DOLPHINS

Two delightful dolphins leap the waves Finished size: 25in (64cm) square

You will need:

* white or cream foundation fabric, 25in (64cm) square (all of this will be covered, so don't choose anything fancy - but do bring a pale colour as you'll be tracing through it)

sea pieces, two 21in (54cm) squares of watery fabric, one pale and one dark/medium

fabrics for the dolphins:

for the bodies, three different blue fabrics, one 20×18 in (50×46 cm) patch of each for the tail and lower fins, 10in (25cm) square

fabrics for the starfish:

large starfish, 7 x 5in (18 x 13cm) small starfish, 4in (10cm) square

* print or plain fabric for the borders, four $20 \times 2 \frac{1}{2}$ in (51 x 6.5cm) strips; if the fabric is strongly directional, check that the direction of the print goes the right way on each border

Contrasting print or plain fabric for the corner shells, four 5in (13cm) squares

- * contrasting plain or marbled fabric for the backing and binding, 27in (70cm) square
- * flat wadding (any flattish wadding will be fine), 27in (64cm) square

12yd/11.5m of 1/4in (6mm) wide fusible bias binding in a colour that contrasts well with your fabrics

sewing threads to match your bias binding and backing/binding fabric

if you like you can use a cheap bobbin-fill thread for zigzagging the patches in place initially

two medium-sized beads or buttons for the dolphins' eyes

soft pencil (eg 2B, not a propelling pencil), ruler

optional: other hand or machine quilting threads, beads/buttons/jewels for decoration

Keeping things simple:

If you'd like to stitch a simplified version of the design, you can make each dolphin from just one fabric instead of three, omit the starfish, and/or omit some of the extra lines of binding on the waves; if you do any or all of these things, you won't need so much of the fusible bias binding.