

# Rails

By Nan Baker

Nan Baker's **Rails Kennel Quilt** is designed to fit perfectly into a cat or small dog kennel. This little quilt is easily made from your stash in no time at all!

Make one for your pet, and then make another to donate to a local animal shelter in your area.

If you are designing your own, be sure to check out the **Guidelines for Small Kennel Quilts** on the next page to create a safe quilt for pets!

— Kennel Quilts



12" x 18"

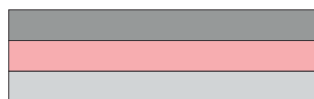


**Materials:**  
 Use pre-washed, 100% cotton fabrics and batting.  
 3 (three) 2-1/2" x width of fabric strips in coordinating colors (selvages removed)  
 12-1/2" x 18-1/2" rectangle of fabric for backing  
 12-1/2" x 18-1/2" rectangle of batting

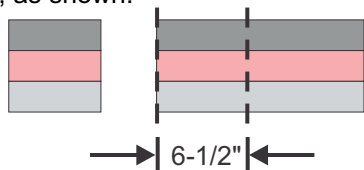
## Directions:

Sew pieces right sides together using a 1/4" seam and a small stitch length (e.g. 14 stitches/inch).

1. Sew the three 2-1/2" x width of fabric strips together along the long sides to create a strip set, as shown. Press the seams in one direction.

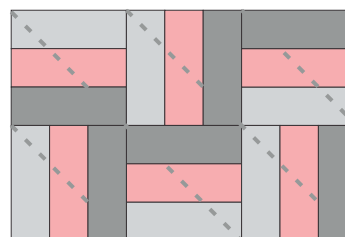


2. Sub-cut the strip set into 6 (six) 6-1/2" x 6-1/2" segments, as shown.



3. Sew together two rows of three blocks. Use the layout to the right, or be creative. Press the seams in each row in opposite directions. Sew the two rows together. Press the seams in one direction.

## Rails Layout and Quilting Diagram



4. Place the quilt backing right side up on a flat surface. With right sides together, align the raw edges of the quilt top and the quilt backing. Place the batting on top of the quilt top, again aligning the raw edges. Pin in place.

5. Sew the top and backing together leaving a 10" opening for turning. Make sure to catch the batting when stitching. Backstitch on either side of the opening. Trim corners.

6. Turn the quilt right side out. Carefully poke out the corners. Whipstitch the opening closed. Press.

7. Quilt in a simple pattern to keep the batting in place. See the quilting diagram above.

**Guidelines for Small Kennel Quilts:**

- ▶ Materials used should be 100% cotton (biodegradable).
- ▶ Pre-wash fabrics (pets can have allergies just like humans).
- ▶ Finished size should be 12" x 18". This fits the most commonly used small kennel used at shelters.
- ▶ When piecing, use a small stitch length (e.g. 14 stitches/inch).
- ▶ Do not use binding as it can be hazardous to pets if it becomes loose. Layer, sew around the edge using a small stitch length, and turn quilts pillow-cover style. Whipstitch the opening with small, tight stitches.
- ▶ Use only simple appliqués that are secured with tight stitches along the edges. Avoid using fusibles.
- ▶ Keep the quilting simple and use small tight quilting stitches that won't catch on pet claws. Do not tie quilts as the ends can get caught in claws or chewed off.
- ▶ Do not use any metallic threads or other embellishments (e.g. beads, charms, buttons, ribbons, lace, trims, etc.) of any kind. Do not add handles or loops to the quilt.

# Kennel Quilts

**Kennel Quilts** and **Petfinder Foundation** have joined together to help the animal victims of disasters. When Hurricane Sandy hit the East Coast (2012), **Petfinder Foundation** was there. Seeing a need for the animals and shelters that were affected by this storm, they contacted **Kennel Quilts** and asked for Kennel Quilts for various shelters.

**Kennel Quilts** is a volunteer organization that is available when disasters strike. It is a way to join a larger effort to help our animal friends in times of need by doing what we love.

Be part of the team that helps animals in disasters.

**Kennel Quilts USA:** [www.kennelquilts.com](http://www.kennelquilts.com)

**Kennel Quilts Canada:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/854699153252365>

**Petfinder**  
FOUNDATION

**HELP A HOMELESS  
PET**

