Stack the Deck with Stacking Quilting Designs

Bonus Project – Christmas Oven Gloves

How To Convert Your Ruler for a Perfect Diamond in a Square

What’s New from the Fat Quarter Shop

Quilting On The Go
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stack the Deck With Stacking Designs</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfect Diamond In A Square</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quilting On The Go</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT - I Spy Quilts With Flaps</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s New From The Fat Quarter Shop</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hints &amp; Tips from Brannie</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More From A Scrappy Quilter</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT – “Christmas Oven Gloves”</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter From Venice</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POEM – ‘Twas the Night Before Christmas...A Quilter’s Poem</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT – Quilt Label of the Month</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLOCK OF THE MONTH – Christmas Pine Block</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Today's Tips</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES – We Want To hear From You</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cover Photo – “Winter Wonderland” by Leah Day from [www.FreeMotionQuilt.blogspot.com](http://www.FreeMotionQuilt.blogspot.com)
Hi!

It’s that wonderful Christmassy time of year again, and I’m thrilled to be able to bring you our Big Bumper Christmas Issue this month for a good Holiday read. It’s packed full of new articles, and new projects to try. We even have a Christmas Oven Glove pattern that you can run up in time to take that festive baked ham out of the oven with on Christmas Day!

We are thrilled for regular contributor Leah’s success this past month too, with her “Winter Wonderland” quilt on the cover taking out a major prize at the recent American Quilt Society Show in Knoxville. You’re learning from the experts here!!

We’re also putting together an article on quilting and you for next month. Please check out the bottom of page 49 and do let me know if you have any thoughts you’d like to share...

We hope you have a Wonderful Christmas, and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year, and we’ll have another great magazine ready for you then.

Happy Christmas!

Jody
Chances are, if you’ve attended a quilt show at some point in the last few years, you’ve seen the free motion design called **Pebbling** stitched on a few quilts.

This is a design created by quilting circles that stack together to create a beautiful, eye catching texture that just makes you want to reach your hand out and stroke the quilt!

While this texture might look really complex, it’s actually not that tricky to learn how to stitch. After all, how many times have you drawn a circle in your life? Like a million times? So it should be extremely easy to stitch on your next quilt!

So here’s how it works:
First stitch a circle, then immediately curve around into another circle, keeping the two together so they fit together like two...um...pebbles.

Keep curving around into more circles and have fun varying the size of each one. Try not to let them get too small otherwise you’ll be quilting this design FOREVER!

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Now that you’ve gotten the hang of Pebbling, it’s time to stitch it up a notch and learn a few other variations of this design. Now that you can stitch circles, what’s to stop you from stitching something INSIDE those circles? This is the idea behind **Double Pebble:**

With this design, first stitch a large circle, then swirl inside to stitch a little circle. Now let’s try a variation with a spiral inside:

To quilt this design, first stitch a circle, then swirl inside with an spiral. Make sure to leave yourself room to get out of the spiral, then form a new circle and spiral next to the first.

Once you get the hang of stitching circles, you might start wondering what other designs you can stack together. Here’s a fun design that stacks ovals to create Coffee Beans!
For this design, first stitch an oval shape, then stitch inside with a wiggly line. Experiment with moving this design around your quilting space as stitching ovals will feel different from stitching circles.

**Troubleshooting** - If the above designs have fired you up and you’ve jumped on your machine ready to go, only to find your thread breaking every other second, please, whatever you do, don’t blame the machine!

**Instead blame your thread!** If you’re using cotton or a cotton/poly blend, chances are it’s just too thick and too weak to be able to quilt these Stacking Designs properly.

Stacking Designs literally STACK together, which means many sides touch, creating places where your thread is stitched 2, 3, or even 4 times over itself. Only thin, strong threads like Isacord Polyester thread can really handle being repeatedly stitched over without shredding or breaking.

Yes, I know what you’re thinking - *What about the poly thread shredding through the surface of my cotton quilt?*

Answer: That myth got started thanks to some low quality poly / cotton blended threads back in the day, and unfortunately it’s been pervasive enough that many quilters won’t even consider using polyester thread or batting in their quilts.
This is a shame because polyester has come a long way in the past few years. A high quality polyester thread is not any more likely to shred through your fabric than a cotton thread.

Instead of focusing on All Cotton All The Time, instead focus on **High Quality Materials All The Time**. Using a high quality cotton with high quality polyester thread is an excellent combination that will produce quilts that will last, and wash wonderfully.

And if that didn’t convince you, look at it this way: if you seriously want to free motion quilt, but find yourself ready to chuck your quilt, your machine, and your sanity out the window because your thread keeps breaking, what do you have to lose?!

P.S Find Isacord thread in the Day Style Designs Quilt Shop along with many other tools, books, and DVDs to help you start free motion quilting on your home machine.

---

**About the Author:** Leah Day is the author of the [Free Motion Quilting Project](http://www.daystyledesigns.com), a blog project dedicated to creating new free motion quilting designs each week and sharing them all for FREE! Leah is also the author of From [Daisy to Paisley - 50 Beginner Free Motion Quilting Designs](http://www.daystyledesigns.com), a spiral bound book featuring 50 designs from the project.

[www.daystyledesigns.com](http://www.daystyledesigns.com)
This past summer Leah Day’s Winter Wonderland quilt won Best Machine Quilting at the AQS Knoxville Show. Leah shares: “In 2009 I became obsessed with snowflakes! I just fell in love with the 6 pointed shapes and couldn’t stop playing with all the design possibilities.

But to appliqué a complex snowflake shape is another matter! I didn’t even consider trying this quilt with needle turn appliqué or fusing. Instead I experimented with a technique I call Reverse Shadow Trapunto which allowed me to create the pretty snowflakes just by carefully cutting felt away from a shadow background.

This quilt was a lot of fun to put together because each block was quilted separately. This allowed me to experiment with many beautiful filler designs from the Free Motion Quilting Project. Once the blocks were all quilted, they were connected together using bias binding.”

To learn more about quilt or the technique Leah used to create it, please check out:

http://www.daystyledesigns.com/winterwonderlandquilt.htm

Congratulations Leah!!
You can convert any of your square rulers into a guide to make the perfect “Square-in-a-square. Here’s how to do it with your 12½-inch square.

Take a piece of matt finish sticky tape and attach it diagonally to the front side of your 12½-inch square ruler. Begin at the centre of the top edge to the centre on the right edge.

Similarly place a second piece of tape from the right edge down to the bottom edge.

Using a permanent marker pen, draw a line from the 6¼-inch point on the top edge to the 6¼-inch point on the right edge, **beginning and ending ¼-inch in from the edge**.

Draw a second line from this point down to the 6¼-inch point on the bottom edge.

The two lines will create a perfect right angle.

After stitching the triangles to each side of the square, Place the ruler over the work so that the marked lines lie over two of the stitched lines.

There will be a ¼-inch seam allowance between the point on your block and the edge of the ruler.

Trim the edge.
Turn the work through 90 degrees and repeat the placing of your ruler and the cutting.

Repeat with both remaining edges.

You now have a perfect square in a square.

About the author:

Brenda has been involved with fabric products since she was in primary school. Assisting her mother after school in a home sewing business, later exhibiting in both fashion design and quilting & and patchwork competitions.

She has had many articles published in Australia, Europe & the USA. She currently sells patchwork patterns on the internet though quiltersinternational.com and is founder president of Westernport Quilters Inc. (westernportquilters.org.)
Sew It on The Run or in the Comfort of Your Home. Finish Your Quilt One Block at a Time, Connect the Blocks With Ease, and Your Project will be Finished Before You Know it.

Many quilters love Quilt as You Go projects.

In a quilt as you go project, you piece and then quilt one block at a time (instead of sewing the quilt top together then quilting it).

As a result, you finish individual blocks which will be connected to each other to become a quilt. Below is a brief Step-by-Step for completing a beautiful Quilt as You Go project.

The most common method quilters use for these projects is to sew the blocks together, then secure the batting between the blocks, and finally finish the backing by folding over one side to cover the raw edge of the other.

In this alternative method, you sew the backing together and fold under the raw edges on the front of the quilt.

This creates a completely different look, adding a kind of sashing. As you plan your quilt, keep in mind what the fabric will look like on the front of your quilt.

This small project was made using flannel – a fabulous fabric for colder climates or babies!
**Step 1** - Create quilted blocks – with batting and backing extending beyond the block – be sure to allow for sashing, if you are going to include it.

**Step 2** - Add sashing if desired. Since the backing will be folded over to the front, having some width of sashing between the blocks will give you some space for the folded edges of the backing.

**Step 3** - Trim the batting and the block or sashing so they are even. Be sure to move the backing out of the way.
**Step 4** - Trim the backing on both blocks so it extends at least 1/2 inch past the edge of the block and sashing.

You need enough to be able to fold under your 1/4 inch seam allowance. You might add a tad more than the 1/2 inch to allow for the thickness of the block and batting.

**Step 5** - Stitch the **backing** of the blocks together – with right sides facing together. I marked the stitching line based on where the raw edges of the sashing were on the backing.

**Step 6** - Secure the batting – it should meet in the center of your blocks. Fold seam allowance of your blocks to one side.
Step 7 - Fold the seam allowances onto the front of the quilt between the blocks. Pin and sew.

Step 8 - Add rows to your quilt. Use the same process as you would add blocks. When you add rows, you will match the seams of the blocks just as you would when you sew a quilt top together.

About the Author:

Penny Halgren is a quilter of more than 27 years, and enjoys sharing her love of quilting with others. Sign up for her free quilting tips, quilt patterns, and newsletter at [http://www.How-to-Quilt.com](http://www.How-to-Quilt.com)
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I Spy Quilts With Flaps

By Rose Smith from www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk

I Spy Quilts have always been popular because you can combine the warmth of a quilt with a great set of I Spy quilt blocks that you can talk to your child/grandchild about. They are also enormous fun to make because there are no rules - you can let your imagination run wild. (And they make GREAT Christmas presents too!)

I made this I Spy Quilt with flaps over each quilt block. I've used 2.1/2" wide sashing (finished size 2") between the blocks to separate the flaps from each other.

The flaps are made from a nine patch quilt block sewn to a plain 6.1/2" square on three sides so that it makes a pouch.
To make the nine patch quilt block, sew together 2.1/2" strips of fabric: one strip of dark, light, dark fabric and one strip of light, dark, light fabric.

Cut these strips at 2.1/2" intervals and with right sides together sew three strips together as shown in the photo. You could sew two plain squares together (right sides together) on three sides but I just felt that a nine patch block looked good as a flap.

Turn these flap pouches right side out and press. My I Spy Quilt was made of four rows of four quilt blocks, so I needed sixteen flaps.

Now for the I Spy quilt blocks! I began by rummaging through my fabric stash to find any pictorial fabric.

I cut 6.1/2" squares of any that gave me images and sewed a 6.1/2" strip of sashing fabric to the right hand side of the square. Sew these squares together in a row with four blocks to a row.
Sew one further 6.1/2" sashing strip to the left hand side of the row of quilt blocks so that the row begins and ends with a sashing strip. Pin a nine patch flap on top of each quilt block with the open end of the pouch at the top. Cut a 34" length of sashing and with right sides together sew this across the top of the row.

For the quilt blocks I used shapes (a triangle block and a star block), applique, lots of different colours, embroidery .... anything that took my fancy, basically. The butterflies on the right were cut in felt and then sewn onto a plain square of fabric. I sewed the edge with blanket stitch and then used backstitch for the feelers. The hearts on the right were just outlined in backstitch.
To make this applique butterfly square, I backed the fabric with interfacing and cut out the entire shape. Then I backed some black fabric with interfacing, cut out the shape of the body and feelers only and placed this on top of the original shape. This way I had a block with layers to give texture - more to talk about with the child. To secure the butterfly I zigzagged all round.

When you have finished playing and have four rows of four quilt blocks, sew a 34" strip of sashing across the top of each row and sew this sashing strip to the bottom of the quilt block row above it. I find that it is worth pinning up the flaps of the row above so that they don't catch in the seam.

Finally sew a strip of sashing across the bottom of the quilt top and that's your I Spy Quilt ready for layering, quilting and binding.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

**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 for all to share. [www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk](http://www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk)
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Now it's getting hotter weather, my Dad spends more time inside watching the picture thing when people play "sports".

I usually help him watch, of course. Mum will do some quiet sewing in her sewing room and I can sit nearby and keep an eye on both of them.

We used to have a very small picture thing and Dad said he "couldn't see the ball" if he sat back in the big chairs, so he moved the upright chairs closer. He likes 'tennis', but I'm not so keen. There isn't enough action; it's just backwards and forwards, backwards and forwards - a bit boring.

I usually sleep through that.

There is another game called 'cricket'. I like playing with these things when they come under the doors at night. It is great fun trying to catch them and eat bits before Mum puts them back outside.
Apparently the game has the same name, but there aren't any little black insects flying around in it. Just people in white running and sliding and rolling a ball around.

Quite interesting to me, but my Dad finds it boring after a bit. I think that's what the 'test' is - how long you can sit and watch.

Oooh, ahhh is that Glenn McGrath? I'll have to watch him bowl a bit before I go to check how Mum is going with that quilt.

There might be some pins I can pull out or something....

Love Brannie,
the Quilt Block of the Month Club Cat!
Since my Confessions From a Scrappy Quilter article last month, many of you have contacted Jody for more information about my favorite teacher and pattern that I mentioned in an earlier article.

Well, my favorite teacher is Augusta Cole from Richmond, Virginia (augustacolequilting.com). I have taken several of her classes and am never disappointed. My favorite pattern of hers is Scrappy Squares. I’ve made many and each one looks different. I am including pictures of two; one made from my 30’s stash and another from my Thimbleberries stash. I love this pattern because it makes a good lap size quilt that I am able to machine quilt myself. I use a walking foot and just follow the seams with the side of my walking foot.
I also love patterns from Pat Speth. I have all of her books and have made several quilts from them. I especially like her advice to square-up units before sewing together in a block. This helps to have precise points in your quilt (that we all love to achieve).

Another favorite of mine is Bonnie Hunter. All of her books are a must have if you are a scrappy quilter. I love one of her tips in *Adventures With Leaders and Enders*.

I learned years ago (a tip from a class I took) to use a scrap piece of fabric at the beginning and end of my chain piecing. This helps to prevent the threads getting pushed down the needle hole on the throat plate of your sewing machine causing a bird’s nest at the beginning of a seam. Also using a “beginner” piece of fabric keeps those long threads off the floor.

Bonnie suggests having a bin of 2” or 2 ½” square scraps by your machine. Now instead of using a scrap piece of fabric as a “leader” and “ender”, sew two of the squares together as a “leader” and “ender”.

I usually have many projects in all stages of completion going on at the same time. So now when you finish one project, you will have a pile of two squares sewn together. These can be used
for your four patch patterns or a unit in many of the scrappy patterns available. Read the section “Just what are Leaders and Enders? (in the front of her book) for more tips.

Hope this was helpful and remember scrappy is beautiful!!!!!!

Gail Lockhart - Carrollton, Virginia USA

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BONUS Project – “Christmas Oven Gloves”

From www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com

Christmas Oven Gloves

Imagine taking the Christmas Ham out of the oven with your own festive Christmas Oven Gloves! Featuring a simple appliqued snowflake and stitched star design, these quilted oven mitts are quick and easy to make, and are bright and happy enough to spread Christmas cheer in your house. (Or someone else’s if you need a great gift idea!)

Dimensions are 28 inches long x 6 ½ inches wide
You Will Need:

½ metre (½ yard) natural / stone coloured fabric

½ metre (½ yard) wadding/batting

Fat Quarter or strip of bright red fabric for binding

Small amount plain white fabric for applique

Fusible webbing for applique

White embroidery floss for applique

Bright red embroidery floss for stitchery

Preparation:

From the stone coloured fabric, cut two strips measuring 42 inches x 6½ inches.

From the batting, cut one strip measuring 42 inches x 6½ inches. Cut also two squares measuring 6½ x 6½ inches for extra padding on the palms of the gloves.

Using the templates provided and the fusible webbing, trace the three sizes of snowflakes (3 x large; 2 x medium; 4 x small) on the white fabric for the appliqued snowflakes on the design.
The designs are completed on both strips as shown below, as the ends are flipped back to make the gloves at each end.

Centring the design on the middle of one strip, applique a large snowflake in place. We blanket stitched around the edges of ours, however you can applique by machine if you wish. Stitch a large red star either side of that with two strands of red embroidery floss. The dotted inner line is stitched in a single thread.

Applique a small white snowflake outside that on each side, and finally stitch a small red star to finish.

The other strip has a design on each end as shown. Working within a 7 inch length at each end, applique one large, one medium and one small snowflake, and stitch two large red stars and about 4 small stars as you like. Vary the arrangement between the two ends.
Assembly:

Lay the second strip with designs at each end face down on a table. Place the batting strip on top. Measure in 6½ inches from each end and position the batting squares on top to provide more protection to the palms of the gloves.

Lay the remaining appliqued strip on top of that with right side up. Pin or spray baste and quilt as you like. We quilted our gloves in a simple criss-crossed lines design.

From the red fabric, cut sufficient 2¼ inch strips to bind all edges of the oven gloves. Fold binding strip in half lengthways with wrong sides together and press.

First bind each short edge. Sew a length of binding to the right side (design side) at each of the short ends of the oven gloves strip. Fold binding over to the back and pin. You can either sew this side by hand, or (as we did), carefully stitch in the ditch on the front side to catch the binding on the back. Trim the raw edges.

Fold each end of the strip back on itself (about 6½ inches) to form the gloves at each end as shown in the top picture.

To bind the two long edges, start with the binding on one end about ½ inch longer, past the folded end of the oven gloves strip. Sew binding to the right side and trim the end so it is also about a ½ inch longer than the end of the strip.

Tuck the excess binding in at each end to cover the end of the oven glove strip neatly, then fold the binding to the back and stitch in place (by hand or machine) as before. Repeat for the remaining side to finish.
Christmas Oven Gloves
Templates

Applique Snowflakes

Stitchery Stars
Completing her Travels Abroad, this month Pamela sent us her last Letter from Venice:

Dear Patchworkers-All,

I was staying near La Garda, a dreamily beautiful lake in the pre-Alps of northwestern Italy. Here, houses are painted in hues of soft terracottas, soft golds and yellows and the occasional egg-shell blue.

Apparently, the palette is dictated by the local government; an officer visits your home and gives you a choice of (perhaps) four colours by painting a sample on your wall! Then you make your choice.

Steep rocky hillsides plunge into the lake at many points on the western shore. There are even cavernous tunnels hewn for the lakeside road to pass through.

An early start, and a lakeside breakfast at picturesque Desenzano, before we boarded the train for Venice. If you plan to take a train, give yourself at least an hour just to book your ticket. Tickets are not transferable – it’s booked seats.

You can always fill in time before you board by looking at the Roman mosaics and buying fresh, mouth-watering panini.

It was mid-morning when we reached St Lucia Station on Venice. Before you take a waterbus to San Marco, grab a coffee and snack at the bar in the station. You can lean on the bar with the locals as you savour a rectangular slice of pizza.
Queues are the order of the day in Venice. So (unfortunately) is The Ugly Tourist. Don’t plan on having anywhere to sit whilst waiting for a waterbus. It made me wish I had one of those daypacks with a built-in-fold-up seat. Or a shooting-stick! And there’s very little shade if you are on the sunny side – or conversely, if you are on the shady side of the canal, there is very little sun!

The standout Patchworkers’ drawcard must be the floor mosaics of Basilica San Marco. But be warned - you cannot carry anything inside but your most minimal handbag. No backpacks, even small ones are a no-no. No water.

There is a place you can leave your belongings, but again queues....... Maybe you can bribe your Personal Private Porter with gelati or cappuccini, (note the necessary plurals) to stand guard, but remember, places to sit are at a premium unless you can find an unoccupied café table.

If you want to take photos inside the Basilica, forget it; you’re not allowed. The queue seems to set quite a cracking pace; perhaps you could sit in a pew and sketch... not such a silly idea, if somewhat irreverent but you would have to be discrete and respectful.

You will probably spend as much time in the cathedral shop as in the Basilica itself – the available postcards are a useful reminder of the clever use of patchwork designs which are the overwhelming floor mosaics. (Or is it the mosaics which just happen to be patchwork designs!)

Better still is a delightful book: “Viva Venezia!: Timeless Quilts Inspired By Italian Mosaic Floors” by Christine Porter which I purchased when I got
home. The patterns range from attic-window-designs-with-a-difference, to mariner’s compass with a significant degree of difficulty!!

On a walk through alleyways from San Marco to Rialto, I came across a haberdashery store, Merceria Venezia, which sold Coats Cotton threads in a jewel-like array of colours. (I can’t believe how difficult I found it was, trying to find cotton thread in Europe!)

A day in Venice merely whetted my appetite. And I didn’t even get to the islands where they make glass (Murano) or lace (Burano). Next time..................

About the Author: Pamela Davis has been an avid sewer since she was 10 years old. Pamela’s business – “Patchwork Quint-essential” is based in Canberra, Australia; you can visit Pamela in her studio, or it is quite possible that she can bring 12 boxes of exclusive Asian fabrics to you and your patchworking friends. Just contact her on 0448 232 647, or 06292 3727 or email on patchquilt007@gmail.com to organize a Patchwork Party. Please leave a message, if she is out Party-ing!!

What's Christmas without all those lovely handmade goodies?

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‘Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house,

The only one sleeping was a Quilter’s dear spouse

The Log Cabin stockings were almost completed,

“Just a few stitches left,” our sweet quilter repeated.

"Then I can hang them and head off to finish

the pillows I’m making, fulfilling Mom’s wish

For something quilted to put on her couch",

as she pricked her poor finger, our quilter said, "Ouch!"
When from out in the kitchen there arose such a crashing,
she sprang from her work, and she dropped all her sashing.

Away to the doorway she flew like a plane,
望着 just what was happening and who she would blame.

When what to her wandering eyes should appear,
but Old Mrs Claus and her bag of quilt-gear...

With her elves bearing gifts, through the kitchen she came,
she directed and pointed and called them by name.

"Now Elna, now Pfaff, now Bernina and Viking,
the Hoffman and Mumm should be just to her liking.
To the sewing room - there, it's just back of the hall,
now dash away, dash away, dash away all!"
"My Dear," said The Claus (as she liked to be called),

"There really is no need to worry at all.

Your projects will all be completed this night,

I'm terribly sorry we gave you a fright."

"Sit down. Have some tea. It's relaxing, you'll see.

My friends and I've come a long way to help thee."

She thought she was dreaming, our dear Quilter did,

In fact she quite feared that she'd near flipped her lid!

But the flash of the needles and the twist of the thread

soon gave her to know she had nothing to dread.

They spoke no more words, but went straight to their sewing.

How the work went so quickly she had no way of knowing.
The stitches, how fine! The corners, how straight!

This Claus-woman's talent was awfully great.

They finished the pillows, then started to quilt.

Before they all knew it, the whole thing was built!

Now old Mrs Claus, she knew quilters real well,
and she knew they'd need help on this night most of all
so she said to our quilter, "Just move over dear,
I've brought my own needle. We'll get done, never fear.

I told dear old Santa about what quilters do.
How they plan all these projects but have other work too.
So her taught me his magic for doing things fast.
There, that pillow's done. Now this is the last."
They tidied their thread snips, and picked up the scraps
and chased our dear quilter's six cats from their laps.
As they scurried away with their thimbles still gleaming
dear Mrs Claus paused, her cap ribbons streaming.
"Merry Christmas, my dear, now just have a ball!"

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We Wish You and Yours a Wonderful Christmas, and a Happy, Healthy and 'Quilt-y' New Year.

- Jody & Annette
This month, we’re continuing on with our original design “Quilt Label of the Month” series.

As you know, it is important to attach a label to each quilt you make with the date, your name and details like the name of the Quilt and for whom it was made.

Any of the story behind the quilt is always good to add too, as that way future generations will have more information on the making of your quilt!

These labels will be provided as line designs, as (with all of our designs), you will have a choice on how you decide to make your label. Many can be appliqued, and all can also be hand embroidered, following the same design.

This month is our Australian Christmas Bells label. This is a simple but pretty design that you will be able to whip up in no time.

You may choose to do this as either a stitchery or simple applique. Print the design from the following page and enlarge if you’d like. You can then write on (or embroider) the label details as you wish.

Enjoy!
This month’s block is a lovely seasonal pieced block. Repeat the design for a more formal look, or use as a single feature block in a quick Christmas project.

To make this 12 inch block as shown, you will need 4 different fabrics, and once you have rotary cut the pieces according to the Cutting Diagram, you can piece them together as shown.
Cutting Diagrams

A

2 1/2

2 1/2

B

2 7/8

2 7/8

C

4

7 1/4

1 patch

10 patches

1 patch

4 patches

6 patches

15 patches
Today’s Tips:

Ellen’s saying this month is:

There’s no such thing as mistakes only learning curves!!

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Donna sent in her tip to share:

“I hate putting holes all over the walls so I found that you can just staple your quilt to the walls (in groove of binding) and it leaves very, very small holes. It works for me.”

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Ann in the UK sent in her tip too:

“Good morning I'm a new UK reader of the mag but thought I could pass on a tip to you. I have never had a lesson on quilting and only started doing them last year so everything was read and then trial and error. I wanted to do the attic window design but was having a bit of a problem with the ¼ inch stop at the end of the sections. I was using dark fabric and my old eyes could not see that well.

I solved that problem by marking sticky backed labels into ¼ inch strips and cutting them out. Then I stuck one of them at the end of the seam line. I had a nice clear view of that stop mark and the corners ended up nice and square, the sticky back strips can be used several times so making it a nice cheap way of getting the point.”

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This month I have a different request... We’re putting together an article for next month on how quilting has inspired / helped / encouraged you when dealing with life’s various issues. We know readers deal with things like family illness and problems and see quilting as their outlet, and we’d love to share your story or thoughts too. Please email me at: jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com and we’d love to include you too.
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"Quilt-y" Sayings...

• The best things in life are quilted.
• Anytime is stitchin' time.
• Happy Holidays Let us sew Let us sew Let us sew

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