



# Online Quilt Magazine.com

PROJECT –  
Easter  
Bunny Quilt

FMQ Tutorial  
– Quick Like  
a Bunny

Danger!  
Chemicals  
and Quilts

Exploring Blocks  
Sampler Quilt –  
Month 3

PROJECT –  
Cute Bunny  
Doorstop

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## Letter from the Editor

Jody Anderson

Hi!

Welcome to April's issue, and isn't it nice to have a change of seasons too. Lucky Spring for those in the north, and a wet Autumn for us in the south. April this year means Easter, and this issue is just bursting with hoppy bunnies for you to try! Not chocolate – quilted and sewn bunnies!! (Mind you, I did have to quality control check a small bunny of the chocolate variety while I was writing this...)

We're delighted to be able to share with you this month our Easter Bunny Quilt, our Cute Bunny Doorstop, and Lori's quick quilted bunnies. There's an Easter Daisies Wallhanging project to stitch, as well as Block 3 of our Exploring Blocks Sampler Quilt. Leah looks at chemicals in our quilts, we look at choosing colours and we have a cat safety tip from Brannie's Mum!

We have lots of great reader quilts this month too, more fab fabrics to check out from the Fat Quarter Shop, and another couple of great books reviewed as well.

Have a Happy and Safe Easter!!

*Jody*



## Choosing The Right Fabric Colors For Your Quilt

By Paul K Carder

One of the first steps in creating a handmade heirloom quilt is choosing the fabric. This beginning step can make a huge difference in the end product that you create. If the color scheme is wrong you can end up with a quilt that isn't so nice to look at in many cases. The exception there, of course, would be scrappy quilts where you can use any and every piece of fabric you can find.

So, let's talk about color scheming your fabric for a nice color coordinated quilt. The easiest way to figure out your best choice for fabric colors is to grab a color wheel. That simple little tool can save you a lot of headache in fabric selection. For a two color quilt, you just choose two colors that are across from each other and you're all set. Easy as pie!

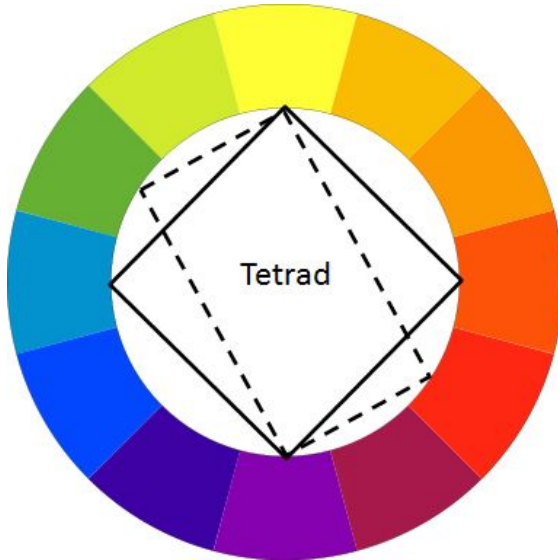


When you get into three and four color combination designs it gets a little more difficult to stick to the right colors, and you want to be aware of tones and shades as well.

The three primary colors, red, yellow and blue, form a triad. When using four colors, look for a



tetrad, which is two complementary colors and two colors evenly spaced from one of the complementary colors.



**\*\*** A fun little quilter's side tip: Grab the paint sample strips at the paint store where they have color sets. Those are a great little tool for planning out quilt project colors and they're already prematched, you just have to find fabrics that are similar then start cutting and sewing.



Another great tip is to use the selvedge of one of your chosen fabrics as a guide. Use the colored dots on the selvedge to match colors to suit.



Other things you might want to consider when you're planning out a new quilt project is where the quilt will go.

If it's a gift you may wish to choose shades of the recipient's favorite color as the main color in the quilt design. You might decide to match a quilt's colors to the theme of a room that it will be displayed in.

If you're still not sure what colors you want to use for your quilt project you can always pick up a pattern suggestion and follow it specifically.

Another fun option is to put together a scrappy quilt, like we mentioned earlier, where you put together a quilt using scraps of many different kinds of fabric and they really aren't even supposed to match.

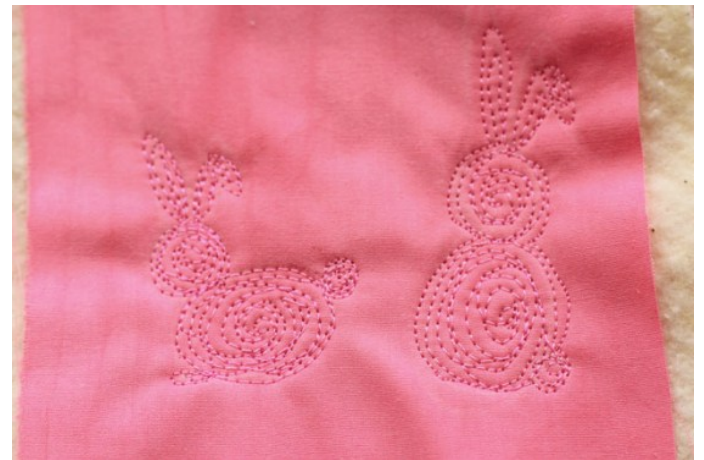
Whatever you do, have fun and enjoy your quilting project!





## Free Motion Quilt Tutorial – Quick Like a Bunny

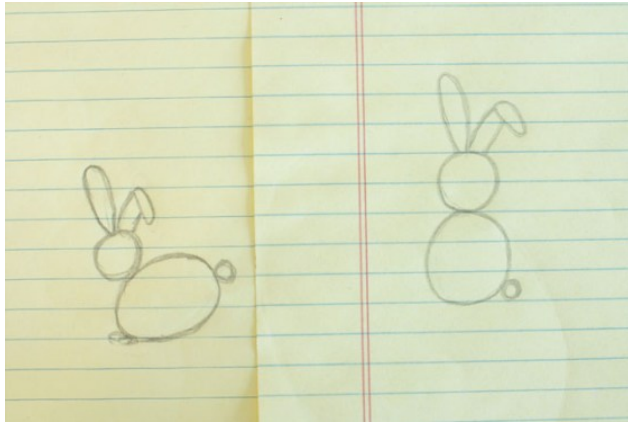
By Lori Kennedy from [www.theinboxjaunt.com](http://www.theinboxjaunt.com)



This month we have **“Quick Like A Bunny”**— a free motion quilting tutorial designed to help with hiding all of your newly created eggs...

The little chinchillas are easy to sketch—just a few ovals. I like to bend one of the ears...





I thought it was easier to have an outline to follow when I stitched the hoppity hares...



I did not stitch a perfect spiral—I thought it might look like a bulls-eye (not very friendly when stitching animals...), but rather, I stitched a “messy spiral”—You may remember the messy spiral from the **Spiral Lollipop Flowers** Tutorial (Review that tutorial [here](#))



So there you have it...pink bunnies to go with your Easter Eggs...





Now all you need is your new bonnet!



Happy Easter!



**About the Author:** Lori Kennedy claims she has been passionate about quilting since birth and believes quilting is in her blood--her grandmother, mother and two sisters are all quilters. She can't stop talking (about quilting) and can be found discussing free motion quilting daily at [www.theinboxjaunt.com](http://www.theinboxjaunt.com) and bimonthly in her column, 'My Line with Lori Kennedy' in American Quilter Magazine.

When she's not blogging, taking photos or quilting, she can be found hiking the trails of Minnesota with her husband, six kids and two Australian Shepherds.

Look for her Craftsy Classes [Divide and Conquer: Creative Quilting for Any Space](#) , and [Creative Free-Motion Techniques, From Doodle to Design](#)



## Project – Easter Bunny Quilt

By Jody Anderson from [www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com)



This easy lap-sized quilt is a perfect one to showcase some of your favourite larger-scale prints.

Featuring only two different pieced blocks, we made ours from gorgeous soft flannel bunny prints, for a lovely snuggly quilt for a friend's baby due shortly after Easter.

Make yours with bunnies too, for a throw quilt on your sofa for Easter, or mix it up and show off some of those favourite prints you have stashed away instead!

This quilt is 48 inches square.

**You Will Need:**

1¼ yards/metres pale grey fabric

¾ yard/metre pale blue fabric (for the squares in the centres of the blocks)

1 yard/metre charcoal polkadot fabric for blocks and binding

½ metre/yard pink polkadot fabric for blocks

Batting measuring at least 52 x 52 inches

Backing fabric measuring at least 52 x 52 inches

**Cut:**

Refer to the cutting guides following for both blocks – the Economy Patch Block, and the Four-Patch Variation Block.

You will need to make 8 of each block.

**Piecing:**



Start with your Economy Patch Blocks.

Lay the pieces for each block out as pictured, with the pale blue square in the middle, then the charcoal triangles to form the diamond, and finally the pale grey triangles to square it up again.





Sew two opposite charcoal triangles first, and press seams well.



Repeat to add a pair of opposite pale grey corners and press.



Then add the remaining pair of charcoal triangles.





Add the remaining corners and press the whole block well.

Square your block up so it measures  $12\frac{1}{2}$  x  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches square.



Your finished Economy Patch block.

Make 8 of these blocks.



Next, make your 8 Four-Patch Variation Blocks. Lay out the pieces as pictured.



Start with the pieced units first. Add two opposing pink corners and press well.



Add the remaining two pink corners and press.



Join the units into pairs, making sure to press seams in opposing directions.

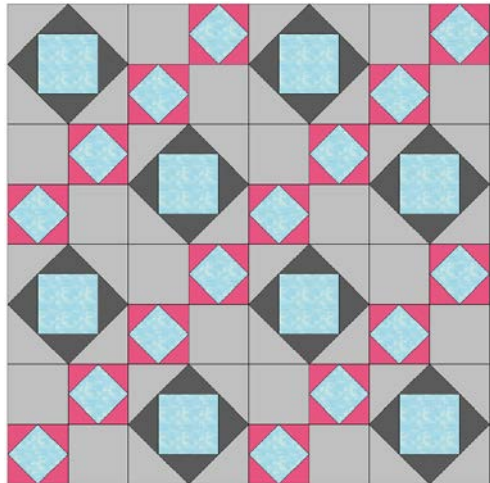


And sew the pairs together to complete the block.

Trim to measure  $12\frac{1}{2}$  x  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches square if required.

Make 8 of these blocks.

### Assembly:



The blocks are arranged in a simple 4 x 4 grid, with the different blocks running in diagonal rows.

Refer to the photo and diagram to the left to help you with this.

Sew the blocks into rows, and press the seams in opposing directions for each row. This helps with nesting seams when you join them together.

Finally, join the four rows, taking care to match the seams and points as necessary. Press well.

### Quilting:

Place your backing fabric face down on a flat surface, then smooth the batting on top. Put your quilt top on top of that, centred and smoothed flat.

Pin the layers together in preparation for quilting. We chose to use a walking foot to quilt ours, as the flannel fabric can be quite stretchy.

We simply quilted in the ditch around the centre squares, and quilted an echoing extended diamond pattern in the larger pale grey areas.

## Finishing:

Trim the batting and backing to match your quilt top.

Cut sufficient 2¼ inch binding strips from the remainder of the charcoal polkadot fabric and join together with 45 degree seams. Press the ¼ inch seams open, then fold the strip in half, right sides out and press.

Join the binding to the right side of the quilt edge with a quarter inch seam, mitring each corner as you go. Turn the folded edge of the binding to the back and slip stitch it in place with thread that matches the binding to finish.

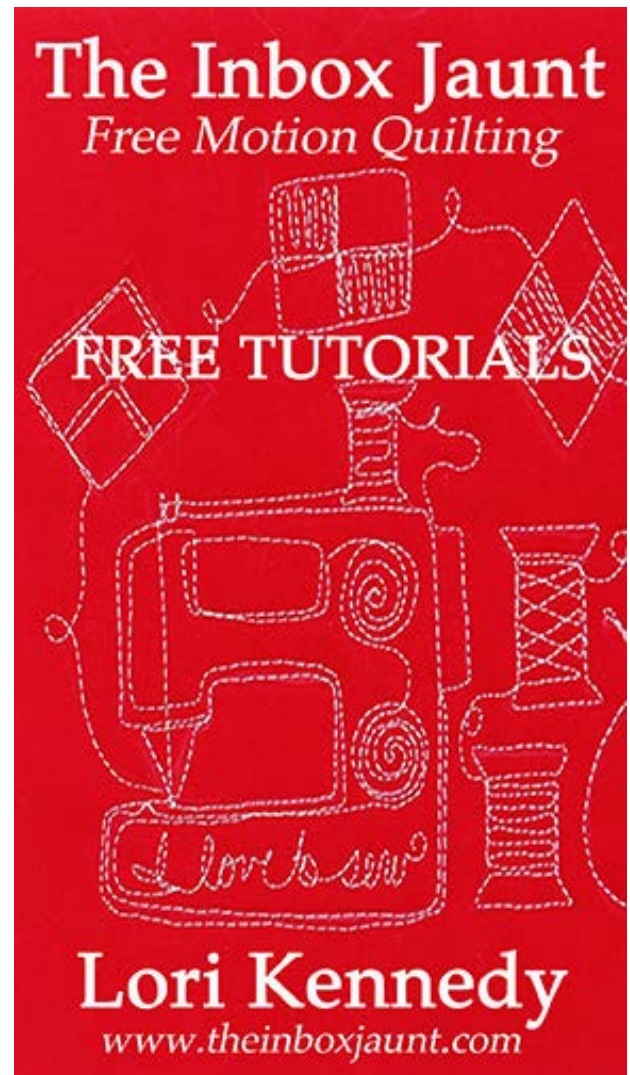
**Note** – the following Cutting Guides are for making a single block – multiply quantities by 8, for total amounts for the 8 blocks of each of the two blocks.

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For More Great Quilt Patterns, Go To:

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

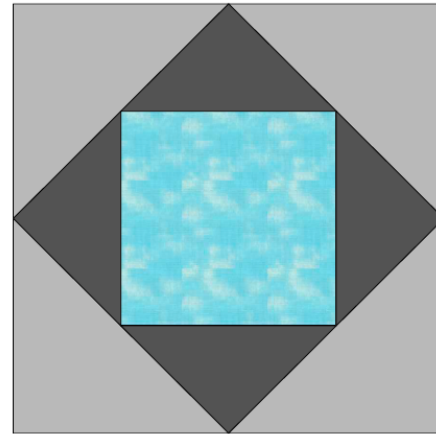
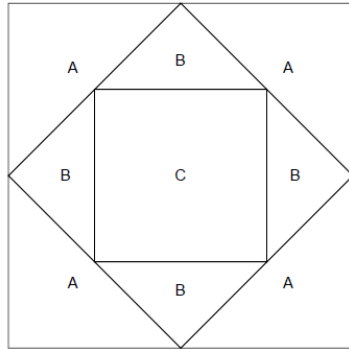
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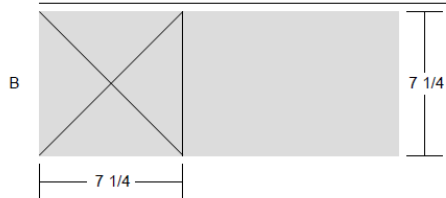
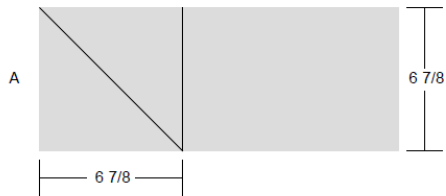


# Economy Patch

Key Block (1/5 actual size)

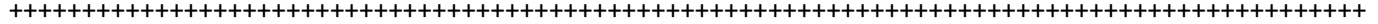
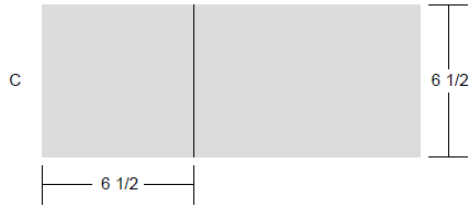


Cutting Diagrams



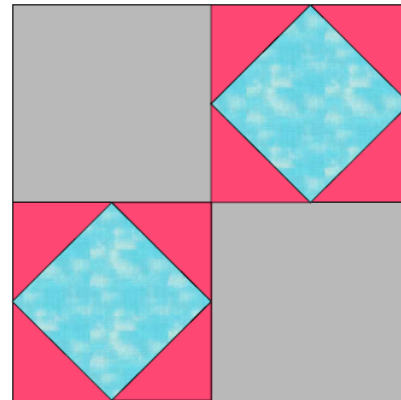
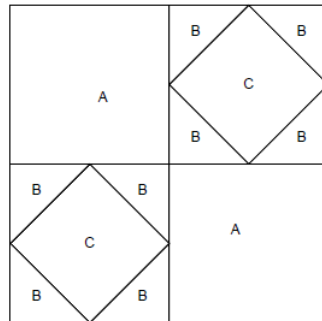
Patch Count



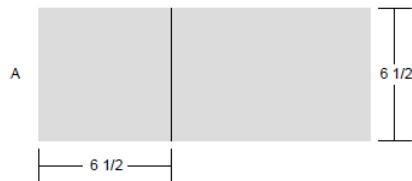


### Four-Patch Variation 3

Key Block (1/5 actual size)



Cutting Diagrams



Patch Count





**Keep up to Date with What's Happening on our Facebook Page – Do You Love Quilting Too?**

Bonus blocks, hints and tips added all the time!!

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Do-You-Love-Quilting-Too/271888039492644>

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



## Danger! Chemicals and Quilts

By Leah Day from [www.FreeMotionQuilting.blogspot.com.au](http://www.FreeMotionQuilting.blogspot.com.au)

*As promised, this month we're taking a look at chemicals in quilts.*

Have you ever made a list of all the chemicals going into your fabric, batting, or finished quilt?

I recently ran through a list of all the chemicals I use in my quilts: detergent to wash the fabric, and sometimes I use Retayne if I'm worried about bleeding. Then I use lots of starch when I'm ready to use the fabric in a quilt. Sometimes I use glue sticks or Elmer's glue for applique. Also the glue in fusible web should count too.

An easy chemical to forget is the chemicals in marking pens, fabric paint, and fabric markers. If it's a liquid marker contacting the fabric, you can bet there are chemicals involved that make the marker show up, or disappear according to how the agents react.

Of course, there's probably a whole stock of chemicals used in the manufacturing process of the fabrics we use that we never even know about. That's the main reason why I prewash my fabric religiously - it may not be much fun, but at least I know what detergent and chemicals I've put into the fabric, and I know I've done my best to wash out whatever was left over by the manufacturer: sizing, excess dye, etc.

But there are even MORE chemicals commonly used in quilts! What about spray basting? Fusible batting? What about the chemicals in our thread?!

**My slightly scientific mind has been thinking about all these chemicals: how they effect our quilts and their longevity.**

Have any studies been done to accurately test these materials? What about combination tests? What happens when you use ABC brand starch



with XYZ brand marking pens?

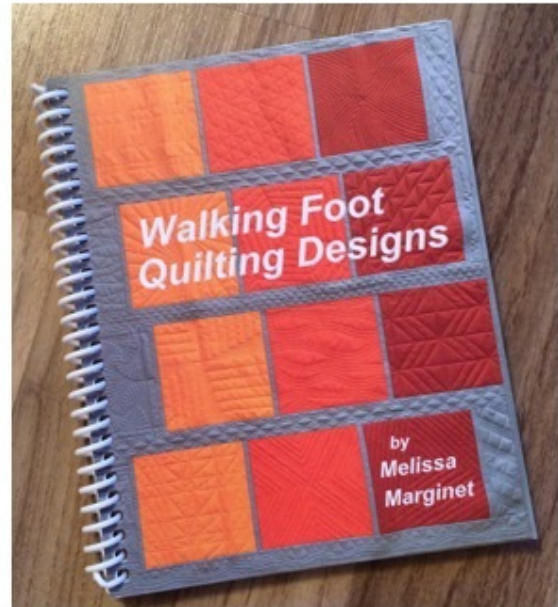
We're not just using 1 single chemical in our quilts, we're using several, and for quilters who make quilts that can't be (or shouldn't be) washed, this might be a problem down the road.

Now I don't consider myself an heirloom quilter. I don't really care if my quilts last for 1000 years so long as they last as long as I do, hopefully another 70 years!

But for many quilters, the idea of passing a quilt down to the next generation (or the next, or the next) is a very big draw. Shouldn't we know, without a shadow of a doubt, that the quilts we make today will last as long as we want them to?

So all of this has been running through my mind for a while, and then some time ago I was emailed by an awesome quilter and long time follower, Monica, who was obviously having similar thoughts.

Monica had seen advertisements for the new **Frixion** marking pens made by Pilot that supposedly disappear when you apply heat. That



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- Easy to follow step by step diagrams
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claim, and the much higher price tag in quilts stores made Monica wonder, so she set out to experiment with the pens and see what happens.

[Check out Monica's awesome experiment right here.](#)

I also remember finding an experiment about **Sewline** Pencils, a dry marking pen that brushes or erases off of fabric. A quick Google search found [that article right here at Foofangle](#), which shows how easily the different colors erase from different colors of fabric.

What I love the most about both experiments is that they're simple, yet clearly show the effects of both products. It just goes to show that you don't have to be a mad scientist or have access to a state funded laboratory in order to test the materials you're using in your quilts.

But let's get back to longevity of our quilts. The straight truth is this: cotton fabric, batting and thread will not last forever.

**However, certain chemicals may be aging our quilts far faster than usual.**



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**[www.BagMakingPatterns.com](http://www.BagMakingPatterns.com)**  
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**New Bag Project!**

Of course, this is extremely difficult to test accurately without a lab, and how likely is it for a university or independent lab to be interested in studying quilting materials?

It turns out they're interested enough to publish a case study!

Monica emailed me with [this case study](#) published in 2003 in which several different types of spray basting and fusible battings were subjected to longevity tests by the University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Here's an overview of what was studied:

*The purpose of this study was to carry out light and heat aging tests on three types of adhesives used in quilting.*

*Products tested included three quilt basting sprays: Sullivans, Sulky KK2000, and Spray & Fix 505; three fusible webs: Stitch Witchery, Wonder-Under and HeatnBond; and three fusible battings: Stearns Mountain Mist White Gold (cotton), Hobbs Heirloom (cotton/polyester blend), and June Tailor low loft (polyester).*

*The goal was to determine whether the selected adhesive-containing commercial products contribute to discoloration or promote degradation of fabrics over time.*

Recognize any names? While I'm personally not a fan of basting spray, I've certainly used Hobbs fusible batting and Wonder-Under!

[Please take the time to read this study today](#). It's extremely eye opening to know what these chemicals can potentially do to our quilts. This line in particular from the results and discussion section really got my attention:

*Quilt makers who wish to use a quilt basting spray in a quilt they intend to become an heirloom should select Spray & Fix.*

*Collectors and curators may wish to avoid acquisition of quilts containing these quilt basting sprays. The makers of Sulky and Sullivans may wish to reevaluate and modify their product formulations.*

One thing I wish the study had tested was the water solubility of the basting chemicals. What happens if you use the basting sprays or webs, but soak your quilt in water immediately after quilting? Will the chemical remain after 1 washing or 10?

**Of course, when it comes to making quilts and using chemicals, it really comes down to what you want to do and how you want to make your quilts.**

Please don't let me, or anyone else tell you how to quilt your quilts or dictate what materials you use. If you like using it, if it works for you, keep doing it!

I know I'm not going to stop using spray starch in my quilts because it helps me achieve a stiffness before the quilting process that prevents pleats from forming on the top and back.

That's based on my opinion, my experience, and the way I like to work with fabric.

But at the same time, I always make sure to soak my quilts in a huge tub of water after they have been quilted. Any chemicals that can survive a 30 minute soak in warm water are just going to have to stay put!

Let's go quilt,  
Leah Day

**About the Author:** Leah Day is the author of the [Free Motion Quilting Project](#), 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](#), a spiral bound book featuring 50 designs from the project, and she now has three Free Motion Quilting classes available through [Craftsy.com](#). [www.daystyledesigns.com](#)

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## Project – Cute Bunny Doorstop

By Annette Mira-Bateman from [www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com)



For something a little different this month, why not make our Cute Quilted Bunny Doorstop?

This happy little fellow will be right at home propping your door open, and who knows – he might even hide eggs for you this Easter!

This doorstop is approx. 8½ inches long x 4½ inches wide.

### **You Will Need:**

½ yard/metre mottled grey fabric for the bunny outer

½ yard/metre plain white fabric for backing and bunny's tail

Small amount pale pink fabric for inner ears

Small amount black fabric for eyes

Small amount fusible webbing for applique

Small amount of embroidery floss in black, white and pink

Water erasable fabric marking pen

Fat Quarter equivalent of batting

Toy fill / poly stuffing

Small amount of clean sand

### **Preparation:**

Print off the attached pages of templates and join together the four bunny body pages as indicated. Cut template out on the BLUE outer line.

### **Assembly:**



Using the bunny body template, cut out one shape from each of the grey and white fabrics, and the batting.



Pin together in preparation for quilting. Layer the white fabric face down, then smooth the batting over it, and finally, the grey fabric facing up.

Pin the three layers together well.

Using the water erasable pen, transfer the markings for the four feet (dotted red lines) and the lines for the base of the doorstep (double red lines) to the grey fabric.



Sew two rows of stitching close together as indicated around the rectangular base of the doorstep. Also quilt the front and back legs for the bunny.



As shown, with right sides together, bring the triangle ends up to meet the sides of the bunny side panels.

Pin and sew together. Note – the sides will not come to the top of the head end triangle.



Starting at the tail end, sew the tops of the side panels together, and stop about 3 inches from the head end.

Turn right sides out.



Now prepare the head.

Start with the ears. Trace the pink inner ear template twice on the paper side of your fusible webbing. Fuse it to the wrong side of your pink fabric, and cut out the shapes.

Position a pink shape as shown on two of the grey bunny ear pieces and iron in place.

Machine applique the pink inner ear in place.



With right sides together, pair up the grey bunny ears - one plain grey back with the pink ear front and sew around the shape, leaving the top edge open.

Clip the seam allowance on the curves – up to but not through the stitching, and turn ears right sides out.

Cut out one bunny head shape from the grey fabric, and run a gathering stitch around the outer edge.

Use the template to cut two black bunny eyes and fuse them in place as shown on the template.

Applique them in place. Using your embroidery floss, also stitch a white highlight in each eye, and stitch the pink bunny nose.

Put a teaspoonful of sand in each ear, then tuck in the raw edges at the top, fold the ears in half as pictured and hand sew each to the head as shown by the two red dotted lines on the template.







Use the gathering stitch to gather in the head. Stuff it with the toy stuffing, and stitch the gathered base securely closed.

Do exactly the same with the white tail. Use the circular template to cut one white tail. Run a gathering thread around the outside, then gather and stuff the tail as well.

Using matching thread, sew the tail securely to the tail end of the quilted bunny as pictured.

Fill your bunny with at least a ½ inch of sand evenly in the base, then top it up with more toy stuffing, and tuck in the triangle top and hand sew the gap in the bunny body closed.



Hand sew the bunny head securely to cover the top corner of your bunny base, and find him a good door to mind for you!

**Download the Pattern & Templates at:**  
<http://www.onlinequiltmagazine.com/members/content/f/id/535/>



## How To Create Gifts Under 5 Dollars To Sell At Craft Shows

By Paul K Carder

If you sell crafts, then why not create gifts under 5 dollars? I know you think this is probably not worth bothering with, but this can be a great business model for any time of year.

Many people are feeling the pinch with the slowing economy, so you may have to appeal to a different market.

Instead of creating elaborate and expensive products, why not consider smaller items. Not only do adults shop at craft shows for something unique but children also shop for their gifts as well.

A friend of mine, gives her older children (10-12 years) some cash, and tells them to go off and shop when they go to a craft show. As a crafter

that has sold in many shows, I can tell you, there are a lot of kids in that age group shopping.

Here are 5 ideas:

1. Christmas ornaments, that are unique, but don't take much time or materials to make. Have a small Christmas tree and hang your ornaments on the tree to display them.
2. Small craft kits, you can create from your leftover supplies. These are a great way for people to venture into crafting. Such as a package to make a tree ornament etc, in a small zip lock bag.
3. Craft CD's. You can get creative here. Spend

the time and create a CD of craft ideas, and some of your own craft patterns.

It will take some time in the beginning, but you can make and sell many copies of this CD and sell it for 5 dollars. Create a decorative cover for your CD and copy it.

You could have a printed version in a binder, to give the customer an idea of what is on the CD. These make great gifts. The beauty of this is you can sell many copies, and CD blanks are quite cheap now.

4. Grab bags of supplies. Such as scraps for quilting, or enough leftover wool to make a scarf and directions. Leftover embroidery thread, and some embroidery cloth.

Go through all your bins, and put together some items that can create a small craft, or like with like. This is a great way to use up your leftover supplies that you were not going to use anyway.

This is especially good for beading, and sewing. This gives your customers a chance to try a craft without the big expense of full package supplies.



One year, I had changed the type of paint I was using, and had many bottles of acrylic paint that had been opened and partially used, but were still good.

I then purchased a few bare wood items from the dollar store, one for each kit, such as frames, boxes, canvases, and created a craft kit for kids. I sold these for 5 dollars.

I got rid of my leftover supplies, and yet someone else got to create something with them. I put them in see-through zip lock bags, and had them in a large basket. I labelled the basket my "bargain basket".

Everyone loves to look in my "bargain basket" This attracted people, and it also helped me sell many of my other more expensive items.

The "bargain basket" was a good leader and attracted many kids, who were looking for gifts under 5 dollars.

5. Make a DVD of you creating a craft. Most digital cameras can make movies now. A "how to" movie, and put a picture of your finished craft on the front of the DVD. Do something simple.

You can really put your computer to good use here. Once again, you can sell many copies of this for 5 dollars each.

Hopefully this gives you some ideas for gifts

under 5 dollars. As a crafter, you want to offer and sell your best crafts at craft shows, but sometimes you have to appeal to a younger crowd (kids) and also to people who want something different for gifts, but don't want to spend too much.

Having a "bargain basket" at a craft show, does NOT make you look cheap, it actually attracts people, and everyone loves a bargain.

Plus this also helps pay the rent for the show.

Those 5 dollars here and there add up quickly.

**About the Author:** [Make and sell crafts](#) and turn that hobby into a profitable business! Article and website by Diane Palmer, who has over 15 years in the craft business. Article Directory: <http://www.articledashboard.com>





## Project – Easter Daisies Wallhanging

By Annette Mira-Bateman from [www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com)



If you'd like to stitch a pretty small seasonal wallhanging, then try our delicate Easter Daisies design this year.

This small wallhanging or table mat features a wreath of purple and white embroidered daisies, with some decorated eggs.

This is easy to stitch, and a perfect project to sew in front of the TV at night!

This wallhanging is approximately 16 inches square.

### **You Will Need:**

Piece of pale green fabric measuring 18 inches square for the background, plus extra for binding

Piece of fusible light-weight pellon or other stabiliser also 18 inches square

Small amount of darker green fabric for faux piping binding

Embroidery floss in pale purple, white, mid green and pale lemon, plus colours to decorate the eggs and ribbon. (We used red for the ribbon and brighter colours for the eggs.)

Water erasable fabric marking pen

Batting measuring at least 20 x 20 inches

Backing fabric measuring at least 20 x 20 inches

### **Preparation:**

Print off the attached 3 pages of templates and join together as indicated. Using a lightbox or the window and your water erasable pen, trace the design onto the right side of your green background fabric square.

Fuse the pellon/stabiliser to the wrong side, and you're ready to get stitching.

### **Stitching:**

This embroidery is fairly easy, and you can use backstitch or stem stitch for the stems, eggs and ribbon as you prefer.

The daisies are worked with longer straight stitches to give a more petal-like look, as are the leaves. Use two strands of thread. The lemon coloured centres are Colonial or French Knots and they are worked with 4 strands of thread.

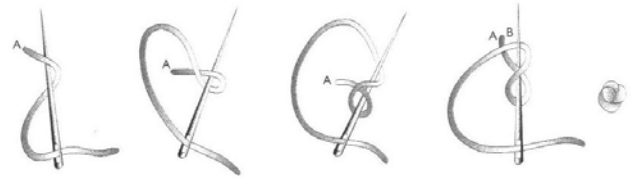


Refer to the templates for the flower colour guide.

As you can see in the photo here, each daisy is worked in a series of straight stitches radiating out from a central point.

Stitch the petals first, then add the knotted centres last.

Make a Colonial Knot at each centre dot to complete your design.



To make a Colonial Knot, bring the needle up at point A. Tuck the needle under the thread from the right hand side and wrap the thread over, under and cross the thread to wrap it over and under again, to form a figure '8' as illustrated.

Put the tip of your needle back into the fabric at point B (as close as possible to point A without going through the same hole), tighten the thread firmly around your needle and hold the knot in place as you push the needle through point B to complete your knot.

When you have finished your embroidery, gently hand wash the panel in cold water to remove the marking pen and press from the wrong side.

### **Quilting:**

Place your backing fabric face down on a flat surface, then smooth the batting on top. Put your embroidered panel on top of that, centred and smoothed flat.

Pin the layers together in preparation for quilting.

We simply quilted a small central circle, and quilted radiating lines outwards from there. Quilt yours as you like.

Trim to square up your wallhanging so it is 16 inches square.

### **Finishing:**

Trim the batting and backing to match your quilt top.

We added a faux piping binding to our wallhanging. To do this, cut sufficient strips of the darker green fabric to go around the wallhanging (approx. 70 inches). These strips need to be 1¾ inches wide.

Cut the same length of 1½ inch wide strips of the pale green fabric.

Join the pale green (in one strip), and then the darker green strips (in a second strip) together with 45 degree seams. Press the seams, then with right sides together, join the two long green strips together lengthways. Press seam towards the paler green.

Fold in half lengthways carefully with wrong sides together, and press well.





Join the binding to the back of the quilt edge with a quarter inch seam, mitring each corner as you go. The darker green strip will be facing upwards.

Fold the binding to the front, and you will see the faux piping darker green strip at the edge of the paler green.

Use a matching thread and stitch in the ditch where the darker green meets the paler green to finish your binding.

Attach a rod pocket and label and you're finished and ready for Easter!

**Download this Pattern and Templates at:**

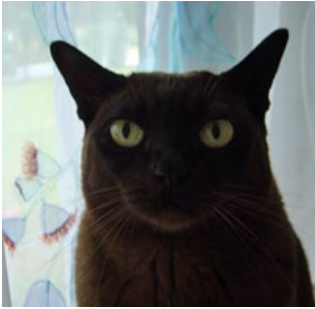
<http://www.onlinequiltmagazine.com/members/content/f/id/536/>

~~~~~

For More Great Quilt Patterns, Go To:

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

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## Hints and Tips From Brannie

By "Brannie" Mira-Bateman

I've been the centre of attention for several days now. It all started like this.

My Quilty-Mum was doing some hand sewing and I was helping by sitting on her lap and thinking.

You know how it goes - "Some people sits and thinks...."

She'd been sewing away for some time, when she suddenly said, "I need a different colour. I'll be back in a tick."

She stabbed the needle into the little folder beside her, picked me up and put me back on the warm seat and left.

That woke me up. I saw that the needle she'd pushed into the thing had a thread on it and it was right near my nose, so I leaned over and chewed it a bit.

As I chewed, the needle seemed to disappear downwards, but the thread was interesting, so I ate it.

I then went out to check my food bowl in case I'd missed a piece of meat at breakfast. I had, so I was sitting in the middle of the floor licking my lips when my Quilty-Mum came back. She went straight to the sewing, then said, "Where is my needle?"

I didn't really know, so I could offer no advice.

"I left it right here with the brown thread on it. Where is it? HAVE YOU EATEN IT???"

I didn't know what all the fuss was about. I had eaten the thread and the needle disappeared. So what!

She was quite worried about it. "Are you all right?" she kept asking me. "I'm fine", I said, "What's the problem?"

Next day they started taking a great interest in my litter tray! They rummaged around in it several times a day and kept enquiring after my health. Really? I hear you ask. They do very funny things sometimes.

Several days later I heard my Quilty-Mum telling Dad that she had just found the missing needle inside the needle folder where I must have pushed it when I chewed the other end. I did wonder where it had gone.

Why were they so fussed about it though? Did they think I'd **eaten it**?!

As if!

## *Love Brannie,*

the Quilt Block of the Month Club Cat!

(Note from relieved Quilty-Mum: Don't leave needles sticking up; push them in and out of fabric so they lie flat and don't leave a thread on then if they are visible. When cats start chewing, things must go on down!)





## What's New from The Fat Quarter Shop

From Kimberly Jolly at [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".



**Sugar Pie by Lella Boutique for Moda Fabrics**

Sugar Pie by Lella Boutique for Moda Fabrics combines charming blooms like posies and roses!

Also thrown into the mix are sweet and subtle lace prints! The colors in this collection range from lights to darks and combine both large and small prints!

View this collection at:

<http://www.fatquartershop.com/sugar-pie-fat-quarter-bundle>



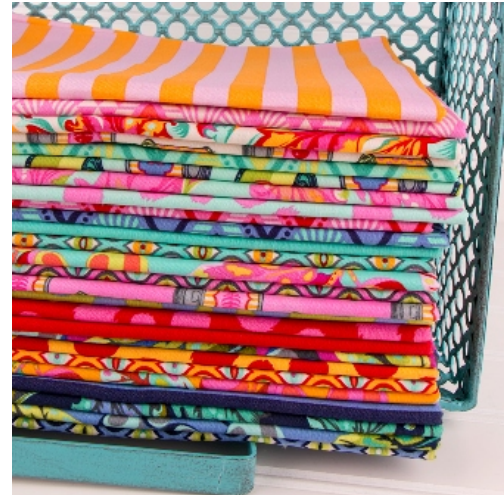


### **Maven by BasicGrey for Moda Fabrics**

Maven by BasicGrey for Moda Fabrics is a winning collection of neutrals ranging from creams to deep black-browns. With a mixture of florals, dots, stripes, and other eye-catching patterns, this collection has something for everyone!

See more at:

<http://www.fatquartershop.com/maven-fat-quarter-bundle>



### **Tabby Road by Tula Pink for Free Spirit Fabrics**

Tula Pink does it again with the new Tabby Road collection! True to her signature bright colors and bold prints, Tabby Road features none other than kittens! You'll find these fluffy cats lurking amidst flowers and there is also a print featuring a cat's favorite food! This collection is unique and fun!

Check it out at:

<http://www.fatquartershop.com/tabby-road-design-roll>



### Spectrum by V & Co. for Moda Fabrics

Spectrum by V & Co. for Moda Fabrics is bright and contemporary! The geometric prints pair nicely with the hand-scripted prints! True to its namesake, you'll find a broad range of colors in each print!

See this range at:

<http://www.fatquartershop.com/spectrum-half-yard-bundle>

## Learn How to Free Motion Quilt ALL OF THESE DESIGNS at:



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



## 2017 Project – Exploring Blocks Sampler Quilt

By Jody Anderson from [www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com)

This month we're still exploring... Quilt Blocks, that is! Over the course of this year, we're going to take a good look at a different block each month, and we're going to investigate some fun ways of playing around with these classic blocks, to discover whole new layouts and designs.

Of course, there's not much point making practice blocks without then being able to do something with them at the end, so after our final block in the series, we will show you how to put them all together into a fun Exploring Blocks Sampler Quilt, so it's always there and easy for you to use as a reference for when you want to try some of these blocks again in other projects.

### For This Project You Will Need:



As the blocks will all be incorporated into a quilt at the end, we chose to make our blocks from a selected range of colours. What you choose to do is up to you, but we selected plain colours for ours.

You will need at least a ½ metre/yard of each fabric. We want a more modern looking quilt, so we chose 8 colours, ranging from a maroon, red, orange, yellow, charcoal, pewter, silver, to a very pale blue. We bought slightly more of each

fabric, but this was just to piece a quilt backing from as well.

At the end, you will need also to add fabrics for the sashing and borders, but you can leave this until the final month, as you will not need them until then.

All blocks will start as 10 inch blocks. Please try to keep your seam allowances consistent, as this will make it easier to manipulate the blocks.

Have You Checked Out  
Our Online Clubs Yet?

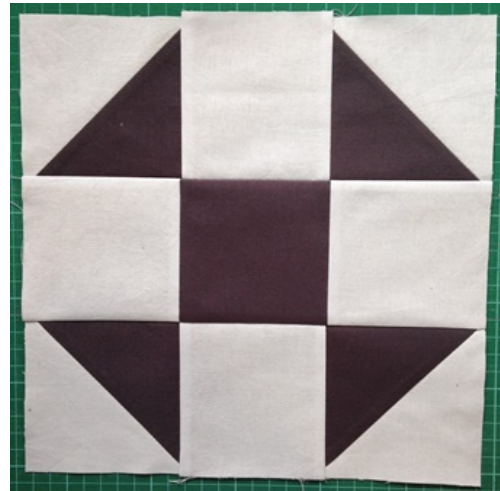
**FREE**  
Patterns to download on both...

[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)

## Block 3 – Shoo Fly Block



### You Will Need:

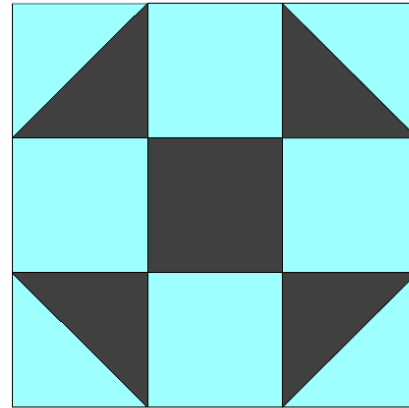
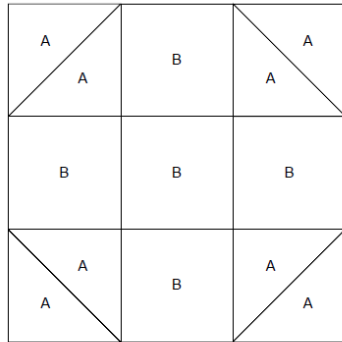
Two (2) fabrics that contrast. We used charcoal and pale blue.

\* You will need to make three (3) of these 10 inch Shoo Fly blocks. Refer to the rotary cutting guide below for cutting directions and quantites for EACH block.

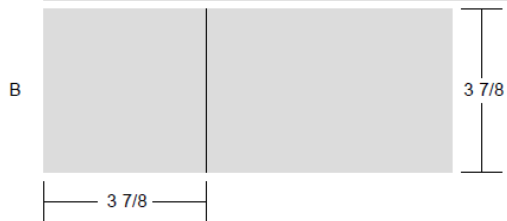
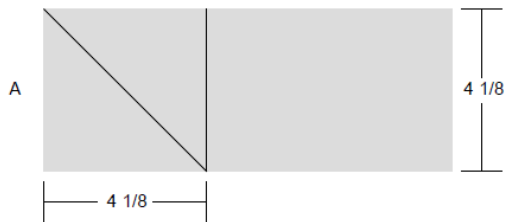
### Cut:

# Shoo Fly

Key Block (5/20 actual size)



## Cutting Diagrams



## Patch Count



4 patches



4 patches



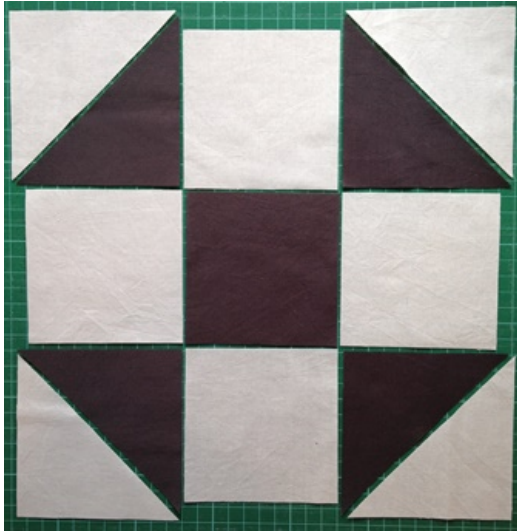
4 patches



1 patch



## Assembly:

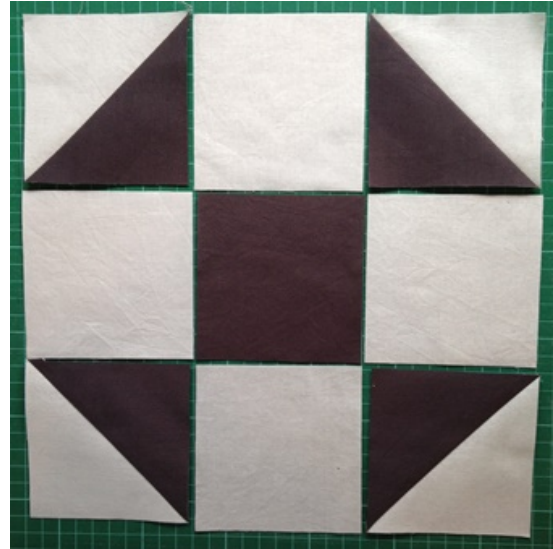


Lay out each block as shown.

(You can choose to either cut the 4 1/8 inch squares in half diagonally as shown in the Cutting Guide, for the half square triangles in each corner of the block, or you can make them straight from the squares.

To do this, draw a diagonal line from one corner to the opposite corner, then lay a light square on

a dark one, with with right sides together and stitch a 1/4 inch either side of that marked line. Cut on the line to make two half square triangles.)

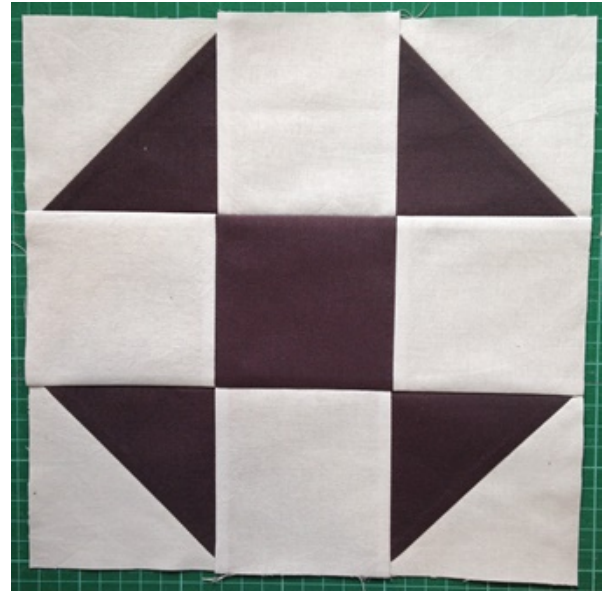


First piece the half square triangle blocks and press well.



Now it's just a simple 9-patch block.

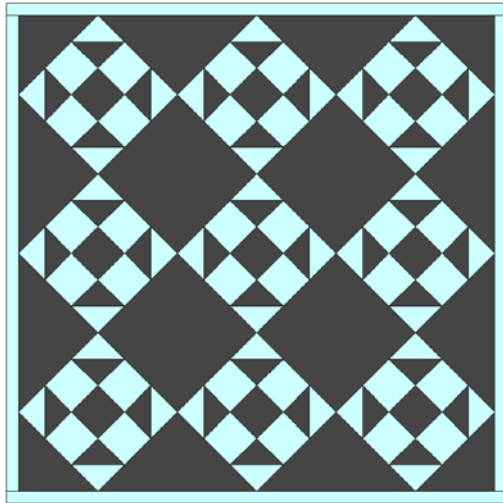
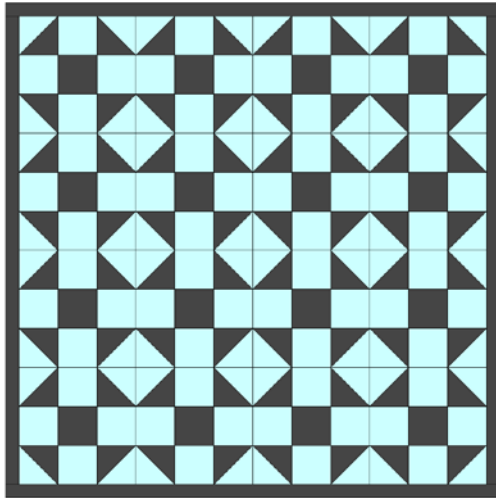
Piece the units into rows and press seams in different directions, alternating between the rows.



Finally sew the rows together and press well.

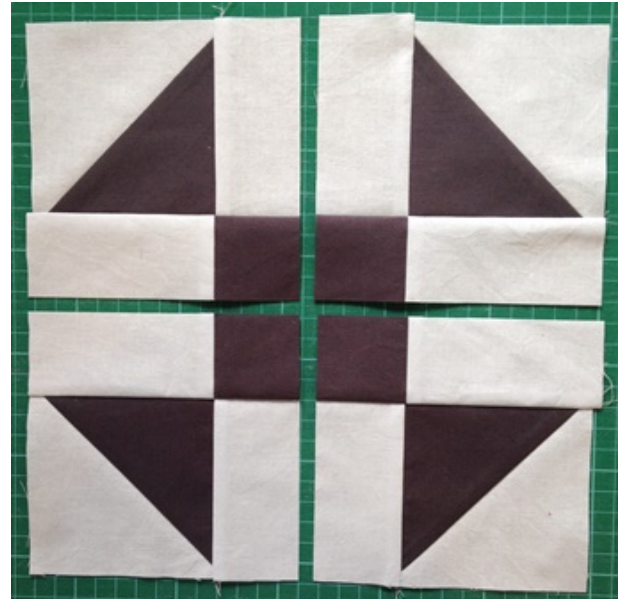
Make three (3) of these Shoo Fly blocks.

By itself, this block gives great secondary designs in a grid layout, or separate on point for quite a different effect.



#### 4-Patch:

And now let's play! This block can also be cut into a 4-patch block, the units rotated, and re-pieced, for a completely different block.

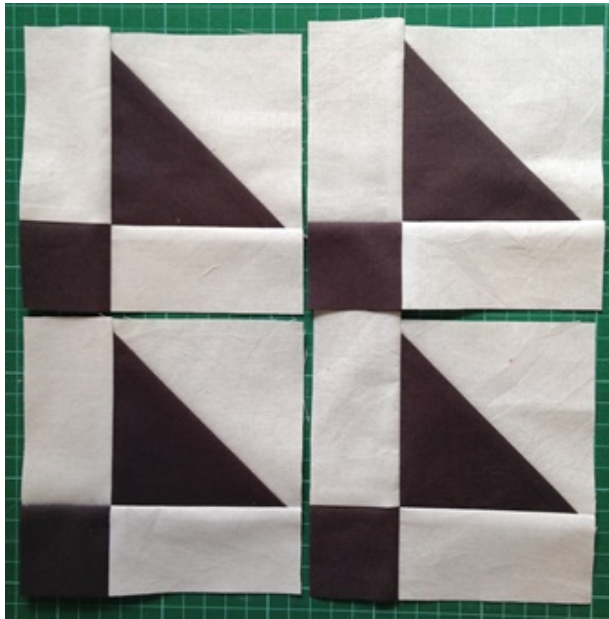


Cut one of your Shoo Fly blocks into 4, as shown.

As your finished block should measure 10½ inches square, you should be able to cut in half

vertically once at  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches, and do the same horizontally.

**However** – if your block is slightly out, don't worry – make the cuts so they run straight through the centre square, so that each quarter is cut evenly to match the design.



Try some different ways of rotating and swapping around the four quarters.

You could arrange them like this.



Or maybe this.

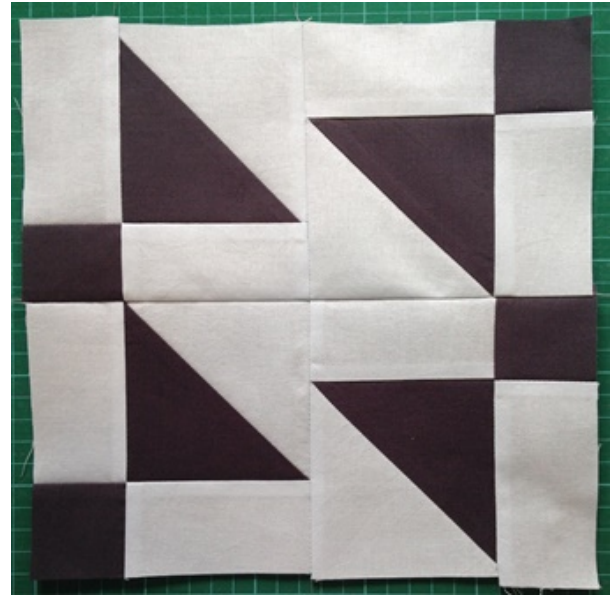


We decided to go with this option for our block.

Rotate the four quarters as pictured.



Join the units into pairs and press seams so they face in opposite directions.



Join the pairs together to re-complete your block.

Also – as you have cut and re-pieced your 10½ inch block, the finished block will now be about a ½ inch smaller all round.

This is fine, and we will take it into account when we put the quilt together.



## 9-patch:

And don't stop there! Now let's try a 9-patch as well!!



This is not an even 9-patch.

Measure out 1 inch from each side of your centre square and cut the block twice horizontally, and twice vertically, to make it an uneven 9-patch.



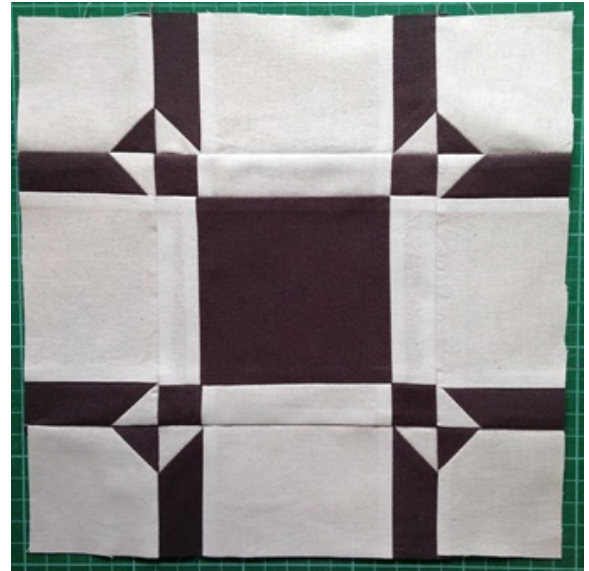
For this block, the only units that are moved are the middle side and top and bottom pieces.

Rotate the pieces 180 degrees as pictured.



Carefully piece the units together into rows, taking care to match where the points meet.

Press so the seams alternate directions between the rows.



Finally join the rows together to reveal your new re-pieced 9-patch Shoo Fly Block.

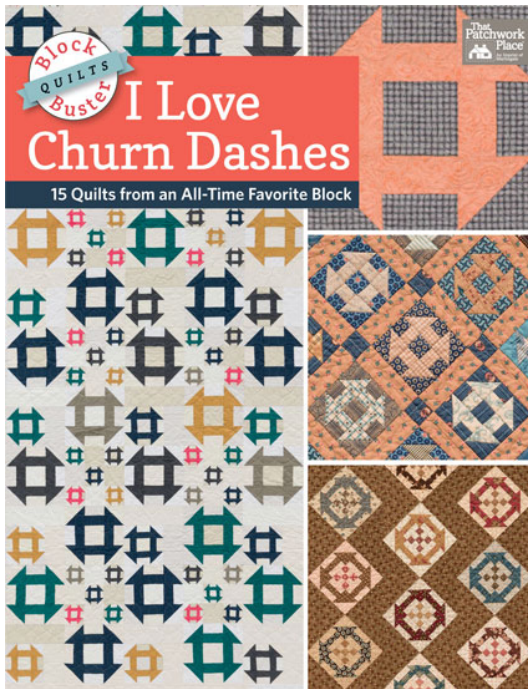
As before, this finished block will be smaller than your original block (approx. an inch), but we will take care of that when we assemble the quilt top at the end of this project.

Keep an eye out for our new block next month.



## Book Reviews

By Annette Mira-Bateman from [www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com)



**"Block-Buster Quilts - I Love Churn Dashes"**

**15 Quilts from an All-Time Favorite Block**

This book shows how to create an amazing variety of different quilts using the same Churn Dash block.

Sizes range from lap quilts to full bed quilts and styles are modern through to traditional - Churn Dash or Monkey Wrench as you've never seen it before!

The 15 top designers have produced a wonderful array of quilts for this book. The book commences with simple instructions for churning out (sorry) these blocks - not hard, very effective and just look what you can do by changing colours or widths or sizes!

Lengthening the block produces an interesting effect in the "Long Dash" quilt. Adding a nine-patch to the centre gives it a new twist.

Using only two colours in an alternating pattern with applique vines makes a more traditional look in "Toast & Cheddar" by Kim Diehl, but I really like the "Patchwork Churn Dash" for using up some scraps. There are very pleasing patterns created in Laura Boehnke's "Wind Rows".

All in all, a very clever use of a traditional block.

"Block-Buster Quilts - I Love Churn Dashes" is published by Martingale and is available through your local craft book shop or online from:

[www.ShopMartingale.com](http://www.ShopMartingale.com) (Photos courtesy of Brent

Kane, Martingale)







**"Small and Scrappy - Pint-Sized Patchwork  
Quilts Using Reproduction Fabrics"**

**by Kathleen Tracy**

There are 16 little projects in this book.

In the early days of quilting in America, little girls learnt to sew using scraps of fabric left over from the larger projects their mothers and grandmothers made.

Small clothes and quilts for dolls were a good way to perfect their stitches as the art of sewing was a necessary part of the lives of early pioneering women.

Kathleen Tracy loves working with small pieces of fabric to re-create the old-fashioned look. She has some good ideas on collecting and sorting scraps.

Scrappy pincushions are a great way of using practice or left-over blocks.

The projects in this book are mostly small, but so cute! Most are around 15-20 inches (the biggest is 26 inches x 36 inches) and use traditional or reproduction style fabrics, but with careful colour



selection none of these dear little treasures are dull.

"Small and Scrappy - Pint-Sized Patchwork Quilts Using Reproduction Fabrics" by Kathleen Tracy is published by Martingale and is available through your local craft book shop or online from:

[www.ShopMartingale.com](http://www.ShopMartingale.com) (Photos courtesy of Brent Kane, Martingale)





## Recipe Corner – Easter Bunny Cookies



### Ingredients:

125g (1/3lb) butter, softened  
½ cup caster (fine white) sugar  
1 egg yolk  
2½ tablespoons golden syrup or honey  
2 cups plain flour  
1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

3 teaspoons ground ginger  
1½ teaspoons ground cinnamon  
1 cup pure icing sugar, sifted  
½ small lemon, juiced  
ribbon, for decoration

### Method:

Step 1 - Preheat oven to 180°C/356F. Line 2 baking trays with baking paper.

Step 2 - Using an electric mixer, cream butter and caster sugar until pale and creamy. Add egg yolk and golden syrup. Beat to combine.

Sift flour, bicarbonate of soda, ginger and cinnamon together over butter mixture. Stir with a wooden spoon to form a stiff dough.

Step 3 - Press dough into a 10cm/4 inch round. Roll out between 2 sheets of baking paper until 5mm/ 3/8in thick. Place, between baking paper, on a tray. Refrigerate for 20 minutes or until firm.

Step 4 - Using an 8cm/3 – 3½ inch rabbit shaped cookie cutter, cut 16 cookies from dough. Place on prepared trays. Using a chopstick or skewer, punch 1 hole at the top of each biscuit and make small indentations on biscuits to decorate.

Step 5 - Bake for 15 minutes or until firm to touch. Allow to cool on trays (biscuits will firm further on cooling).

Step 6 - Sift icing sugar into a bowl. Gradually add 1 tablespoon lemon juice and stir until icing is smooth. Spoon into a small snap-lock bag.

Squeeze out air and seal. Using scissors, snip 1 corner from bag and pipe icing on biscuits. Allow icing to set. Thread ribbon through holes. Serve.

## Kelly Ashton Kellyquilter Designs



Teacher, Designer, Author,  
Pragmatic Quilt-maker,  
Color-Lover,  
Fervent Fabric Collector

***"Have quilts. Will travel!"***

Hexagons, Diamonds, Triangles and More:  
Skill-Building Techniques for  
Sixty-Degree Patchwork (Martingale)

Quilt Patterns and Kellyquilter (acrylic)  
Templates

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**Website/Blog:** [kellyquilter.com](http://kellyquilter.com)  
**E-mail:** [kelly@kellyquilter.com](mailto:kelly@kellyquilter.com)  
**Facebook:** Kelly Ashton: Quilting  
Lectures & Workshops  
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**Instagram:** [kellyquilter](https://www.instagram.com/kellyquilter)



## Reader "Show and Tell"

This month we continue our regular segment of "Show and Tell" quilts made by our Online Quilt Magazine Readers.

We will include them as long as you can send them to us, and that way we can all share in the wealth of creativity and inspiration abundant within our quilting community.

**\*\* Remember to keep sending in photos of your latest quilt projects to share. Please send to: [jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com](mailto:jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com) .**

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*"I now have my (Global Friendship Quilt Block Swap) blocks done for a wall hanging for my sewing room. I decided to try my hand with "quilt as you go," and did free motion quilting using curved rulers on some of the blocks. Since I like*

*polka dots, I had to use polka dots for my finishing touch--thus the choice for binding. I thought it turned out quite whimsical and I will enjoy looking at it whenever I am at my machine."*

*- Judy R., Minnesota, USA*





*The bride's favorite color is purple.*

- Renee C., USA

*"I made this for Canada's 150th birthday to display around July 1<sup>st</sup>."*

- Ina V., Canada



*"Here is a quilt I made for my niece's wedding. The top of the quilt was made with almost all scraps!"*





*“This is a quilt and pillows I made for my granddaughter to decorate her new bedroom.”*

*- Ann T., USA*



*“Here is something easy to make, and necessary when we have too many scraps : KMQuilt. The technique is named that way, because one can make km (yards) of those without stopping.*

*The second is a “pineapple” technique, made for the little table in the living. It was a proof to make with a special ruler (again!). I am addicted to the “new” things. Went well!*

*- Jacqueline B., Belgium*





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*"A quilt which is remembering a friend's mother. Charlie Brown and Snoopy plus a bunch of his friends. His mother and I had made a quilt for him when he was young. All was cut out and put on the fabric (and appliqued)"*

*- Sue S., USA*

~~~~~

*"This is my first English paper pieced quilt - a traditional Grandmother's Flower Garden! Each hexagon has a 1" side. It took me just over a year to complete the top and now I have to quilt it. This was entirely hand stitched and the quilting will be my first attempt at that, too!*

*When it is finished it will go to my oldest daughter and her husband. I am in the process of making my youngest daughter her hexagon quilt, a pattern I have designed myself. I have many more hexagon quilts planned and designed - I hope I live long enough to make them all :-)"*

- Cynthia W., USA



# MY QUILTING LIFE

Exploits of a Quilty Cat



By Brannie,  
with Annette Mira-Bateman

Brannie's New Book is Out Now!

We know you'll love Brannie just as much as we do, and this selection of Brannie's best stories will have you in stitches!

Go to

<https://wwwcreatespace.com/5561384>

to order your copy today.



~~~~~

*"I am a member of the Vallejo, California, USA Piecemakers and the committee pictured below made this Quilt which is called "Crystal Gems". It is our fundraiser and will be raffled. Left to right are Lynda G., Lynda C., Amy R., and Anne G.*



*"This is a paper pieced wall hanging I made for my Cousin for her birthday."*

*- Lynda C., USA*





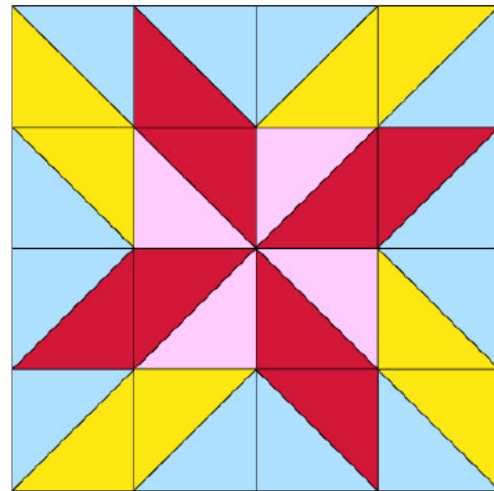
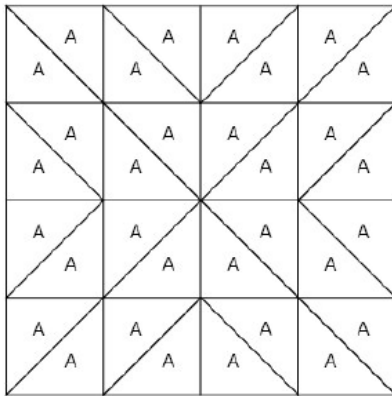
## Block of the Month

This month's block is week is another from a series known as Mosaic blocks. This striking star will require some care to piece, but you will be able to chain piece the small square units before arranging in the block layout, which will make it much quicker.

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.

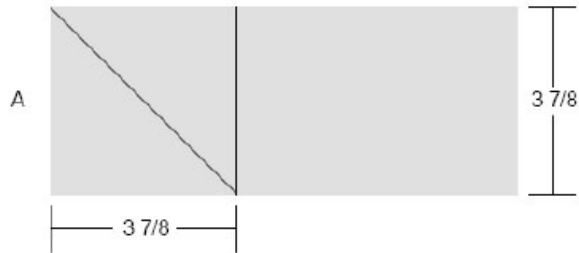
### Mosaic, No. 18

Key Block (1/5 actual size)





Cutting Diagrams



Patch Count



12 patches



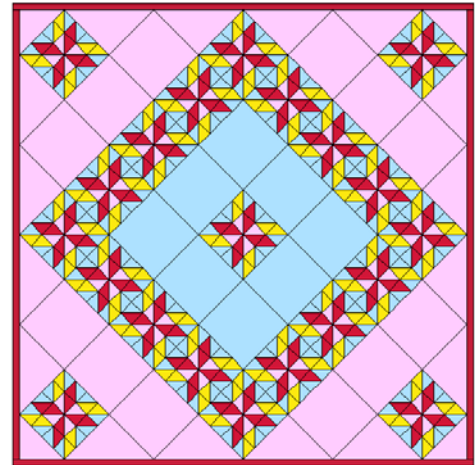
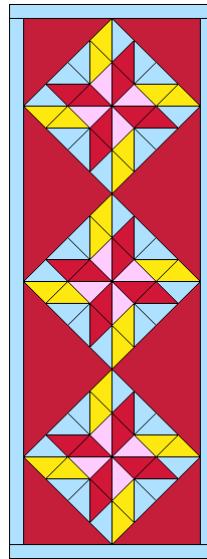
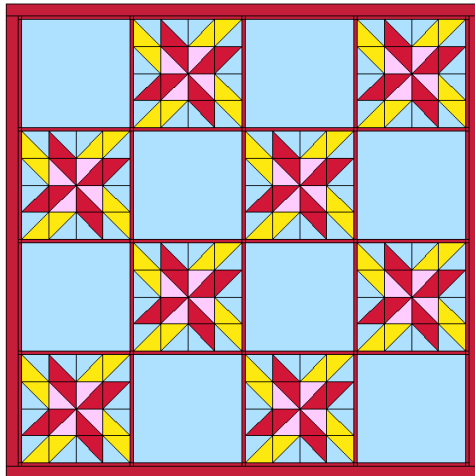
4 patches



8 patches



8 patches



This is a great star block for a quilt on its own, a table runner, or a border in a medallion quilt.

For more great quilts and blocks, visit [www.QuiltBlockOfTheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockOfTheMonthClub.com)

## Today's Tips:

Reader Ann T., from the USA sent in this handy tip this month:

*"When making binding, roll it onto an empty thread spool and put it on your cone-thread holder. It will roll off just like thread as you are sewing and makes life so easy. No more having yards of binding trailing on the floor and getting all tangled up."*

Thanks Ann – a great idea and one worth trying!!

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- Use the serpentine or the running stitch as a substitute for the straight stitch when quilting in the ditch. Set at a narrow stitch width, the stitched curves cross from one side of the ditch to the other so you don't have to worry about precise needle placement.

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\* Make your quilt rod / hanging sleeve from a patchwork of all the fabric used in your quilt. Then, if you need to repair anything on the quilt top later, you will have a selection of the right fabrics to use.

\* When measuring a quilt for borders, take several measurements lengthwise and crosswise - especially going through the quilt centre. You will need to square up your quilt at this point so your borders will sit properly when they are joined.

We love sharing the quilts you've made, and the hints and tips you have. If you have any, please send them to [jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com](mailto:jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com), as we'd love to include yours!

# 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, Tip, Suggestion, “Show and Tell” Quilt or Enhancement – I'd love to hear from you!

Send all emails to:

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

## **"Quilt-y" Quotes...**

- \* Quilters never cut corners.
- \* Quilters never grow old, they just go to pieces.
- \* (And my favourite - ) Sew on to success!

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