

## Sketchbook Cover by Dale Anne Potter

This project would be a nice gift for anyone on your gift list who likes to draw or sketch, in this case I made it for my husband, Brian.

Measure the sketch pad you will be including in this project. In this case, the sketch pad was 5 3/4 inches wide and 8 3/4 inches high.

I wanted to use some of the ties that had been delegated to the recycle bin by my husband, who used to wear them before he retired. So, the front of this project is a crazy patch of tie pieces.

I used felt as the batting in this project, gives it more stability than the batting I normally use in my quilting (Hobbs 80/20).

Place your centre tie fabric in the centre of your felt, pin in place. Lay your next piece right side down on the pinned fabric. Sew, trim the excess so that the seam allowance is 1/4 inch. Flip and lightly press. Continue adding fabric pieces until the felt is totally covered. On the seams, this is the perfect opportunity to use decorative stitches with different threads. Trim the crazy patch cover to 6 3/4 inch X 9 3/4 inch.



For the back & fold over piece of this cover, measure a piece of felt & fabric that is 11 inches X 15 inches. Quilt as desired. Trim to 9 3/4 inch X 13 1/2 inches. Sew the crazy patch piece to the quilted piece, trim to a neat 1/4 inch seam and press. You can add a decorative stitch on top of the seam.

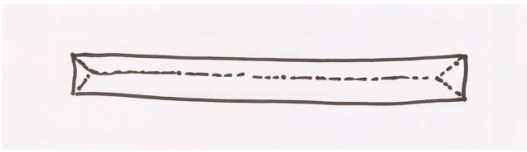
The inside of the cover is made up of 3 parts, a zippered pocket for erasers, pencil sharpeners, etc., a place to hold the sketch pad and slots for your sketching pencils or your watercolour pencils.

For the sketch pad holder and the pencil slots, measure one piece of fabric that is 10 X 14 inches. Pick a coordinating fabric that measures the same size, fold in half lengthwise and press. Find the centre of both pieces of fabric, lengthwise and lay the folded fabric with the fold in the middle of this piece.. On that centre line, sew from the top of the fold to the bottom of the fabrics. From that centre sewn line, measure 1 inch, sew a line from the top of the fold to the bottom of the fabrics. Continue until you reach 1 inch from the right side of the fabrics. Trim to 9 3/4 inches X 13 1/2 inches. Set aside.

For the zippered pocket, cut a piece of fabric for the inside pocket that measures 8 inches X 9 inches. For the outside, cut a piece of fabric the same as the fabric you used for the

back of the pencil slots & sketch pad holder that measures 9 3/4 inches X 7 inches. I used a 7 inch zipper for this project.

Mark a line on the reverse side of your outside fabric, about 1.5 inches from one edge lengthwise. About 1/2 inch below that drawn line draw a rectangular box that is 1/2 inch x 7 1/2 inch also on the reverse side of the fabric. Pin the pocket fabric onto your outside rectangle piece. Position it so that the rectangle is where you want the pocket to be. I placed it about 1 inch from the right edge and centered on the rectangle piece from top to bottom. Stitch along the marked lines. Cut a



slit in the center of the rectangle through the pocket and the pocket fabric stopping about 1/4 inch from the ends and cut at an angle to the corners. Push the pocket fabric through the slit you just cut to the back of the outside rectangle and press flat.

Center the zipper right side up in the opening and pin securely in place. (you could also use fusible tape to secure the zipper before stitching). Be sure the pocket fabric remains open flat and away from the opening. Stitch along the edge of fabric, close to the zipper tape all the way around the zipper. Bring the sides of the pocket together and stitch along the sides and bottom. Trim to 6 3/4 inch X 9 3/4 inch.

Sew the pocket to the sketch pad holder & pencil slot piece with 1/4 inch seam, trim neatly.

Place the crazy patch cover right down on the pocket, holder, pencil slot piece which is right side up. Pin, and starting where the sketch pad will be, start sewing all the way around, leave a 4 inch opening for turning. Turn right out, press and sew all the way around.

For a closure I used a piece black ribbing with velcro sewn on the ends.

