

- \* Strips of fabric for the rug (there will be 30 strips used....I used 15 different fabrics. A Jelly Roll will work with with this project
- \* 2 1/2" wide precut batting
- \* Fabric for Binding
- \* Wonder Clips
- \* Construction thread (wind 2-3 bobbins before you start)
- \* Glue (optional for binding)
- \* Sharp scissors to cut through the multi layer very dense rug
- \* Cut away stabilizer pattern ease, or something similar to create rug "pattern"

## Equipment List:

- \* Sewing Machine in good working order
- \* Size 90 Denim Needle
- \* Tape Measure
- \* Pattern Weights
- \* Fabric Markers
- \* Seam guide
- \* Iron with lots of steam
- \* General Sewing Supplies (ruler, marking pen, scissors...)

Note: All designs, project ideas, videos and instructions are for your personal use and can not be used to teach classes, share with friends, sell, or be used in any way other than personal use.

**The finished size of this rug is 36" x 18"**  
**Feel free to adjust the size to one that will suit you!**  
Remember: you will need to adjust the amount of fabric and batting you will need if you change the size

### **Note:**

I stitched 2 pieces of cut away stabilizer together to use to create my 36" x 18" rug template or pattern. You could also use pattern ease or similar product for creating this template/pattern

## Half Circle Rug

Fabric and Batting	Quantity	size	Notes
<b>2 1/2" wide batting</b>	34 yards		I used Katahdin by Bosal. (comes on 25 yard roll so you will need more than one roll)
<b>Rug Fabric: Either cut your own or use a Jelly roll</b>	30	2 1/2" x 40"	I cut my own and used 15 different fabrics.
<b>Binding fabric</b>	1	2 1/2" x 60". (Bias or on straight of grain. I used straight of grain.)	If using a Jelly roll choose 2 strips for the binding at the beginning of your project and set aside
<b>Pattern Ease or similar product to create rug template</b>	1	38 x 20"	See "note" on previous page



## 1. Create the pattern or template

1. You will need a piece of pattern ease or similar product (I used two 12" x 38" pieces of cut away stabilizer and stitched them together with a 14" seam to form a piece large enough for my template)
2. Find the center of the pattern ease from right to left by folding it half and marking it (this should be the center of the 38" side so it will be at 19")
3. I unfolded the piece, but I am recommending that you leave it folded....do as I say...not as I do....lol
4. Place the tape measure at the top of the template material at the center fold and measure out 18" along the top and mark. I like to mark on each side of the tape measure.
5. With the tape measure still at the center top, move the tape measure down a few inches and mark.
6. Continue moving the "18 mark of the tape measure" down and marking until you get to the bottom fold of the template material. All the while, the top of the tape measure will remain at the center top of the template material.
7. Connect the marks you just made to create the arc of a quarter circle
8. With this still folded in half, cut along the arced line.
9. Open out your template and see your perfect half circle.

## 2. Let's do a "practice with 2 strips

1. All 30 of your strips will be 2 1/2" x 40". You might have cut them from fabric yardage or you might be using a "Jelly Roll"
2. At this point I am recommending you create only 2 strips to learn the technique of folding the fabric, stitching to create the strip and then stitching 2 strips together. These 2 strips could be done with "test" fabric and batting, or you could just use 2 of the strips from the 30 you will need for the rug, knowing that you MIGHT need to put these to the side and not use them....so be sure you have enough fabric. (I am asking you to do an entire 40" strip so you will get the hang of working with these long strips)

### **3. Setting up the Machine to create the strips**

1. Insert a new size 90 Denim Needle
2. You will be using “construction thread” in the needle and the bobbin
3. Wind 2-3 bobbins with “construction” thread....not embroidery or decorative thread.
4. Thread the machine and insert the bobbin with the construction thread.
5. Call up a straight stitch with a stitch length of 3.0
6. Set your machine to sew a “generous” 1/4” seam
7. Engage your needle down function if you have it.
8. Adhere your seam guide if you are going use one, positioning it so it only extends in front of the foot about 1 1/2”. (Since we are using wonder clips the guide can not extend too far in front of the foot.)

### **4. Getting the strips ready to stitch**

1. Place a strip fo 2 1/2” x 40” fabric on a flat surface with the right side touching the table and the wrong side up
2. Working from the roll of precut batting, position the batting on top of the fabric lining up the edges
3. Cut the batting the same length as the fabric strip
4. Working only a small section at a time, fold one long edge of fabric and batting to the center of the strip, hold in place with your fingers.
5. Working with the same small section, fold the other long edge of the strip to the center and hold in place
6. Now fold that strip in half and secure with your wonder clips.
7. Place the wonder clip on the “open side” or the side that has 2 folds
8. Repeat this process for the entire length of the strip
9. Your strip now has one side with a “double fold” and one side with a “single fold”

## 5. Stitching the strips

1. Carefully place the strip under the needle with the wonder clips off to the right side.
2. Butt the open side (the side with two folds and the wonder clips) securely up to the seam guide. (You will need to remove or reposition your first and maybe second clip to do this)
3. Stitch to the next clip, stop, remove the clip and continue stitching
4. For the best results, stop the machine completely with the needle down to remove each clip as you get to it.
5. Stitch down the entire length of the folded strip
6. Using lots of steam press the strip making sure it is straight.

## 6. Setting up the machine to Attach the strips together

1. Remove the seam guide
2. Set up for a zig zag stitch  
width 5.0 or more  
length 3.0
3. Engage needle down option if you have it.

## 7. Attaching the strips together

1. Your strips have a “single fold edge” and a “double fold edge”.
2. Working in very small increments you will Insert the long edge of one “single fold edge” of the strip inside the opening of the double fold edge of another strip.
3. Line the strips up under the needle so the left swing of the needle will piece the fabric at the very edge of the double fold edge.
4. Stitch all the way down the strip, going slowing, working in small increments and carefully placing the one strip inside of the other the entire way.
5. This forms a very strong secure seam since we are stitching through fabric and not just butting the strips of fabric up next to each other.
6. Press using lots of steam and making sure your strips are straight



## 8. Now that you have done your samples it is time to assemble the strips.

1. First you will create all the single strips following the information in sections 3, 4, and 5.
2. Next stitch the individual strips into pairs using the information from sections 6 and 7
3. Using lots of steam, press this strip making sure it is straight.
4. Now stitch 2 “pairs” together to form sections consisting of 4 strips
5. Using lots of steam, press these sections of 4 strips together making sure they are straight.
6. Continue stitching sections together until you have 2 pieces.
7. These do not have to contain the same number of strips. Determine the number of strips for one section by making sure it will fit comfortably in the area between the needle and the right hand side of the machine
8. Now stitch those last two sections together....
9. And yes...Using lots of steam, press your entire rug making sure it is straight and flat



## 9. Cutting out the rug

1. Place the template you created way back in step 1 on top of all the strips you have sewn together, making sure it is positioned in a way that is pleasing to you.
2. Hold the template/pattern in place with weights
3. Trace around the outside of the template, onto the strips with a fabric marker
4. Remove the template and cut along the traced line.

## 10. Binding the Rug

1. Create one 2 1/2" strip by 60" strip of binding. This can be on the bias or on the straight of grain.
2. Fold in half lengthwise with the raw edges even and press
3. Do a test with the scrap of strips you just cut off the rug to determine the needle position for stitching the binding to the rug....you want the binding to wrap around to the back and cover the stitching that is holding the binding to the rug. I used a generous 1/4" seam allowance.
4. Use a Straight Stitch with a 3.0 length
5. Your seam guide will come in handy here.
6. Engage needle down if you have it.
7. Position the binding so the raw edges line up with the raw edge of the rug....remember we do not need to bind the top since that is a folded edge.
8. Tie your stitches off at the beginning and end using a straight stitch.
9. When you start, turn about 1/2" to 1" of the binding to the back side at the top and then stitch around the edge, taking your time and making sure the raw edge of the binding stays even with the raw edge of the rug.
10. When you have stitched around the entire curve of the rug and you are about 6" away from the top at the other side, determine how much batting you will need to finish the rug, remembering to add about 1/2" to 1" of binding to fold over to the back.
11. Cut off the excess binding and continue to stitch to the end of the rug.
12. Pull the binding corners out so they are nice and neat.
13. Iron the binding out over the raw edge of the quilt
14. On the back of the rug, put a sparse amount of glue between the raw edge of the rug and the stitching line.
15. Pull the binding around the edge of the rug, making sure it completely covers the stitching line and iron in place....making sure the glue is ironed dry. (No steam)
16. Set up the machine for a zig zag stitch. 5mm wide x 3mm long
17. Stitch the binding in place with the zig zag, making sure one swing of the needle goes off the binding and one swing of the needle was on the binding.
18. Tie off at the beginning and the end with a straight stitch to secure this stitching.

**Enjoy!**