



# Online Quilt Magazine.com

## How to Buy A Gift For A Quilter

Breast Cancer  
Bags Appeal  
Update

**NEW – Part 1 of 3**  
**Fabric Embellishment**  
**with Chenilling**

Sew Easy  
Machine  
Quilting



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Cover Photo: "Butterfly Swirl" Quilt from [www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com)



## Letter from the Editor

Jody Anderson

Hi!

We're thrilled to be able to bring you another issue of our Online Quilt Magazine, jam-packed with more great articles from our talented Contributors, more news, extra projects and great specials too!!

We've just returned from the Brisbane Craft & Quilt Fair, and it was wonderful to meet and speak with so many readers from up that way. We were overwhelmed by the numbers of Breast Cancer Drain Bags handed in to us at the Show, and please do read the story on Page 11 for feedback on your bags from some wonderful Breast Care Nurses. Also check out a new Breast Cancer Fundraising Initiative we've recently started too.

This month, we start a new 3 part chenilling project from Margot Rylah, and Penny covers some gift-giving ideas to get you thinking before Christmas. Pauline and Rose cover some machine quilting and basting tips and there's the usual great selection of new fabrics to check out at the Fat Quarter Shop.

Enjoy!

*Jody*



## Machine Quilting - Oh Sew Easy with the Right Tools

by Pauline Rogers from [www.QuiltersWorld.com.au](http://www.QuiltersWorld.com.au)

Machine Quilting is one of those things that can be quite the challenge or a great joy. If you've become discouraged with domestic machine quilting after you've tried to fit that large quilt through your sewing machine but found it to be too big and bulky, or wouldn't move freely when you began to sew, there are a few things you can try to make it easier.

### Quilt Batting

The most frequent question I get asked is: What's the best wadding to use?

If you use dense heavy wadding and baste with safety pins, the quilt will be very heavy and bulky. This will make it hard to manoeuvre under the machine and also adds stress to your shoulders, neck and back. Using a very fine soft wadding will make it a lot easier to pin and fit under the

machine, but it'll stretch quite a bit, especially if you quilt on the diagonal.

My favourite wadding - the one I use all the time - is the **Hobbs Heirloom Fusible**. It's 80% cotton and 20% polyester. Best of all there is no need to pin the layers. Safety pins add extra weight, catch on things and stop the quilt from moving freely.

I just lay the backing on a table, no stretching or taping needed. Then I lay the wadding on top of the backing and flatten it out, then the quilt top on top of that. With your iron set on a dry cotton setting, start from the middle and iron to the outside edge. Use an even circular motion and keep the iron moving to avoid scorching the quilt. Once the right side is finished, flip it over, straighten the backing and iron the other side. You are now ready to quilt.

Not only does this soft and flexible wadding make fitting a quilt under your machine easier there are other benefits too. Using this batting:

- Saves time because you don't have to pin.
- Quilt moves easily - less stress on you.
- It won't clog up your needle.
- It can be repositioned and ironed again and again.
- Your quilt will be cool in summer, warm in winter.
- Washes easily.
- Won't pill through your fabric.
- Reasonably priced and comes in a useful 2.4m wide.

## Machine Quilting Needles

They are such a tiny thing and so very often overlooked. Using not only a new needle when you begin a project, but a needle made specifically for machine quilting can make a big difference. These needles penetrate the compressed batting better than a normal needle. Your stitches won't skip and your threads won't shred.

## Sew Slip Mat

Many people say it's hard to move the fabric through their machine when they're using a walking or darning foot. The machines are designed to hold and support the fabrics as we sew. The quilt sandwiches, with their extra bulk, make it even more difficult.

So a tool to make it easier to move the quilts is needed and that's where the wonderful invention – the Sew Slip Mat comes in. It has a slippery side and a sticky side. The one side clings to the bed of your machine while the other allows your quilt to slide freely. The mat comes with a round hole for the needle, good when doing free motion quilting using the darning foot with your feed dogs down. If you quilt with the walking foot you'll need to cut the hole into a rectangle shape to allow the feed dogs to work.

With the Sew Slip mat your quilt will glide through, without you having to push and shove. Your shoulders, neck and back will thank you.

## Quilt Halo

You've used the recommended batting, have equipped your machine with a new machine

quilting needle and have put the Sew Slip mat over the bed of your machine. If you're interested in free motion quilting a feature design on your quilt, give the Quilt Halo a go. It is a weighted ring (8" diameter) with a rubbery coating which grips the fabric giving you more control over the three layers of the quilt sandwich so they move as one under the machine needle.

To use it, position the quilt under the needle where you want to stitch, then slip one side of the halo under the presser foot so that the machine needle is near the centre of the halo. Just a little downward pressure on the sides of the halo will allow you to move the quilt wherever you need to stitch. When you get close to the halo, just stop and re-position the halo and then continue sewing.

### Bendable Bright Light

A comment I hear all the time from quilters is 'I wish I could see better when I'm sewing.' You can! This light comes with an attachment (no magnets) that sticks to the end of your machine where you want to put your light. With the flexible arm you are able to position the light just where you need it. It can be directed from the

front or the back of your machine and is fantastic to use when quilting in the ditch or if you're following a drawn design.

### Extension Table

These can be purchased for most machines. Do consider investing in one as they form a wonderful flat bed for your quilt to rest on. Look for one that fits around the arm of the machine and has adjustable legs to suit any area you're sewing on.

**Don't keep this New Online Quilt Magazine all to yourself – it's FREE, so share it with your Quilting Guilds and Friends!**

**Don't wait - Invite them to  
[www.OnlineQuiltMagazine.com](http://www.OnlineQuiltMagazine.com) to  
Subscribe and receive each New Issue  
as soon as it's Published!**

### Rubber Door Stops

Found in hardware stores these are wonderful gadgets to put under the back of your sewing machine. They provide just the right tilt that stops me from leaning into my machine. Sitting in an upright position keeps me from developing an ache in my shoulders.

Don't give up on domestic machine quilting, but instead I encourage you to try these tools when you are next quilting your quilt. They will eliminate some of the challenge, providing you with more joy. Remember any good tradesman or artist, has good tools and we quilters should too.

### About the Author

Pauline Rogers has taught patchwork & quilting for close to 28 years. She travels extensively throughout Australia helping others learn and perfect the techniques of quilt making. Pauline's Schoolhouse programme is a popular way for quilt groups to share in her tool expertise. Visit Quilters World online at [www.quiltersworld.com](http://www.quiltersworld.com)



The advertisement features a purple background with white text and sparkles. At the top left, a yellow starburst contains the word "SPECIAL" in blue and "\$3.75 per month" in red. To the right, the text "Introducing QUILTERS WORLD ACADEMY" is displayed in large, stylized letters. Below this, a larger text block reads: "A special online club for Quilters who love to learn, create & share." Further down, it says "Opening online 1st January" and "Pre-register today for a one year membership and pay only \$45. Visit [www.quiltersworld.com.au](http://www.quiltersworld.com.au) for details".

Please go to  
<http://www.quiltersworld.com.au/academy>  
for more information and a Pre-Launch Special!



## How To Buy A Gift For A Quilter

By Penny Halgren from [www.How-To-Quilt.com](http://www.How-To-Quilt.com)

With Christmas now just around the corner, we thought it time to have a look at some great gift-giving options for the Quilters in your life....

There are plenty of great gift ideas for quilters -- ranging from gift cards to quilting club memberships.

To pick the perfect gift ideas for quilters you know, it's important to know what kind of quilting they enjoy. It's easy enough to ask if you don't already know.

Some quilters prefer appliquéd, a sewing technique in which a design is sewn on top of a fabric block or panel. All three applications may be done by machine. The blanket stitch method may also be done by hand.

Nice gift ideas for appliquéd quilters would include a gift basket with supplies such as needles (machine or hand sewing), transfer paper, a good pair of scissors, and an appliquéd design book.

Other quilters prefer to piece quilts. This is a quilting method in which pieces of fabric cut in various shapes or strips are sewn together to create a quilt top. Many popular traditional designs for pieced quilts include a 9-Patch, Double Wedding Ring, and Monkey Wrench.

Quilters who piece quilts together may do so by hand or machine, or a combination of the two sewing methods. Gift ideas for quilters who piece quilts are easy!

These quilters would enjoy gifts of fabrics, quilting threads, needles (machine or hand

sewing), and books that feature a variety of quilt designs.

Another quilting technique is called foundation quilting. It's a technique in which fabrics are pieced together by sewing them onto a temporary paper foundation. Gift ideas for quilters who enjoy foundation quilting can be quite fun!

Ask what their paper foundation preference is. If it's newspaper, save several back to include with his or her gift. Remnant fabrics are always appreciated because they increase the fabric stash the quilter has on-hand!

Quilting software would make a great gift idea for quilters who like the age of technology in which we live! You'll need to know your friend's personal computer operating system to make sure the software will be compatible.

Buying quilting software will take a little research. Read about your options online and talk with sales representatives at your local craft, hobby or sewing stores before making a purchase.

Another way to select gifts for quilters is to examine your friend's market. Does he or she quilt for fun or for profit? Some quilters concentrate solely on baby quilts. Some like to quilt wall hangings. Others create twin to king size bed toppings. Some quilters create clothing.

A hobby quilter would love to receive any of the quilting necessities and notions, such as threads, needles, thimbles, sewing books, etc. A quilter who sells his or her creations might also appreciate customized labels or ribbons to be used in packaging.

Quilters who create clothing would enjoy books that offer lots of photos for inspiration and how-to advice. If they embellish their quilted clothing with rhinestones or studs, those would make a nice gift idea for clothing quilters. Check to see if your quilting friend uses iron on rhinestones or uses a small apparatus for attaching them. It will make a difference in the type of rhinestone you should buy for his or her gift.

A perfect gift for any quilter would be an Internet quilting club membership. The best quilting membership websites have video demonstrations

of various techniques, have a good range of FAQ and offer lots of inspiration and encouragement!

If you're giving an Internet club membership as a gift, make a nice card with the membership information on it and place it in an envelope. Finish it up by attaching a cute bow you've made from a scrap piece of fabric!

## About the Author

Penny, a quilter for more than 28 years, enjoys exploring all aspects of quilting and sharing her knowledge with all quilters. Aside from her [www.How-To\\_Quilt.com](http://www.How-To_Quilt.com) website, a new endeavor is <http://www.QuiltBlockLibrary.com> which provides hundreds of traditional patchwork quilt block patterns.

**Give Me 10 Minutes and I will Show You How to Make Your Holiday Greeting So Memorable that Your Family and Friends will be Talking about it (and your talents) For Years**



In less than an hour you can create this heartfelt and fun fabric postcard using your favorite photo - whether it is a holiday photo, vacation photo or just a photograph of a friend.

Learn all of the tips, tricks and shortcuts of transferring photos onto fabric and strip piecing this fun border in this easy-to-read guide.

<http://www.how-to-quilt.com/quilt-postcard.php>



## Breast Cancer Bags Update

By Jody Anderson - [www.Quilts-n-Bags.com](http://www.Quilts-n-Bags.com)

We wanted to bring you an update too on the ongoing success of our Breast Cancer bags Appeal:

We must send out a MASSIVE Thank You to all who have so far sent us bags for our ongoing Breast Cancer Bags Appeal. We have received the most wonderful assortment of bags and have already sent out several hundred to hospitals around Australia.

A special acknowledgement must be made too to the Big Effort by the sewing women of Queensland and Northern New South Wales – we had 397 bags handed in to our Stand at the recent Brisbane Craft & Quilt Fair (in only 5 days), and we were thrilled to be able to hand 100 straight out to Breast Care Nurse Alison from the Royal Brisbane Hospital.



Alison & Annette with some of the Breast Cancer Bags for the Royal Brisbane Hospital.

We also wanted to share some feedback we've received from other Breast Care Nurses around the country:

Dear Jody and Annette

Your package of 10 drainage bags has just arrived! Thank you so much! They are fantastic – I love them – and I am sure the women will too!

I am meeting with the other breast care nurses in Tasmania (2 from Hobart, 1 from Launceston, 1 from La Trobe, and 1 from Burnie) in a couple of weeks – so I will show them the bags, and you will no doubt be receiving more orders!

This is a wonderful thing you are doing – I especially love the little card on some of them “Stitched with love by Crescent Quilters Crescent Head, NSW” – just really personalises it, and shows how we are all connected.

Thanks again  
Karen

Karen Sprigg  
McGrath Breast Care Nurse

Hi Jody,

THANKYOU THANKYOU THANKYOU!! I received your bags today and they are the most beautiful bags!! The other ones we have are very simple and in dull colours so these are just gorgeous!!!

I and the women receiving them can't thank you enough it's a wonderful gift to give and makes the women's surgery that bit more glamorous!!!

Thanks again

Kate  
Breast Care Nurse Royal Darwin Hospital

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Hi Jody,

I simply want to take the opportunity to thank you (and those involved) for your generosity in providing our service with the collection of lovely drainage bag bottles I received in the mail today.

They are truly fantastic and really lovely!!! It is small things such as this that assist in making a

woman's breast cancer experience more tolerable and personalised.

Please pass on my thanks to all of the women involved in this project on behalf of my patients!!! I know they will appreciate them.

Warm Regards  
Rebecca Hay  
McGrath Breast Care Nurse  
South West Healthcare Warrnambool

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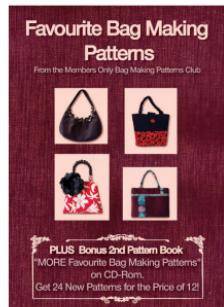
We have had such a great response from so many Breast Care Nurses, and the McGrath Foundation Breast Care Nurses in particular, that we have found another way that we can help fund these hard-working nurses too.

We have just launched a New Double CD-Rom set of **Favourite Bag Making Patterns** from our sister Bag Making Patterns.com Club. These CD-Roms go into your computer,(PC or Mac) and you will be able to print off the instructions and full-size patterns for **24 different bags!**

Each double set is only \$27 plus postage, and we are thrilled that we have been approved by the McGrath Foundation, and now a **whopping \$5 from each set sold goes directly to the Foundation** to help fund more Breast Care nurses around the country.

These bag patterns will make a Fabulous Christmas present, (or treat for yourself!), and we appreciate any of your help with reaching our Breast Care Nurse Fundraising Goals.

Please go to [www.Quilts-n-Bags.com](http://www.Quilts-n-Bags.com) to order your copy today.





# Fabric Embellishment With Chenilling – Easy When You Know the Tricks!

Part 1: The Preview

By Margot Rylah

My first peek at the intriguing effects of chenilling was on a collection of garments, including a gorgeous jacket, at a Brisbane Craft fair, years ago. Having always been interested in “wearable art” I was smitten! But it took ages for me to finally succumb to even playing with the technique.

Chenilling can be applied to all kinds of fashion items, cushions, pillows, quilts and certainly bags. An idea for a bag pattern has inspired me to recent action! The technique is easy and creates wonderful texture.

There must be, in every one of our stash boxes, a “to die for” piece that has not yet found its life’s purpose. One of those pieces will be perfect for

this embellishment technique. But there’s nothing worse than putting hours of time and creative energy into a project, only to find the outcome is very disappointing. Unlike a mismatch of fabric in a quilt pattern, this is not a matter of simply unpicking a seam or two. Once you’ve stitched and slashed . . . !!

The key is to “Preview” and trial your colours, similar to a knitter trialling the result of using a new yarn by creating a “tension square”. For chenilling, the “tension check” is a series of test pieces to plan for the perfect result!

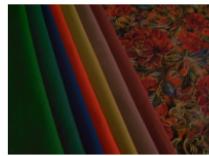
Delaying the start of the actual project is worth the investment of time. A previewed selection of

samples will confirm the best combinations of colour, pattern and stitching. *Then* you can confidently begin slashing into that sacred piece of fabric! You can't be really sure how it will look without the preview. Apart from the washing/drying process, the cutting, sewing and slashing doesn't take much time. It's WELL WORTH IT!!

## The Process:



1. Choose your 100% cotton print - patterned, floral, spot or whatever!! This fabric will become the "outer" layer of your project and its character will mainly determine the final "look" of your item.



2. For the other layers, choose 4-5 plain coloured fabrics, picking out the tones in your print - as close a match as possible. Select more than you need for the project OR check the pattern you plan to use to make sure you have "leftovers" with which to play. Allow for 4-5 of 10cm squares of each fabric for your samples.



3. Cut at least 3-4 x 10cm squares of each fabric print, plus plains. One of each plain that you might use for the bottom layer –

cut about 5mm larger. This will be the base piece, which won't be slashed. Cut your squares carefully on the straight grain.

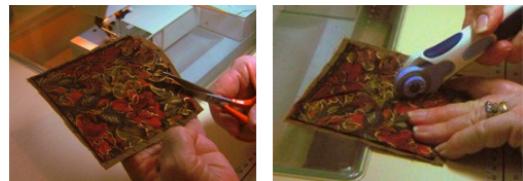
4. Keeping the print as your top layer, PLAY with each of the coloured squares, trying them in different combinations. How you layer the different colours will often greatly alter the look of the top fabric. Lay them in a pile with an edge peeping out so you can see the way they relate to each other. The backing fabric will be at the bottom.



5. Choose 3-4 of your favourite combinations to actually stitch your samples together, as follows:
  - a. After pinning each pile securely together, make your first line of stitching from

corner to corner, giving the perfect diagonal (along the "cross" grain). Carefully secure start and finish of each line of stitching.

- b. Stitch rows of stitching parallel to the first, using a seam guide or machine foot. Lining up with the first row, stitch on either side to "fill" your square with stitching. Stitch each row separately so as to leave the edges open, through which to cut along each channel.



- c. Cut through all layers *except the base layer* using sharp scissors or one of those cute little slash cutters, made for the purpose. Note: for your samples, you

might find scissors an easier option. When it comes to the final project, the slash cutter can be very helpful, though it helps to start off each slash with scissors first. Make sure you slash *exactly* along the centre of each channel, or the “bloom” will be uneven.

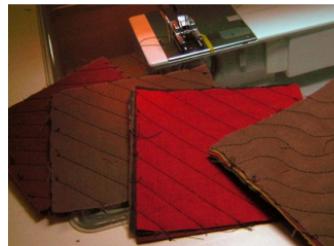


encouraging fluffing of chenilled edges (the “bloom”).

7. NOW you can decide which option of colour layering you prefer. Until this point, you really didn't know how those particular fabrics would behave!
8. At the end of it all, make sure you change your needle for the next project. Sewing through all these layers is sure to blunt the best quality steel!!

## Options for Variation:

- d. Stay stitch, through all thicknesses, around the edge of the piece. Take care to catch in all slashed edges evenly, maybe using a toothpick or orange stick to tuck stray corners under the machine foot as you go
6. WASH your squares, and DRY in clothes dryer. Add a tennis ball or even a towel to



1. Rows of stitching: usually  $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart but can be wider or narrower. On my samples I've stitched  $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart on one half of the patch and 1.5cms on the other, for accurate comparison, to save having extra sets of squares. A very different look can be achieved with a narrow channel. But if you're going to use a Slash Cutter, make sure it will fit through! The width of the channel makes more of a difference if you have large print, like a large floral.
2. Number of layers: more layers make your item more expensive. But fewer layers don't seem to "kick up" as well.
3. Plain colours work well for the under layers, unless you find a striking geometric print like a stripe or check or even a spot. You could use it at the second bottom of the "heap". But you won't know till you try!!!
4. My favourite fabric for the layers is good old-fashioned homespun, as it frays beautifully when washed. Anything with a tight weave doesn't lend itself as well to the process.

What's my plan for the outcome of this project? Mixing some chenilled panels with unembellished fabric on the sides of my new bag design!

Enjoy hunting through your stash . . . and . . .  
**HAPPY CHENILLING!**



## About the Author:

Margot hails from the Gold Coast, Queensland, and works full-time as a Registered Nurse. When aged 10, her mother sat her down at an old Singer machine, with a McCall's pattern for some shorts and said, "make those and you'll make anything!" Sewing in many forms has been her recreation since she ceased making clothing for her now adult family of 2 daughters. Active in

dance, and theatre, including amateur musical comedy, she was enticed into costume design and creation for several decades! With 24 years owning an industrial screen-printing business, and now having returned to nursing, quilting and fabric embellishment of many varieties have become her sanity. 2.8 small grandchildren are now the objects of her craft creations, particularly knitting and quilting. She would love to pass on her acquired skills more, helping women to find joy in developing their creative passions.

*Watch this space – Part 2 Next month will be  
Margot's Chenilled Bag Project!*



## Join The Club!

FOR LESS THAN \$10 A MONTH, you too can **Join the Club**, and receive a downloadable pattern for a new Bag each Fortnight. **That's TWO patterns, for much less than the cost of a Regular single bag pattern you might buy from a shop!**

Go to  
**[www.BagMakingPatterns.com](http://www.BagMakingPatterns.com)**  
to check us out and get your next  
**New Bag Project!**

## Bonus Project – Take Anywhere Tote



This month's quick project is from our Sister Bag Making Club - [www.BagMakingPatterns.com](http://www.BagMakingPatterns.com)

With plastic bags disappearing from our shops, you'll need this Take Anywhere Tote bag to hold all your bits and pieces.

This is a very simply pieced bag, that folds and zips up into a handy small pouch, so you can fit it into any handbag to take with you for whenever you might need it.

Finished dimensions of this tote are 15 inches wide x 16 inches high.

**You will Need:**

$\frac{1}{2}$  m ( $\frac{1}{2}$  yard) fabric of your choice (we used light-weight cotton furnishing fabric). This fabric length is for 150cm width fabric. If using a narrower width fabric, use  $\frac{3}{4}$  metre ( $\frac{3}{4}$  yard).

16 inch zip in a colour to match

Small amount of light-weight fusible interfacing

**Cut:**

From the bag fabric, cut two rectangles measuring  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide x 17 inches long for the bag sides.

Cut one rectangle measuring  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide x  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches long for the zippered pocket.

Cut two strips measuring 4 inches wide x  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches long for the handles.

From the interfacing, cut two strips measuring 1 inch x  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

**Assembly:**

Please read all instructions fully before beginning. All measurements are in inches, and unless stated otherwise, a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance has been used.

The first step is to make the zippered pocket for this fold-away tote. Fold the zippered pocket piece in half (lining up the  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inch sides) and mark the half-way points on each side. With the right side facing up, place the zip face down on top, and pin in place – starting from one marked centre point, curving slightly around each of the two top corners, and finishing at the second marked centre point. As the zip is slightly longer, let the extra length sit along the centre line of this panel.

Sew, and repeat for the second side of the zip, sewing it in place along the bottom half of the zippered pocket. (You will need to open the zip to sew this side.)

Leave the zippered pocket open and the fabric flat, and position it on one of the bag side panels as shown above. It will need to be centred, approximately  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches up from the bottom  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inch edge of the bag front piece. Pin, and sew it to the bag front, with a single row of stitching about 1 inch in from each of the four edges. Be sure to catch the tabs at each end of the zip.

Lay an interfacing strip on the wrong side of each bag side piece, about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch down from the top raw edge and iron in place.

With right sides together, sew both sides and across the bottom of the bag. Fold over the  $\frac{1}{4}$  seam allowance at the top, then fold down another inch (the width of the interfacing) and topstitch along the edge to make the reinforced bag top. Topstitch also around the top edge of the bag. Turn bag right sides out.

To make the handles, fold each handle piece in half lengthwise and press. Open out, and fold in each side length to meet the centre line, before folding in half again, so that each handle has four thicknesses of fabric, and a finished width of 1 inch.

At each end, open out and fold in the seam allowance before refolding and topstitching around all four edges of each handle.

Position each handle at the top of the bag, about 4 inches in from each side, and sew each end securely on the outside of the bag, over the top of the interfaced strip. Fold away as shown below.

Congratulations – you've finished! Now you have a very handy bag for your next shopping trip!



Fold away as shown above.

## What To Get the Bag-Lady Who Has Everything for Christmas? Why - MORE BAGS, of course!

This years **Perfect Present**, (or the Gift to **Treat Yourself** with) is the Newly Released "Favourite Bag Patterns" CD-Rom set.

**Favourite Bag Making Patterns**  
Bonus 2nd Pattern Book  
"MORE Favourite Bag Making Patterns  
on CD-Rom.  
Get 24 New Patterns for the Price of 12"

This Double CD-Rom set includes 24 Full Size Bag Patterns from the Exclusive Bag Making Patterns Club.com, and at \$27 for the Set, is just over \$1 per pattern, which is the Best Value for Bag Patterns this Christmas!!

These CD-Roms are compatible with both PCs or Macs, and also include Bonus Chapters on "Tools of the trade" and More Than 20 Ways to Embellish Your Bags. (Nominal p&h charges will apply)

**Order your copy NOW in time for Christmas**

Go To [www.Quilts-n-Bags.com](http://www.Quilts-n-Bags.com) to Order Today & remember **\$5 from each sale will be donated** to the McGrath Foundation to help fund more Breast Care Nurses.

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Remember – November 14<sup>th</sup> is World Diabetes Day. The theme is blue, and they will be lighting blue candles to recognise the day. Please go to <http://www.worlddiabetesday.org> for more information.

Have You Checked Out Our Online Clubs Yet?

**FREE**

Patterns to download on both...

[www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com)  
[www.BagMakingPatterns.com](http://www.BagMakingPatterns.com)

And a Great New Range of Quilt & Bag Patterns!

[www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com)



## Basting Quilts

By Rose Smith from [www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk](http://www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk)

I always used to feel that I was nearly there when I had completed my patchwork quilt top...

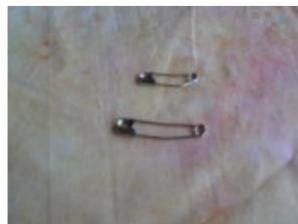
It's surprising how much still remains to do when you have sewn that last patchwork block in place and sat back to survey your masterpiece.

Pressing it is obviously a priority as by now you have probably been handling it for some considerable time, have bundled it away occasionally when you had to clear the table and your seam allowances are not all lying flat.

Layering the quilt comes next: backing fabric right side down, wadding and then your much loved patchwork quilt top that has become such a labour of love. Basting these three layers together well is one of the major steps towards

finishing up with a flat quilt that will be easier to quilt.

### Pin Basting



Quilt basting pins look like safety pins but have one curved edge to cope with the thickness of three layers of fabric. They do an admirable job of holding the layers together.

Beginning at the centre, place the first pin in place and smooth gently outwards from the

centre. Continue placing pins at roughly 4" intervals.



This method is quick and easy. The disadvantage is that as you quilt you will need to keep stopping to remove the pins – sewing over a pin breaks the needle, as I have found from bitter experience.

### Thread Basting



The next alternative for basting quilts is using basting stitches. These are temporary long running stitches that can be pulled out fairly easily when they are no longer required.

As ever, begin in the centre of the quilt. For a small quilt, sew a line of basting stitches from the centre to the top of the quilt, then one to the bottom and to each side. Add further lines of stitching along each diagonal till you have an eight pointed star of basting stitches.



For larger quilts, the star system of basting doesn't give a close enough coverage of stitches to hold all the layers together firmly, so it is better to sew a grid of lines in both horizontal and vertical directions. Make the lines about 4" apart and your quilt layers won't move against each other.

## Spray Basting

Spray basting is my current favourite for small quilts. It can be used for bigger quilts as well, but I haven't been very successful doing it on my own. I think it's definitely a two person operation with big quilts.



So to spray baste a small quilt, lay the three layers of the quilt out on a flat surface. If your table is not large enough, then the floor is a good option. Some people do lay their quilts on a spare bed for basting but I find that it doesn't work for me because the surface is not hard enough. Make sure that you have a window open and lay newspaper or an old sheet underneath the quilt.



Roll back the quilt top and wadding to half way and spray adhesive on the backing fabric. Use a zigzag motion and hold the spray can about 10" away from the backing fabric. You don't want to saturate the fabric, just provide enough adhesive to give an allover grip. Roll the wadding forward and smooth gently on to the backing fabric, starting from the centre and moving outwards. If

there is a ripple in the wadding, just lift it off the backing fabric and re position it.



Spray adhesive on the top of the wadding and roll forward the quilt top and smooth in place in the same way.

When you have completed that half of the quilt, turn it round and repeat the process on the other half of the quilt.

Spending time basting your quilt layers together pays off enormously when you come to begin the quilting. A smooth, flat quilt is more likely to stay smooth and flat when you are quilting than one that already has a couple of wrinkles before you begin.

## About the Author:

Rose Smith was born and brought up in Zambia in Africa. She moved to the UK when she was 18 and now lives in Shropshire, indulging her passion for quilting and sewing. She has sewn all her life - 'anything that stood still long enough' in the words of her children - but now finds that patchwork and quilting have taken over her life. She indulges this passion by posting patterns and tutorials on her website

[www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk](http://www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk) for all to share.

## LUDLOW QUILT AND SEW

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[www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk](http://www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk)



## What's New from The Fat Quarter Shop

by Kimberly Jolly from [www.FatQuarterShop.com](http://www.FatQuarterShop.com)

We're pleased to be able to bring you a selection each month of the Newest Fabric Releases and the new season fabric "must haves".



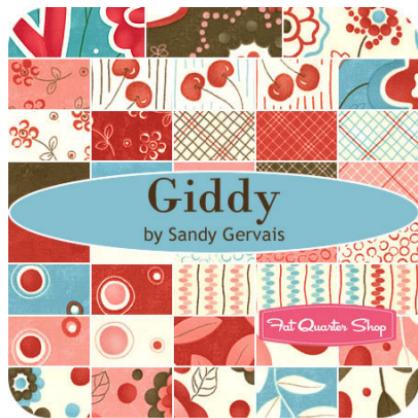
**Lynne Hagmeier - Kansas Troubles Quilters  
Favourites for Moda**

Remember the Kansas Troubles fabrics you let get away? Lynne Hagmeier of Kansas Troubles Quilters has brought back to life some of her favorite prints in her classic color ways.

Add these Kansas Troubles Favorites to your stash or use them on their own. This classic collection is available in Fat Quarter Bundles, Fat Eighth Bundles, Jelly Rolls, Charm Packs, Layer Cakes and yardage.

For more information on this range go to:

<http://www.fatquartershop.com/Kansas-Troubles-Favorites-Moda-Fabrics.asp>



## Giddy by Sandy Gervais for Moda

You'll feel Giddy when you see Sandy Gervais' newest collection for Moda Fabrics. Sandy has created the quintessential Valentines collection. Giddy pairs bright red, whipped cream, blush and chocolate to create hearts, posies, cherries, bias plaid and Sandy's solids.

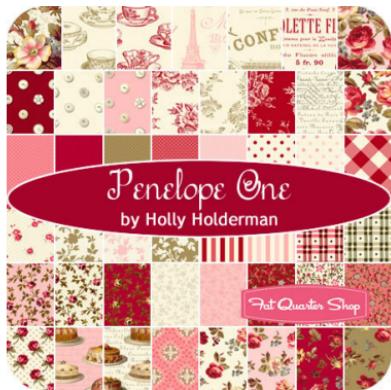
To add to the whimsy of this collection Giddy also includes three quilt panels in blush, surf and chocolate. This bright and fun Valentines

collection is available in Fat Quarter Bundles, Fat Eighth Bundles, Jelly Rolls, Charm Packs, Layer Cakes and yardage.

If you're in the mood for a Charm Pack pattern check out the Cherry Season Quilt Kit.

To check out this range, please go to:

<http://www.fatquartershop.com/Giddy-Sandy-Gervais-Moda-Fabrics.asp>



## Penelope One by Holly Holderman for Lakehouse Dry Goods

Holly Holderman with Lakehouse Dry Goods gives new life to vintage prints in the collection

Penelope. Take a step back in time with rich reds, pastel pinks and soft creams in great florals, fun dots and cute little cakes. The stars of this collection are the quilt panels available in teacups, stitched lettering and ornate floral bouquets.

Penelope is available in three color way Fat Quarter Bundles and yardage.

For more info visit:

<http://www.fatquartershop.com/Penelope-Lakehouse-Dry-Goods-Fabric-Holly-Holderman.asp>



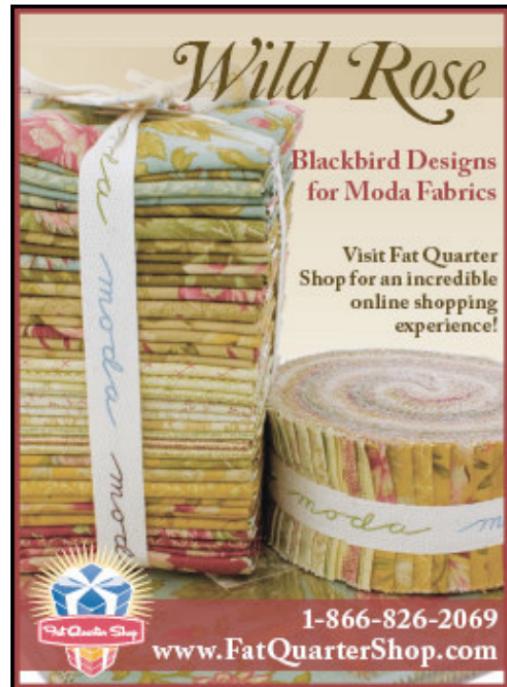
## Wild Rose by Blackbird Designs for Moda Fabrics

Relax and enjoy Wild Rose by Blackbird Designs for Moda Fabrics. Wild Rose gently takes you back to a more relaxed time. The colors of sky, rose hips, fence and leaf are surrounded by the color of sunshine.

Peonies and wild roses become the central focus of the collection, supported by smaller prints and a printed ticking. Wild Rose is available in Fat Quarter Bundles, Fat Eighth Bundles, Jelly Rolls, Charm Packs, Layer Cakes and yardage.

View this range at:

[http://www.fatquartershop.com/Wild-Rose-  
Blackbird-Designs-Moda-Fabrics.asp](http://www.fatquartershop.com/Wild-Rose-Blackbird-Designs-Moda-Fabrics.asp)





## Life's Lessons...

This was emailed to me this week and I thought it well worth sharing. It was written by Regina Brett, 90 years old, of the Plain Dealer, Cleveland Ohio .

"To celebrate growing older, I once wrote the 45 lessons life taught me. It is the most requested column I've ever written. My odometer rolled over to 90 in August, so here is the column once more:

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.

5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
9. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.

13. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.
- 16.. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
17. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
19. It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
24. The most important sex organ is the brain.
25. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
27. Always choose life.
28. Forgive everyone everything.

29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
30. Time heals almost everything. Give time time.
31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
32. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
33. Believe in miracles.
34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
35. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
36. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.
37. Your children get only one childhood.
38. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
41. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
42. The best is yet to come...
43. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
44. Yield.
45. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."

# Quilting Find-a-Word Puzzle

H	G	M	F	Y	R	E	D	I	O	R	B	M	E	W	N	E	B	P	H
K	A	W	G	A	P	A	P	P	L	I	Q	U	E	I	A	M	B	E	U
R	B	W	S	G	N	I	K	C	I	W	E	L	D	N	A	C	O	P	N
O	J	B	I	N	D	I	N	G	W	A	D	D	I	N	G	D	I	S	E
W	P	L	X	U	L	P	S	R	W	Y	A	V	F	N	I	V	X	Q	E
D	Q	U	I	L	T	A	S	Y	O	U	G	O	C	S	O	U	W	S	D
E	N	U	I	W	P	U	J	R	E	T	R	O	F	M	O	C	X	B	L
R	U	V	F	G	J	V	H	C	T	I	D	E	H	T	N	I	R	A	E
Q	U	I	L	T	S	L	S	A	S	H	I	N	G	I	P	B	H	B	T
B	L	O	C	K	O	F	T	H	E	M	O	N	T	H	D	V	B	Y	U
V	G	I	G	E	E	M	B	E	L	L	I	S	H	M	E	N	T	Q	R
T	T	Z	T	W	I	I	Q	I	T	R	A	P	U	N	T	O	X	U	N
L	O	S	G	N	I	L	P	P	I	T	S	G	K	C	M	W	F	I	E
T	A	X	D	A	Z	G	N	I	C	E	I	P	F	G	D	X	O	L	L
B	V	C	O	R	N	E	R	S	T	O	N	E	S	Y	N	C	X	T	S

applique

cornerstones

quilt as you go

baby quilt

embellishment

redwork

baste

embroidery

sashing

binding

in the ditch

stippling

block of the month

needleturn

trapunto

candlewicking

piecing

wadding

comforter

quilt

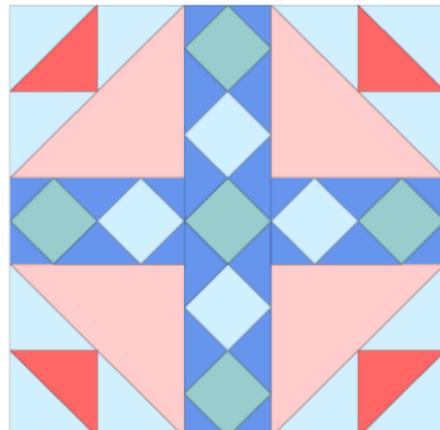
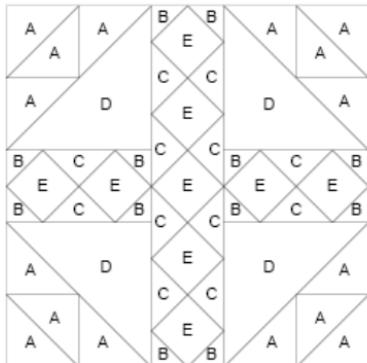
## Block of the Month

This month's block is a lovely intricate design, and whilst care must be taken with the piecing, we're sure this is a block you'll want to include in one of your next projects!

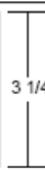
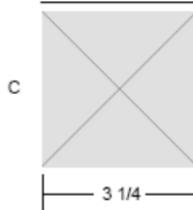
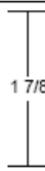
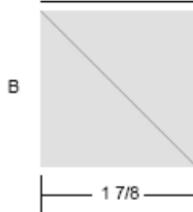
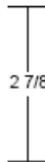
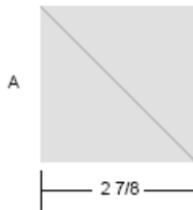
To make this 10 inch block as shown, you will need five different fabrics and once you have rotary cut the pieces according to the Cutting Diagram, you can piece them together as shown below.

**Bird's Nest**

Key Block (5/20 actual size)



Cutting Diagrams



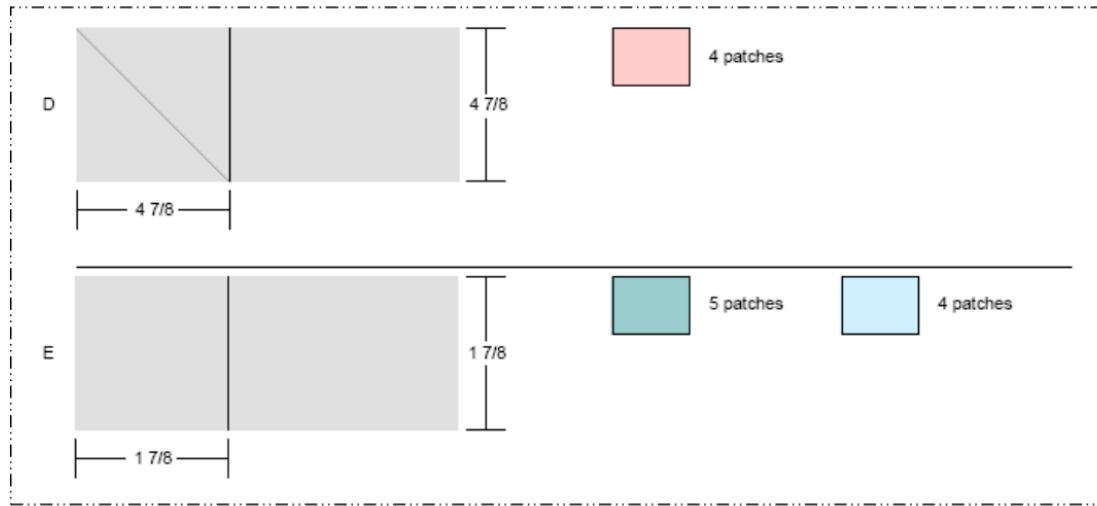
Patch Count



12 patches



4 patches



## Today's tips:

- Have several patterns put aside to do, and make sure you have enough fabric and threads to get started. Then, when you've finished one project, you have several more to choose from to get your next one under way!
- Add embellishments such as beads or braid after the quilting is done so they won't get caught up in the quilting. It makes the task of quilting easier, and avoids them being squashed.

## Quilters' Horoscope

By Pauline Rogers from [www.QuiltersWorld.com.au](http://www.QuiltersWorld.com.au)

A humorous compilation of character traits of quilters according to their zodiac signs. Compiled by a quilting tutor with over twenty years experience teaching patchwork and quilting but zero years writing horoscopes.



### Scorpio - October 24 to November 22

Being passionate Scorpions can be excellent quilters. When they rely on their natural intuition, they excel at choosing colour and pattern combinations. Sometimes their compulsive nature can cause problems, as they leave projects unfinished in their quest to have the latest and greatest. When they stick with a project they produce supreme work. They always must have the most up-to-minute supplies or tools and tend to be jealous of others who may possess anything more recent. They have been known to sulk if they get frustrated in their aim to be unsurpassed. Nevertheless, their desire to have the best is what drives them to produce exceptional quality work. As they possess abundant energy they can do a large amount of quilting without even needing a break for a cuppa.

Scorpio design from the "Quilting With the Stars" quilt from the Quilt Block of the Month Club.com

## YES, We Want to Hear From You!

As our Online Magazine continues to grow each month, we need your feedback in order for us to continue to improve our publication for you.

- We want to know how you liked it.
- We want to know the topics you're interested in.
- We want to know if you have any suggestions, Hints or Tips of your own that you'd like included, or if you know anyone we should include a story on!

Please send me an email with your Testimonial, Suggestion or Enhancement – I'd love to hear from you!

Send all emails to:

[jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com](mailto:jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com)

### "Quilt-y" Sayings...

- Don't needle the quilter!
- Hug your sewing machine.
- So much fabric, so little time.

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