

# Waiting for Sun Pillow

It's easy to turn the mini quilt from Issue #20 into a pillow cover.

**Designer:** *Monika Huelsebusch*

**Skill Level:** Confident Beginner

**Finished Size:** 19½" × 18½"



## Materials

*Yardage is based on 42"-wide fabric.*

- 1½" × 21" strip *each* of 4 assorted orange, 2 assorted yellow, 8 assorted green, and 5 assorted turquoise solids for background (choose solids that range in value from light-medium to dark)
- 2" × 12" strip *each* of 3 assorted light yellow, 2 assorted light green, and 3 assorted light blue solids for appliqué circle
- 6" × 12" rectangle of dark gray solid for shadow
- ⅞ yard of dark turquoise solid for pillow back and binding
- ¾ yard of muslin or other lightweight fabric for pillow-top backing
- 23" × 24" piece of batting
- 12" × 12" square of cardboard
- Compass
- 16"-long zipper
- Water-soluble marker
- 20" × 20" pillow form

*Fabrics from the Cotton Couture collection by Michael Miller Fabrics ([michaelmillerfabrics.com](http://michaelmillerfabrics.com)) were used in the featured pillow.*

### Cutting

#### Pillow-Top Backing:

- (1) 23" × 24" rectangle

#### Dark Turquoise Solid:

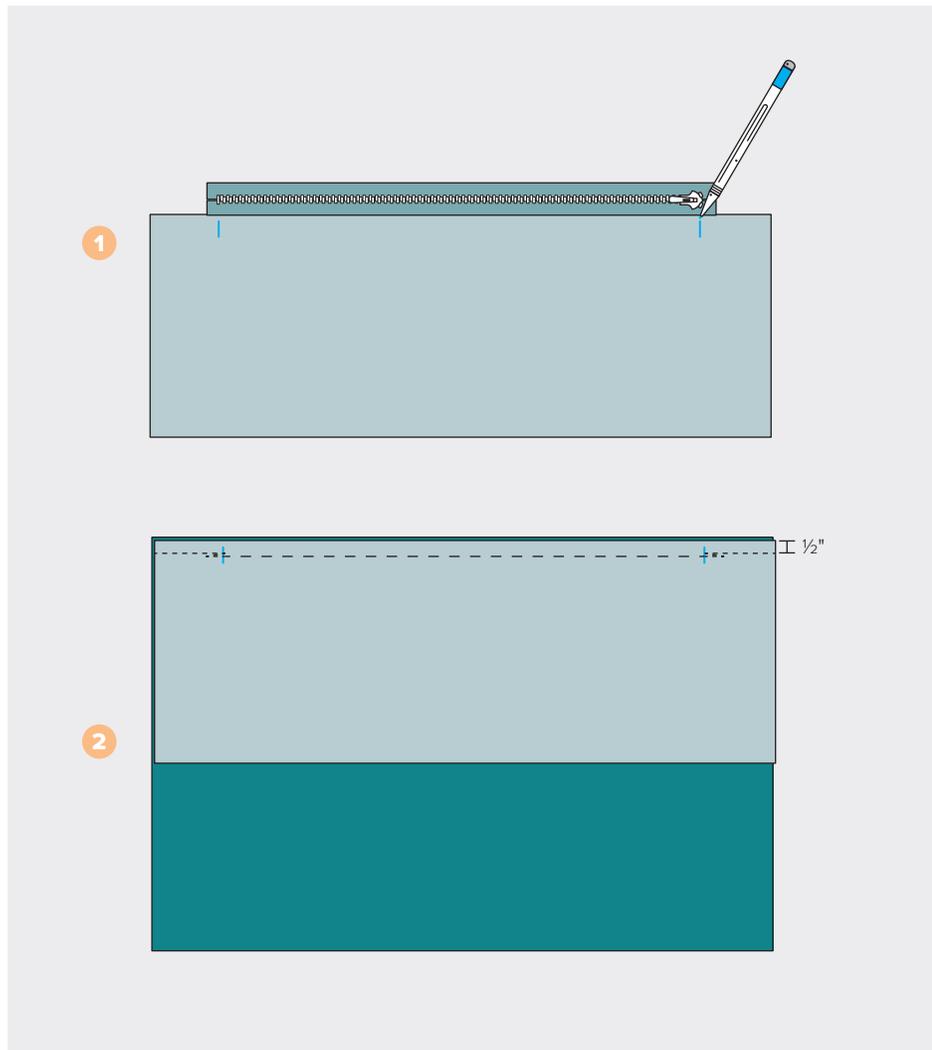
- (1) 6 ½" × 19 ½" rectangle
- (1) 13" × 19 ½" rectangle
- (3) 2 ½" × width of fabric strips

### Assemble the Pillow Top

1. Follow Steps 1–9 of the quilt instructions in Issue #20.
2. Layer the muslin backing rectangle, batting rectangle, and pillow top. Baste the layers together. Quilt as desired. Trim the batting and backing even with the pillow-top edges.

### Make the Pillow Back

3. Place the 6 ½" × 19 ½" dark turquoise rectangle on your work surface, wrong side up. With the long edges aligned, center the zipper along one long edge of the rectangle. With the water-soluble marker, mark the rectangle just inside the position of the zipper stops. Remove the zipper. (*Figure 1*)
4. Place the marked rectangle on top of the 13" × 19 ½" dark turquoise rectangle, right sides together as shown. Using a ½" seam allowance, sew the rectangles together from one end to the first mark; backstitch, and then stitch back to the mark. With the needle down, change the stitch length to a long basting stitch. Stitch to the next mark; stop with the needle down. Change the stitch length back to a normal stitch length. Stitch two to three stitches past the mark, backstitch to the mark, and then continue stitching to the end of the rectangles. Press the seam open. (*Figure 2*)



5. Place the zipper face down on the backing seam, aligning the teeth with the seam and the zipper stops with the previous markings. Hand baste the zipper in place. (Figure 3)
6. From the backing right side, stitch  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each side of the seam the length of the rectangles. (Figure 4)
7. Remove the zipper basting stitches, and then remove the basting stitches in the seam to expose the zipper.

### Finish the Pillow

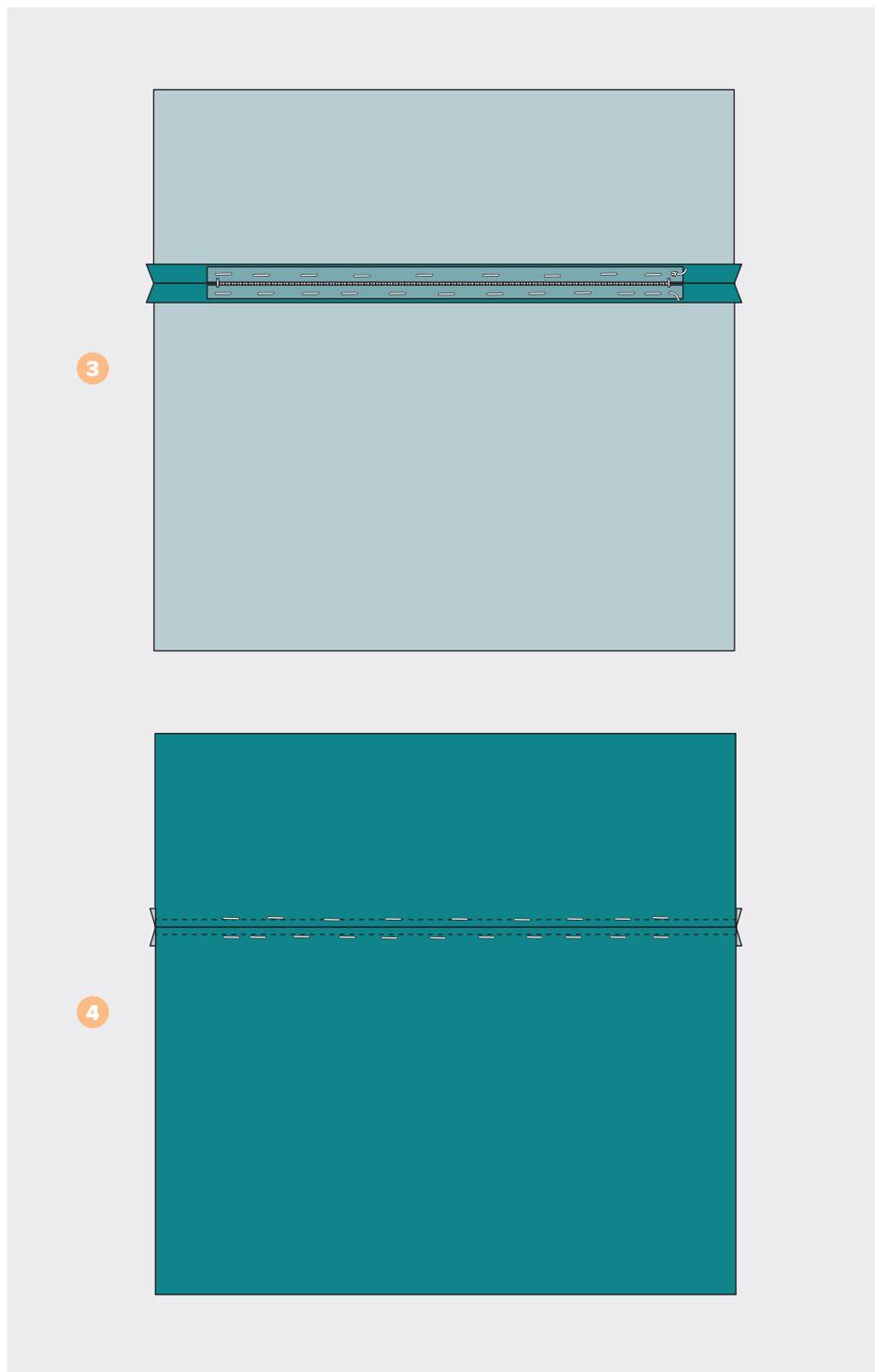
8. Pin the pillow back and quilted top wrong sides together, aligning the raw edges. Sew around the pieces,  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edges. Bind the pillow edges using the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide dark turquoise strips. Unzip the zipper on the pillow back and insert the pillow form into the cover.



Monika Huelsebusch

As a child, Monika's grandmother taught her to embroider, knit, crochet, and sew, but Monika didn't take up quilting until 2005 when she was inspired by a Grandmother's Flower Garden quilt she saw in a book. She was immediately "infected." In the beginning, she used patterns by different designers but eventually found more pleasure in creating the pictures from her mind. Monika lives in northern Germany with her husband. They have two grown sons.

Monika Huelsebusch



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*Ziggy Star Dots, designed by Melanie Testa, from Modern Quilts Unlimited Issue #20*

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