



Premium Online Quilt Magazine.com

**Lori's FMQ
Tutorial –
Poppies!**

**NEW
PROJECT –
Dresden Bed
Runner**

**Check out
This Month's
FREE
Pattern
Roundup!**

**Discover Hand
Tying and
Ribbon Quilting**

Premium Issue Vol.8 No.9 – September 2017

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Letter from the Editor

Jody Anderson

Hi!

It's Spring! It's Spring!! It's Spring!!!! Hooray!!!! I, for one, am sick of feeling cold this winter, and happily the start of Spring for us in Australia this year is shaping up to be quite nice. The sun's out, the daffodils and my hyacinths are blooming (well, the ones an exuberant puppy didn't bulldoze through the other day...), and most importantly, it's WARM!

Spring always feels like a time to re-focus and get organised again, before the big busy Christmas period hits. I'm going to take a week or two to do just that – fix up my “To Do” lists, sew things I want to, and maybe even sneak outside to sit in the sun with a good book!

Enjoy our new Spring Issue – it's full of all sorts of goodies for you to discover, learn and make. We're up to Month 3 of our Seaside Row BOM, and Month 8 of our Exploring Blocks Sampler. Leah covers microstippling with the wholecloth quilt series, and Lori has a fab flower FMQ tutorial to try.

Enjoy the start of your Spring/Fall!

Jody



Two Different Quilting Techniques

By Rose Smith from www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk

Hand Tying A Quilt

The first method of quilting to consider is hand tying a quilt. This is often considered the easy option but it can actually become a design feature of the quilt.

This is naturally a hand quilting option so the first thing is to thread your needle with suitable thread. Ordinary sewing thread would not be strong enough.

Many embroidery threads would be too thick and would risk putting holes in your quilt (quite apart from being very difficult to pull through) so you need to use something in the medium range of threads. Personally I use about 3 or 4 strand embroidery thread.

Deciding on the colour is a matter of choosing whether you want the knots to blend in with your quilt top or stand out from it.

Having threaded your needle, then, pull the thread so that the ends are level with each other and you will be sewing with double thread.

Push your needle through from the top of the quilt and bring it up again about 1/4 inch from where the needle went down. Push the needle down again through the first point and bring it up again through the second point. This extra step to create an anchoring stitch is not essential but I find that it helps to strengthen the knot.

Pull through to leave about 2 inches of thread at the end. Cut the thread 2 inches from the quilt top and tie a double knot with the ends.

Trim the threads if wished, but no closer than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the quilt top or you will weaken the knot. That is honestly all there is to it, but now you have to think about where to put the next knot.

Some types of batting only require quilting every 8 inches, but I feel safer with about 4 inch gaps between knots. You could tie the knots near the corners of your patchwork quilt blocks or use them to make a design within your quilt blocks.

As you become more experienced at hand tying a quilt, you will find that it is possible not to cut the thread after each knot but keep making knots leaving loops of thread between each knot. Then when you have come to the end of the thread you can go back and snip between the stitches and tie the knots.



Ribbon Quilting

The second method of quilting is ribbon quilting which is a personal favourite of mine.

Choose a ribbon that is only about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide and one that does not have a texture that would be ruined by sewing on it, such as velvet, or one that has a design of pictures or something that would not be helped by having stitches running along the length of it. I usually choose a simple satin ribbon and let the colour provide the interest factor.

This method of quilting can best be used on smaller items such as bags and baby or lap quilts. Cream coloured satin ribbon on a brown bag or pink satin ribbon on a white baby quilt can look absolutely stunning.



Having layered and basted your three layers of quilt top, batting and backing fabric, use a fabric marker to mark straight lines on the quilt top. These might be in the form of cross hatching, chevrons, or even just diagonal lines on one diagonal only. Experiment.

MY QUILTING LIFE

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with Annette Mira-Bateman

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Begin sewing in a corner or on the edge of a central line. Place the ribbon on top of the quilt top with the edge of the ribbon extending out a little beyond the edge of the quilt.

Set your machine to zig zag with maximum stitch width and length and sew the ribbon to the quilt following the marked line carefully. At the end of the line, cut the ribbon a little past the end of the quilt and begin the next line of ribbon quilting.

Always sew the lines in the same direction as each other or you may end up with some puckering of the quilt top or backing.

When you have finished sewing ribbon along all the marked quilting lines, sew a line of zigzag all round the edge of the quilt top to secure the ends of the ribbon to prevent fraying. Then continue with either binding if it's a quilt or sewing the seams if it's a bag that you are making.

Quilting Techniques

These are just two of an almost infinite number of ways of quilting your quilt. One of them is hand quilting and the other is machine quilting, but both provide a really interesting finish to your quilt without taking up an inordinate amount of time.

About the Author: Ludlow Quilt and Sew is an online quilting site that provides clear and easy to follow instructions on beginner quilting and how to quilt and sew. Sign up for the free weekly newsletter giving tips and advice and an exciting new project every time. Visit <http://www.ludlowquiltandsew.co.uk>

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Free Motion Quilt Tutorial – Poppies

By Lori Kennedy from www.theinboxjaunt.com

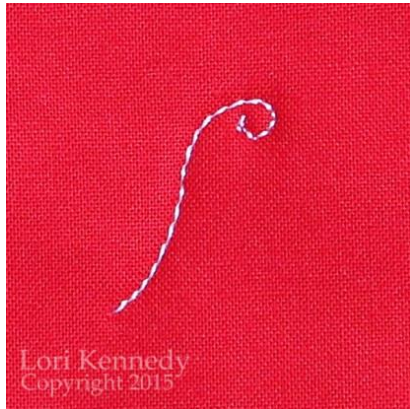


This motif looks very nice on a small scale, but it also looks great when stitched much larger. I think I could make a very large whole cloth quilt in no time at all just filled with a field of poppies. Wouldn't it be a great quick project?

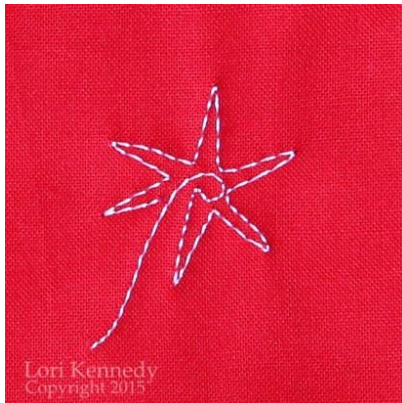
I'm going to wait for a rainy, day where I have nothing else to do....??? Okay, maybe just a rainy day...

I just LOVE the color
RED...Hmmm....Maybe I'll just cancel life
tomorrow and stitch this right up...

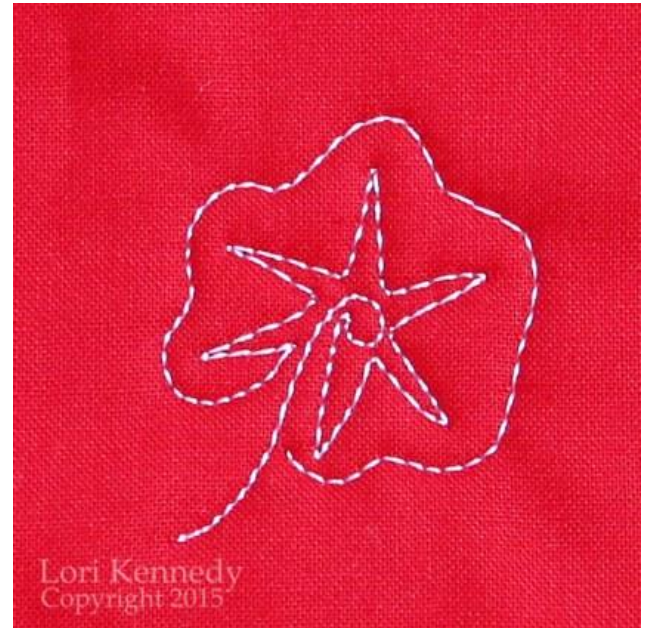
Begin by stitching a short stem with a curl.



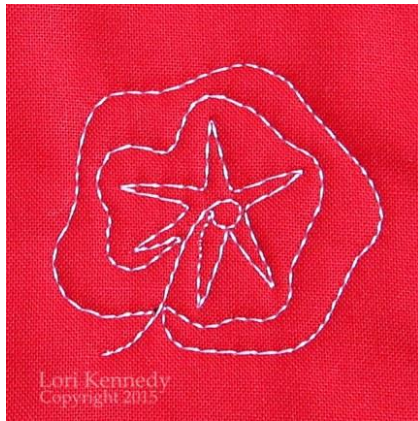
Stitch several pointed rays around the spiral- it doesn't matter how many.



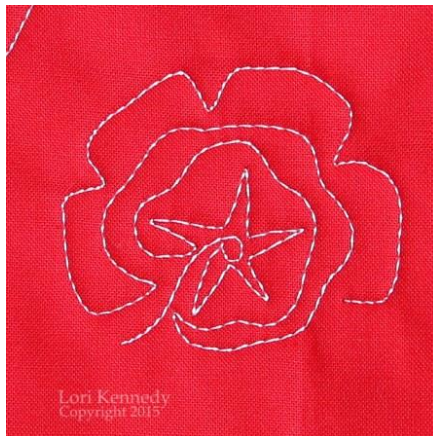
Stitch clockwise around the star back to the stem. This row is just a shaggy line around the star.



Stitch counter clockwise, another shaggy circle.



For the next row, add rectangular shaped petals. Between each petal create a small “v” shape



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Free Motion Quilting

FREE TUTORIALS

Lori Kennedy
www.theinboxjaunt.com

Continue stitching rows of petals and then spiral off to begin another Poppy.



Stitch a few small Poppies in between the large Poppies and add a leaf or swirls to fill in the space.



Once you get going, you won't want to stop...

This could be an excuse to pull out the crockpot!

Happy Stitching,

Lori

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 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 – Dresden Bed Runner

By Jody Anderson from www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com



Learn this quick and easy technique to make Dresden Plate Blocks, and you'll enjoy putting several together in our quilted Dresden Bed Runner, with no tricky piecing, and guaranteed "Wow" factor!

We chose muted creams and coffee brown fabrics for our Dresden 'Flowers', but you can easily change the colours around to suit your home décor.

This quilted bed runner is 92 inches long and 19½ inches wide. It is pictured on a Queen sized bed.

You Will Need: (The suggested fabrics relate to the ones we used.)

3 yards/metres plain dark beige for background, blocks and backing (Colour 3)

1/3 yard/metre cream print with squares (Colour 2)

Fat Quarter or equivalent of pale spotty print (Colour 7)

Fat Quarter or equivalent of pale swirl print (Colour 5)

¾ yard/metre plain mid beige for blocks and binding (Colour 4)

Fat Quarter or equivalent of dark spiral print (Colour 6)

Fat Quarter or equivalent of plain cream fabric (Colour 1)

Batting measuring at least 96 x 22 inches

Small amount of fusible webbing for applique



In order, shown are colours 3, 2, 7, 5, 4, 6 and 1.

Cut:

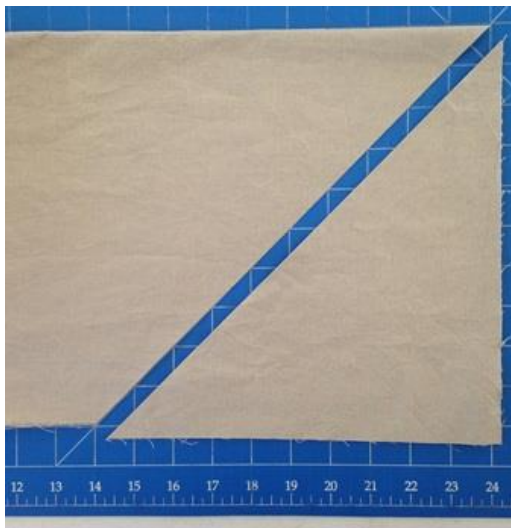
From the plain dark beige fabric (Colour 3), cut one long strip measuring 92 x 20 inches for the background.

Cut a second strip measuring 96 x 22 inches for the backing. Put it aside for now.

Fold the background strip in half lengthways and lay on your cutting board with the fold at the top.

Line up one end on a 45 degree line (on your board or use your ruler) and trim the corners away as pictured. **Make sure you have the fold at the top to cut as pictured.**

Repeat for the other end. This will give each end a perfect point.



The **Large Centre Flower** has a 16 inch large outer ring, with a 10 inch middle ring, and a 6 inch ring on top.

For the 16 inch outer ring – use the 5 blade template and cut:
Cut 10 from Colour 1
Cut 10 from Colour 2

For the 10 inch middle ring – use the 4 blade template and cut:
Cut 8 from Colour 3
Cut 8 from Colour 4

For the 6 inch top ring – use the 3 blade template and cut:
Cut 6 from Colour 5
Cut 6 from Colour 6

There are two **Medium Flowers**, each with a 10 inch bottom and 6 inch top ring.

For the 10 inch bottom ring – use the 4 blade template and cut:
Cut 16 from Colour 6
Cut 16 from Colour 4

For the 6 inch top ring – use the 3 blade template and cut:
Cut 12 from Colour 7
Cut 12 from Colour 2

There are two **Small Flowers**, with a single 6 inch ring for each.

For the 6 inch ring - use the 3 blade template and cut:
Cut 12 from Colour 5
Cut 12 from Colour 1

The **ends of the runner** end in 90 degree points, and there is a quarter Dresden Plate with a 16 inch bottom and 10 inch top ring on each end.

For the 16 inch bottom ring – use the 5 blade template and cut: Cut 6 from Colour 6
Cut 4 from Colour 4

For the 10 inch top ring – use the 4 blade template and cut: Cut 4 from Colour 7
Cut 4 from Colour 1

Piecing:



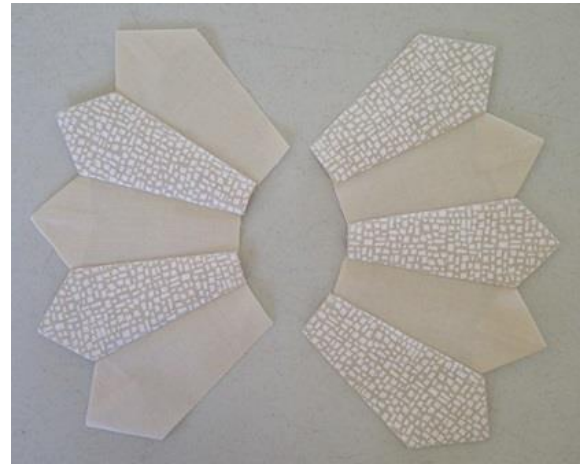
Making the blades for your Dresden Plate Blocks is easy.

Using the templates provided, cut the required numbers of fabric shapes for your blocks.



Trim the corner and turn right sides out.

Fold so the seam runs down the centre at the back and press to make one Dresden blade.



With right sides together, fold the wide top in half, matching the corner points.

Sew across the top with a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam.



For the large centre flower, you will use colours 1 and 2.

With right sides together, join the blades together in sets of 5, alternating the colours. Two of these quarter blocks will start and end with Colour 1 and two will start and end with Colour 2.

Press seams well. (You may like to press these open.)



Join your quarters together, so you make a full circle with alternating colour blades as pictured.

Fold your background strip in half and iron a crease to mark the centre.

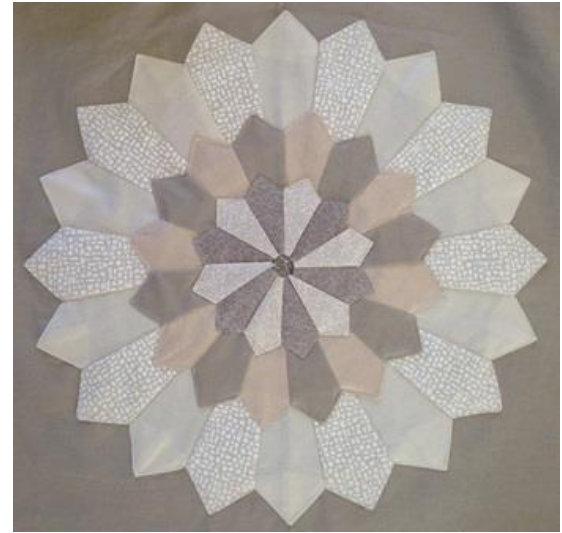
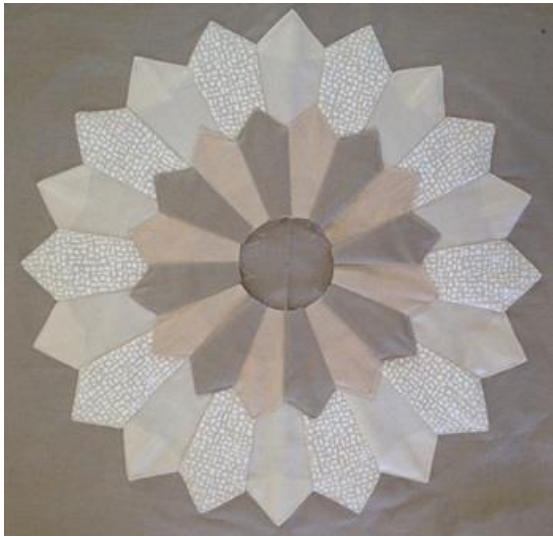
Position your circle evenly over the centre line and pin in place.

Using matching thread, topstitch around the outer edge to applique your Dresden Plate in position.

Don't worry about the inner edge, as the next ring will cover it.



Using colours 3 and 4, and your 4 blade template, cut and piece the middle ring.



Using the centre line crease again, position the middle ring over the large outer ring.

The points will not line up – just use the seam lines to line it up with the centre crease.

Pin, and topstitch in place around the outer edge.

Using colours 5 and 6, and the 3 blade template, cut and piece the small top ring.

Position so it is centred on top of the middle ring, and pin and applique in place around the outside edge.

Leave the centre for now, and continue on with the rest of the Dresden Plates.



Using colours 6 and 4, and your 4 blade template, cut and piece TWO rings with alternating blades.



Place these rings centred on the background and 2 inches away from the large Dresden flower in the middle. There will be one medium sized flower either side of the large centre one.

Pin and topstitch in place.



Using colours 7 and 2, and the 3 blade template, cut and piece TWO small plates as pictured.



Align the top ring evenly on the bottom ring and pin and topstitch in place around the outer edge to finish the medium sized flowers.

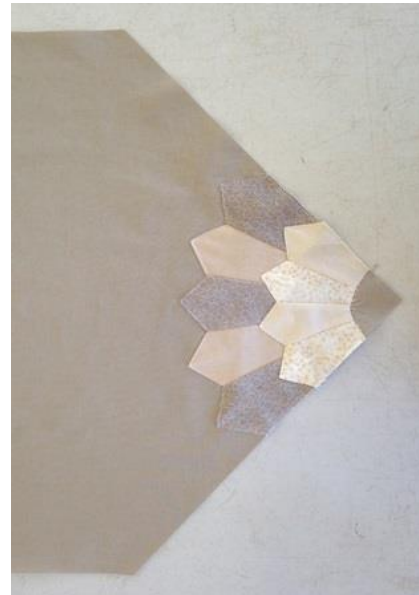
Leave the centres for now.



Using colours 5 and 1, and your 3 blade template, cut and piece TWO plates for the small flowers.

These smallest rings are positioned on the background so they are centred and 1½ inches away from the edges of the medium sized flowers.

Pin and topstitch in place.

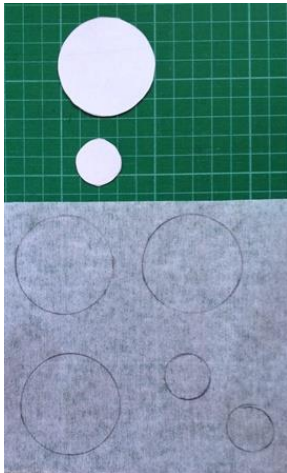


Finally, make the two quarter plates for the pointed ends of the runner.

Using colours 6 and 4, and the 5 blade template, cut and piece TWO bottom ring quarter plates. Both are the same.

Using colours 7 and 1 and the 4 blade template, cut and piece the TWO top ring quarters.

Position them so the raw edges line up and topstitch in place, each in turn.



Use the circular templates to make the middles for each of your flowers.

You will need to trace 2 of the large circles; 3 of the medium circles and 2 of the small circles on the non-fusible side of your fusible webbing.



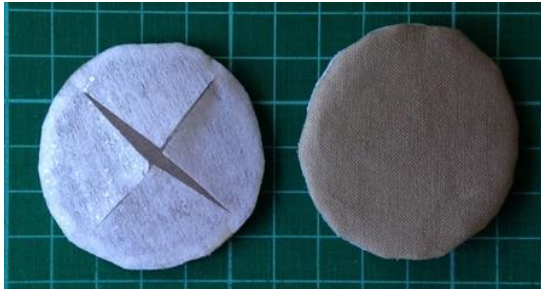
The centres are all the same Colour 3.

Place the fusible side of the webbing on the right side of the fabric, and sew around each of the drawn circles.

Cut out each shape.



Carefully cut a cross in the middle of the webbing side of each circle shape.



Turn right sides out, and smooth the seam with your finger or the end of a blunt pencil.



Place the appropriately sized circle so it covers the centre of each flower, and press in place.

Topstitch around the circle to finish.

(The two large circles are for the pointed runner ends; the three medium sized circles are for the three middle flowers, and the 2 small circles are for the two little flowers at each end.

Trim the excess from the pointed ends once positioned and sewn.)

Quilting:

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

Pin the layers together in preparation for quilting. We echo quilted around each of the appliqued Dresden Plate layers, and around the centre circles.

To keep this simple and more modern, we decided on straight line quilting for the background, on matching 45 degree angles, but you can quilt yours as you'd like.

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Download the Full Pattern and Templates at:

<http://www.onlinequiltmagazine.com/members/content/f/id/554/>

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### **Finishing:**

Trim the batting and backing to match your quilt top.

Cut sufficient 2¼ inch binding strips from the remainder of the Colour 4 fabric (or your choice) 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.



# Wholecloth Quilt – Microstippling

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

*This month, we're continuing with part three of a four-part series from Leah on quilting a wholecloth quilt.*

Yes, it's time finally time to take the classic Stippling design and shrink it down to a super tiny scale when it becomes Microstippling.

I may be wrong, but I do believe this is the only design we have that has one name for the large scale version, and another name for the smaller version. I think that's a good indication of just how important Microstippling is to free motion quilting - super important!

This design does many things for our quilts, and because we're working on a wholecloth right now you can see and appreciate just

how much microstippling flattens out the background areas around the motifs. On top of flattening the surface, this design also has zero thread play or travel stitching, which means the design doesn't stand out or shout for attention.

This combination of features makes Microstippling simply the best design for filling backgrounds, flattening the space around complex areas without competing with other designs or shapes.

Of course, I could wax on all day about my love for Stippling and Microstippling, so let's get on with the video so you can learn a few different ways to shrink this design down to a smaller scale:

[Click Here if the Video Does Not Appear](#)



I'd say the two most essential items I used in this video were machiners quilting gloves and the isacord thread. The machingers allowed me to hang onto the quilt and achieve a very fine level of control over the design and the Isacord stitched out smoothly and didn't break, even when the stitches got very tiny.

So let's break down the steps to going dense one by one.

It will definitely help to review [Quilt Along #3 - Playing with Scale](#) and spend some time working down from a big scale to a smaller scale.

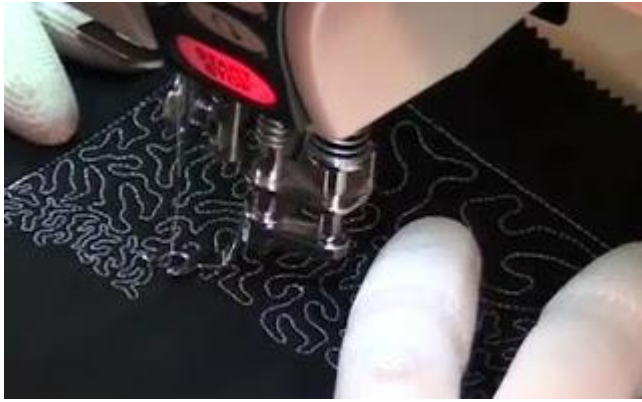
I used a small seam ripper I keep near my sewing machine as a visual guide to stitch a 1/4" scale, then a 1/8" scale, then a 1/16" scale of the design. These measurements are not approximate, and you shouldn't worry too much about measuring your design. The key is not really achieving any set scale, but simply to find a CONSISTENT scale that works for you.

So first start by going back to [Quilt Along #1 - Let's Wiggle](#), and wiggle your way through a 10 inch quilt sandwich with simple rows of stippling. I stuck with simple U shapes, but if you want to run through all the different types of shapes go for it!



As you work through each row, attempt to work on a smaller and smaller scale.

When you reach a point where you can't help but cross your lines of quilting, you've probably reached the smallest scale you can stitch, so stay there for a while and stitch several rows of various shapes, working to create a more and more complex version of stippling.



It's a really good idea to practice this over a period of several days because you may find your skills suddenly improving overnight.

It might sound crazy, but working on a smaller scale seems to supercharge many quilters skill level. I personally believe it has something to do with understanding how the design works (which is easier on a smaller scale), which translates into better stitches, and an ability to stitch on a smaller and smaller.

Once you feel you've achieved a level of microstippling you're comfortable with, it's

time to stitch it in your Heart and Feather Wholecloth.



As always, let's get started in the center of the quilt. We've already stitched all the lines, so you'll need to pull up thread in each heart. The best place to do this is in a point - either the end of the heart or the indentation that comes down - this is where your thread start will not be as noticeable.

Now it's time to fill that heart with a very dense Microstippling.



I often find at the beginning of a project, particularly one I'm learning a tricky new technique, I have a lot of "false starts" and do a bit of ripping until I get into the rhythm of the design. If you can, spend 5 minutes microstippling on a scrap sandwich before actually quilting the real quilt. This will help you relax and get into the groove and make quilting the quilt much less intimidating.

When you fill the hearts, keep in mind that you're stitching an extremely dense design onto fabric and batting - things will likely move and shift a bit. So make sure to stitch

around the perimeter a bit, but also fill into the middle of the heart so you don't allow all the extra fabric to puddle up in the middle of the heart.

Once you fill the hearts in the center, I expect quite a few of you will want to kill me because you will likely have around 16 threads to hide in the center of your quilt! Keep in mind that when you're quilting a wholecloth on your own, you can easily combine the steps of outline quilting and filling so you have much fewer thread breaks.

**But do take the time to hide all of those threads.** You can find a video to show you a quick way of doing this [right here](#).

Now it's time to work on the space between the heart motif and the inner interlocking squares. I designed this wholecloth intentionally leaving very little space within this area. This means you should be able to quilt through the space with a single row of microstippling. Unless your bobbin runs out,

you should be able to do this in a single pass, working clockwise or counterclockwise.



Now for the interlocking squares there are 8 triangles. Each one can easily be filled by starting in a point, then working a row across the shape to the second point, then another row to fill to the third point.



Yep, you'll have another 32 loose threads to deal with here. Just turn on a good episode of Top Gear or Dr. Who and hide them all at once.

Now it's time to fill the space between the outer interlocking squares and the feathers. This area is also quite narrow, but there are spaces where you'll need to be careful of how you stitch and fill.

Just make sure to stitch evenly through the area, following along the edge of the feather a bit, but then stitch up to the straight lines for



a bit so you don't end up with pockets of excess batting and fabric in the middle.



Once you finish up with that last inner section, you'll need to fill each heart in the corners as well. Yep, this will create another 64 loose threads to hide so take your time and try hiding them as you quilt each corner.

The only remaining section will be the outline of the quilt, filling to the edges with as much quilting as you'd like the quilt to have.

This would be a good time to lay a ruler over your quilt and figure out exactly how big you'd like it to finish. My red heart and

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feather wholecloth finished at 16 inches and has a nice bit of microstippling around the edges.

The trick is to not do more filling than you need to because it's time consuming and can get tedious. Mark a line to indicate how far you need to fill, then only fill a bit past this line.



So that finishes the quilting of our Heart and Feather wholecloth!

Next month we're going to finish up this

project by soaking, blocking, trimming, and binding for a perfect finish.

Leah

**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](http://www.daystyledesigns.com)

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# FREE Quilt Pattern Roundup!!!

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You might have seen this modern stunner on  
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And why not try the gorgeous foundation paper  
pieced Mr Fox?

Download the Free pattern at:

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# Project – “Seaside Row” – Month 3

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



This month, you will piece the beach row with striped umbrella.

## You Will Need:

Your yellow beach-sand fabrics, and the red and white striped fabric for the beach umbrella.



**Cut:**

This row is made from six, 9 inch Ladies' Aid blocks. Refer to the cutting guide at the end, for the pieces you will need for each block.

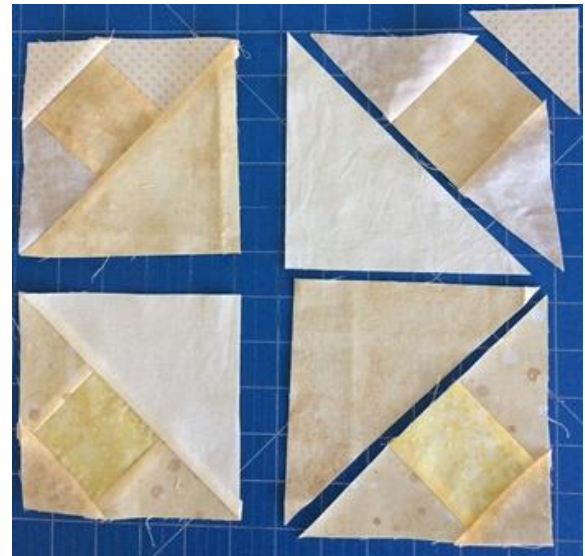
We will go through how to piece this block, then include photos for each of the 6 blocks, as they are all slightly different.

**Piecing:**

As you did last month, we recommend you cut and piece one block at a time, then you can lay out all the pieces first, to work out colour placement as required for each block.

This is the first block in the row, on the left hand end.

Lay out all of your pieces for this block. This first block is all yellow.



Piece this block in four separate units.

Join the triangles to either side of the small square and press seams.

Then add the corner triangle and press, before sewing that pieced unit to the large triangle.

Press well.



Join the units in pairs and press seams in opposite directions.

To finish, sew the pairs together and press well.

Your finished block should measure 9½ inches square.

Label it Row 3, Block A, and put aside until you have made the remaining 5 blocks.

The other 5 blocks you need to piece this month are:



Row 3 Block B - This block is all yellow.





Row 3 Block C - This block is all yellow.



Row 3 Block D

This block has the striped beach umbrella in the middle. Cut your striped fabric carefully, so that the stripes will match up when you put the block together.

There is a mixture of yellow fabrics around the umbrella diamond.



Row 3 Block E - This block is all yellow.



Row 3 Block F - This block is all yellow.

When you have finished all six blocks, sew them together in order.

Choose 1-2 of your mid yellow fabrics, and cut two strips measuring  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

Sew one strip to each end of your pieced Row 3 and press seams.



Join Row 3 to Row 2 and press.

Put your quilt top aside for next month. Next Month, you will start the ocean rows!

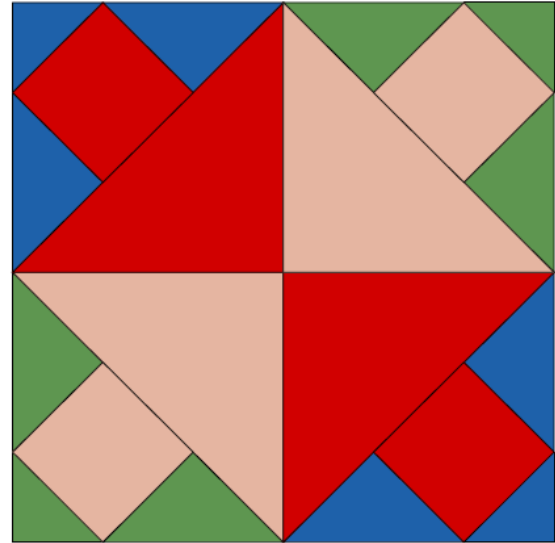
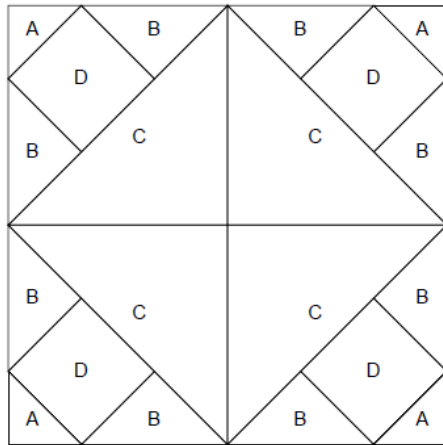


This month we had a Brannie helper...!

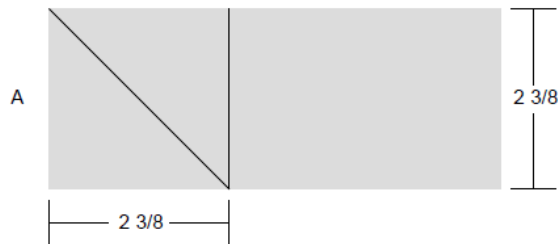


# Ladies' Aid Block

Key Block (27/100 actual size)



## Cutting Diagrams



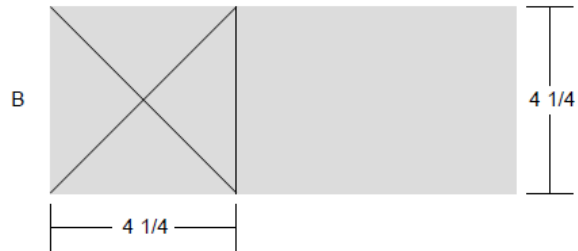
## Patch Count



2 patches



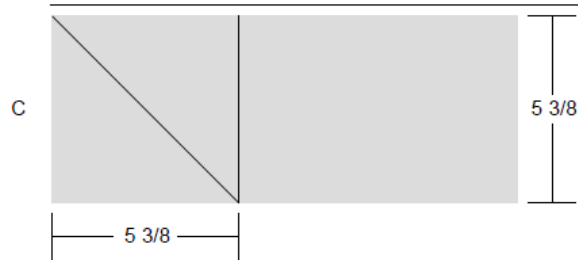
2 patches



4 patches



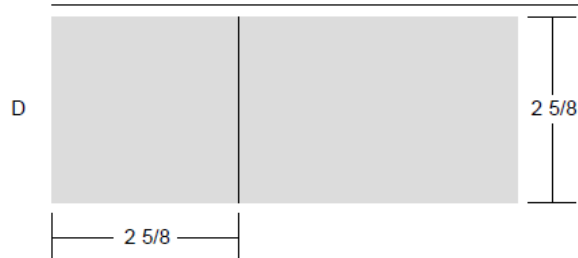
4 patches



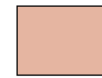
2 patches



2 patches



2 patches



2 patches

For More Stunning Quilt Designs, Go To [www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com](http://www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com)



## Hints and Tips From Brannie

By "Brannie" Mira-Bateman

My Quilty-Mum was talking to Auntie Jody on the little phone thing the other day when she noticed me poking something under my scratching post. (It's a pole with a flat bottom all covered in furry stuff. My Dad made it and it's great to scratch up and down on.)

She lifted it up to see what I had chased under it and found the little lizard. Then she had a problem.

Phone in one hand, scratching post in the other, trying with one foot to stop me catching the lizard and she couldn't put the scratching post down or she'd squash the

lizard. I was helping by trying to duck around her foot to get my lizard.

Quilty-Mum finally had to put the phone down so she could catch the little feller and put him outside. She spoils all my fun.

Some time later she saw me staring under the cupboard. I can't fit under there anymore, but I could see something way under there, out of reach.

"What are you looking at?" she said. I didn't answer - just kept looking.

Eventually she came over and got down to look too. There we both were, heads down, tails up, peering under the cupboard.

"Is that the lizard's little tail?" she asked. I still didn't answer; I was waiting for it to wriggle again, but it was lying there quite still.

Bit disappointing, really.

Quilty-Mum had to get a long stick from the food room to get the tail out. I wasn't interested by then. No fun once they stop moving.

She's been very busy turning all those paper drawings into quilt things. I walk on them when she puts them out on the floor - and get into trouble, of course. There are still more squares to come apparently, so it will be quite a big quilt. It will be better when it gets some padding under it.

I was in strife, too for chewing her new bookmark. It has a dingle-dangle thing on it she called a "tassel". I chewed it, though and

it came undone somehow and now looks like a spider.

She wasn't impressed.

I think it's in a book beside her bed. I might just go right now to see if it is there. It's terribly interesting.

See you.

*Love Brannie,*

the Quilt Block of the Month Club Cat!







## 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".



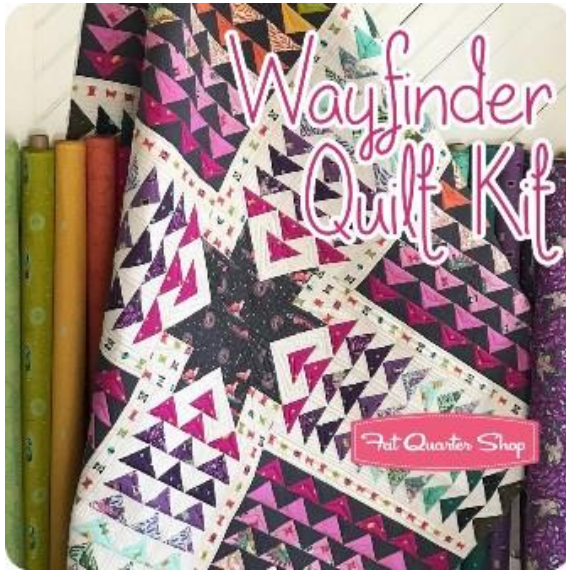
**Merry Go Round by American Jane for  
Moda Fabrics**

Round and round we go through the days, months and years. Throughout that cycle, we use tried and true favorite fabrics – dots, stripes, perfect little background prints and florals.

Merry Go Round by American Jane is a perfect collection of basic staples for your stash. Available in fat quarter bundles, precuts, yardage and our Cat's Cradle Quilt Kit.

Check it out at:

<https://www.fatquartershop.com/moda-fabric/merry-go-round-american-jane-moda-fabrics>



### **Spirit Animal by Tula Pink for Free Spirit**

Welcome to Tula Pink's wonderful world of brightly-colored animals and ornate florals. This collection will stoke your imagination. Available in fat quarter bundles, precuts, yardage, coordinating solids and the Wayfinder Quilt Kit.

See more at:

<https://www.fatquartershop.com/free-spirit/spirit-animal-tula-pink-free-spirit>



### **Big Sky by Annie Brady for Moda Fabrics**

Journey to the wilds of Montana with Annie Brady's first collection with Moda Fabrics, Big Sky. You can almost hear the sounds of bear, moose and buffalo, birdsong and the wind in the trees, the rush of the water and the sound of leaves and stone underfoot. Available in fat quarter bundles, precuts, yardage and the Big Sky Quilt Kit.

View this collection at:

<https://www.fatquartershop.com/moda-fabric/big-sky-annie-brady-moda-fabrics>



### Charming by Gerri Robinson for Penny Rose Fabrics

Dream of days gone by with Gerri Robinson's newest collection, Charming! We love the calming palette of dark navy, dusty blue and soft taupe. Available in fat quarter bundles, precuts and yardage.

See this Range at:

<https://www.fatquartershop.com/penny-rose-fabrics/charming-gerri-robinson-penny-rose-fabrics>

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CT004



# Sandwiching a Quilt

By Ramona Dunn

A quilt is a fabric sandwich that is made up of three different layers. These three layers are called the quilt top, the filling (also known as the batting or wadding) and the backing.

The top portion of the quilt sandwich is called the quilt top. Quilt tops are usually made of fabric blocks that are pieced together.

Some tops may be appliqued or the top could be created using a mixture of both piecing and applique techniques. Some quilt tops may not be pieced together at all and instead may be made from a whole uniform piece of cloth.

The middle layer or filling of a quilt may consist of cotton, silk, polyester, or wool

batting. The batting is what makes a quilt truly a quilt.

If there is no batting, your creation would actually be known as a coverlet and not a quilt. The batting gives a quilt dimension. It contributes to the warmth the quilt provides.

100 percent cotton batting is the easiest batting to sew through. It is the most common choice of batting in quilts for the quilt purists.

Cotton can shrink nearly 5% when washed so make sure that you use closely stitched intervals to prevent the batting from bunching in all the corners, nooks and crannies.



When the quilt is washed, the batting shrinkage will give your quilt a wonderful overall antique look.

Cotton/polyester blend batting gives your quilt a traditional look and feel without the hassle of cotton. There is less shrinkage and as a result, you can quilt it at a slightly larger spacing interval.

The polyester content helps to keep the fibres from migrating into corners during use and when being laundered.

Polyester batting launders quite well and there is no shrinkage to contend with. Since you can stitch at larger spaced intervals, you can finish your quilt much faster.

Polyester batting comes in low loft and high loft. The high loft batting is thick and is good if you want to have your quilt thick like a sleeping bag.

Silk batting is best suited for quilted garments and is not recommended for bed quilts as the silk batting is quite expensive.

Wool batting is very heavy and it is great if you are making a quilt for insulation on a cold night. The fibres have a tendency to migrate through the top and bottom layers (known as bearding).

To prevent this from happening, encase your wool batting in extra layers of fabric top and bottom and use short stitching intervals when you sew your sandwich together.

The bottom layer of the sandwich (known as the backing) is a large piece of plain or printed cotton that may or may not be pieced together from smaller pieces to create the proper size.

There are backing fabrics out there available by the yard in 90 and 120 inch widths. If you have a hard time finding these fabrics and you don't want to piece your backing, you could go out and buy a cotton bed sheet that

is larger than the pieced quilt top that you created.

There are three methods that can be used to sandwich your quilt in preparation for quilting.

The first method is to pin the sandwich pieces together with nickel-plated safety pins. Start pinning in the middle of the quilt and then pin approximately 2 - 3 inches apart.

Pin your way to the edges of the quilt making sure that the three layers remains smooth and that there are no bumps or tucks in the layers.

The second method is to hand baste the sandwich layers together in preparation for sewing. The pieces are assembled together in the same way as the pin basting.

After assembly, you take a thick quilting cotton thread and using a long running stitch, baste together the three pieces starting from the middle and basting to the edges.

The third method is to secure the sandwich pieces in place by using fabric adhesive prior to quilting. The adhesive will dissolve during the first wash of your quilt so quilting your layers after using a fabric adhesive is a must.

Whatever method you use, a little time and care taken during the sandwiching phase will make the whole quilting process go smooth in the final steps and you will be happy with your finished quilt.

**About the Author:** Ramona Dunn is a sewer and quilter with over 35 years of experience behind the sewing machine. She has a diploma with honors in sewing and dressmaking from the Stratford Career Institute.

Ramona is a professional educator by day and she has authored a book for beginning quilters called "How To Do Quilting In 8 Easy Steps".

Article Source:

[http://EzineArticles.com/expert/Ramona\\_L\\_Dunn/1179085](http://EzineArticles.com/expert/Ramona_L_Dunn/1179085)



## 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.

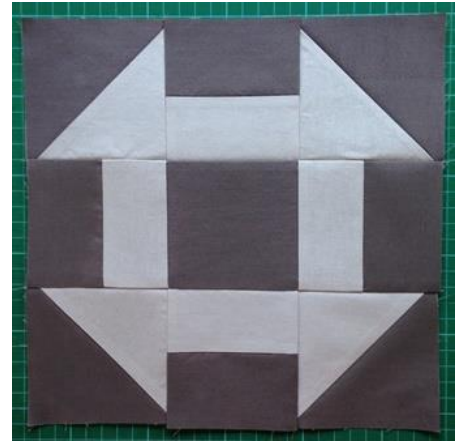
You will need at least a ½ metre/yard of each fabric. We want a more modern looking quilt, so we chose 8 colours, ranging from a maroon, red, orange, yellow, charcoal, pewter, silver, to a very pale blue. We bought slightly more of each

## Block 8 – Greek Square Block

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.



### You Will Need:

Two (2) fabrics that contrast. We used pewter and silver.

\* You will need to make THREE (3) of these 10 inch Greek Square blocks. Refer to the rotary cutting guide below for cutting directions and quantities for EACH block.



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

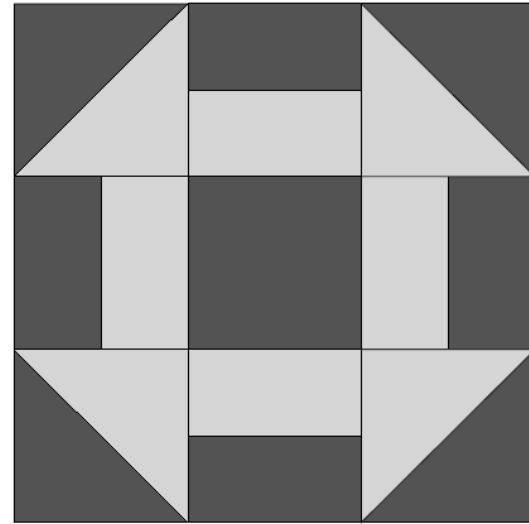
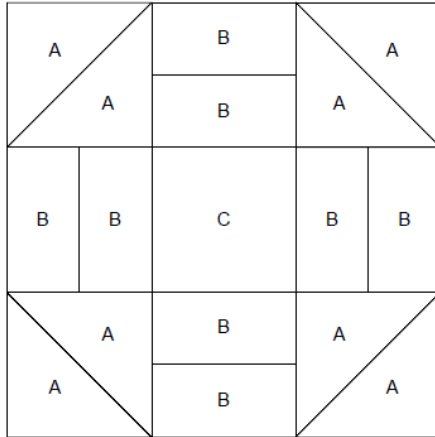
Bonus blocks, hints and tips added all the time!!

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

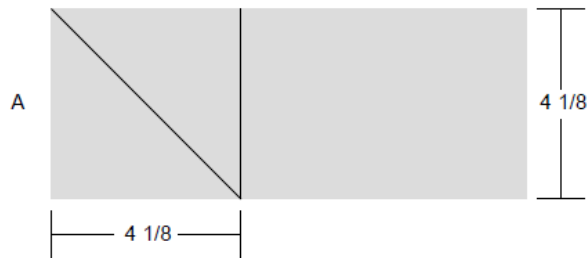


## Greek Square

Key Block (5/20 actual size)



### Cutting Diagrams



### Patch Count



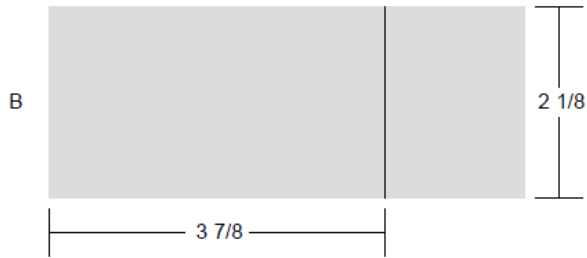
4 patches

(Cut 6  
squares in  
total)



4 patches

(Cut 6 squares  
in total)

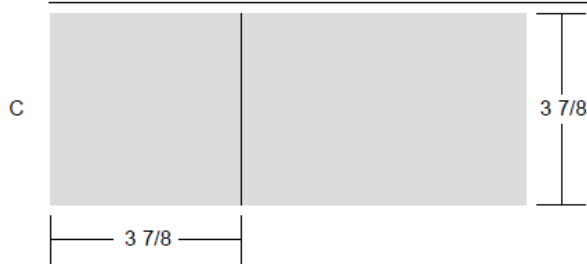


4 patches



4 patches

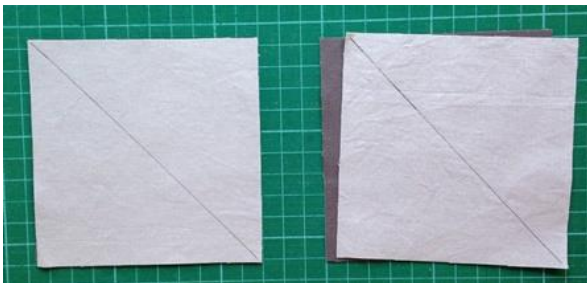
(Cut 12 strips of each colour)



1 patch

(Cut 3 squares  
in total)

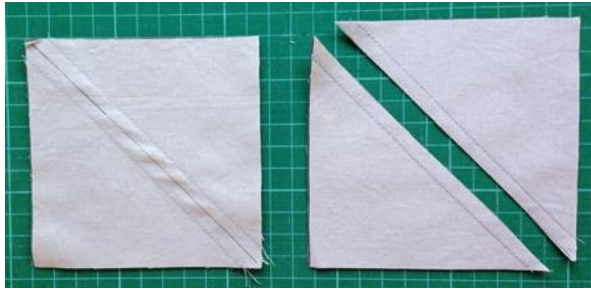
## Assembly:



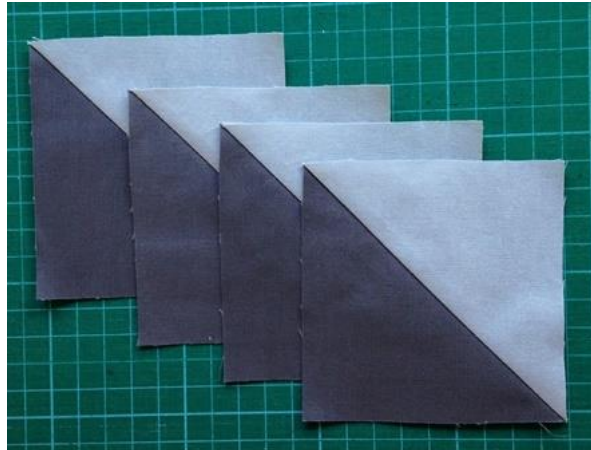
To start, make the half square triangle units for the corners of the block.

Mark a diagonal line on the wrong side of two of your silver A squares.

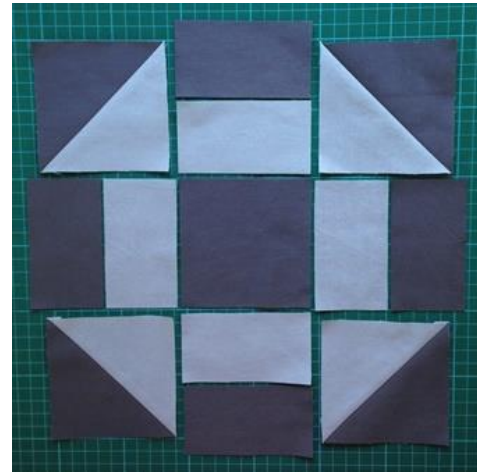
Pair the silver squares up with matching A pewter squares, with right sides together.



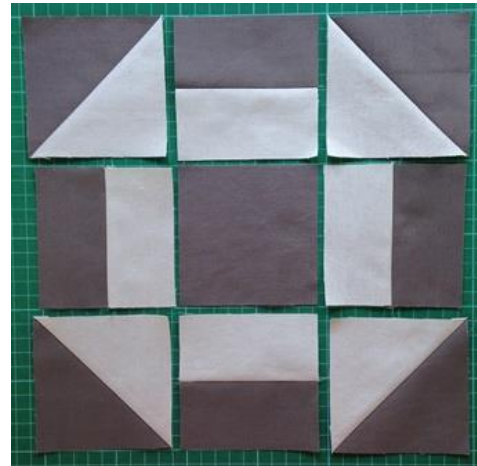
Sew a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch either side of the marked line, then cut on the line.



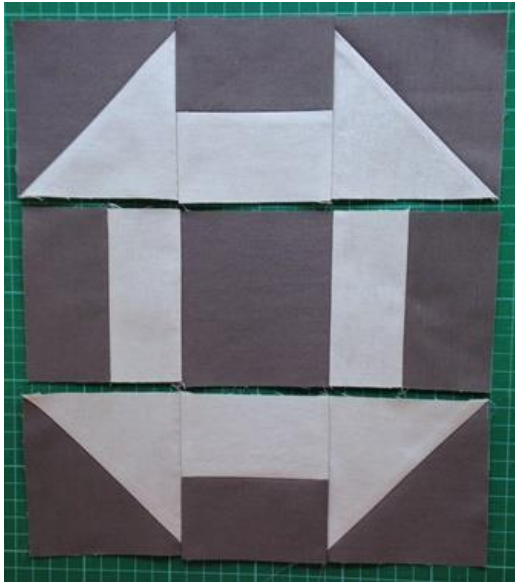
Open out and press, so that your two pairs of squares give you four half square triangles.



Lay out your block as pictured.



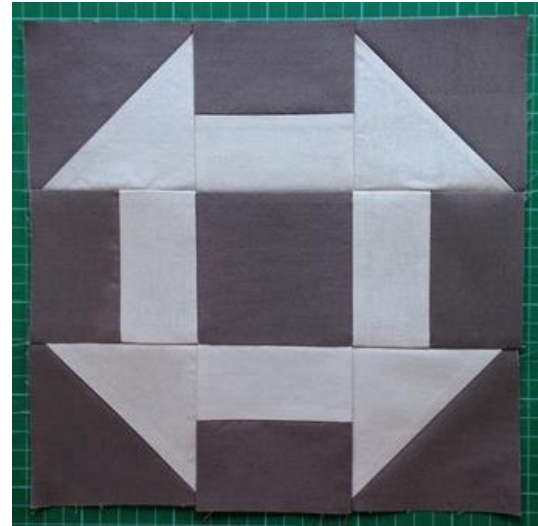
Join the silver and pewter strips together in the middle of each side and press seams well.



Now it's just a 9-patch to piece together.

Join the units into rows.

Press seams inwards on the top and bottom rows, and press seams outwards on the middle row.

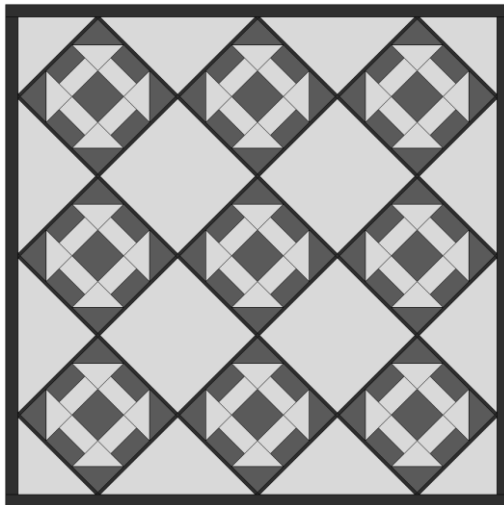
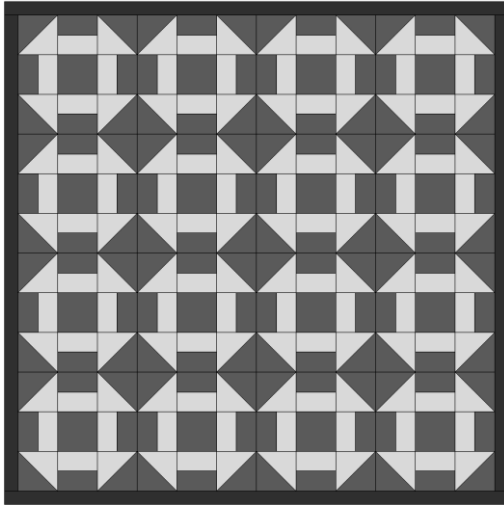


To finish, sew the rows together and press well.

Make three of these blocks in total.

Also known as the Monkey Wrench Block, this block gives great secondary patterns when repeated in a grid layout, or separate out on point for a simpler, more classic design.





#### 4-Patch:

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

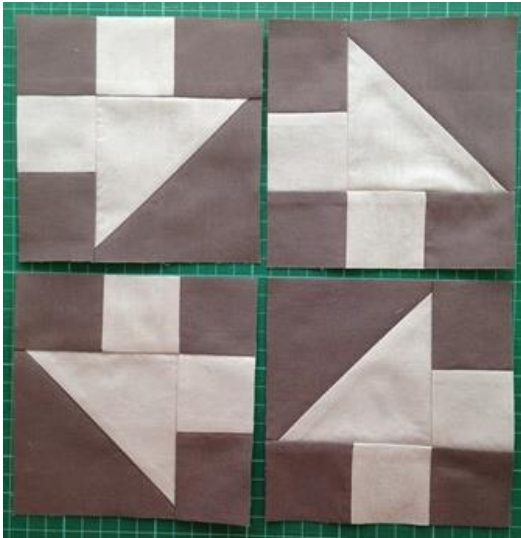


Cut one of your Greek Square blocks into 4, as shown.

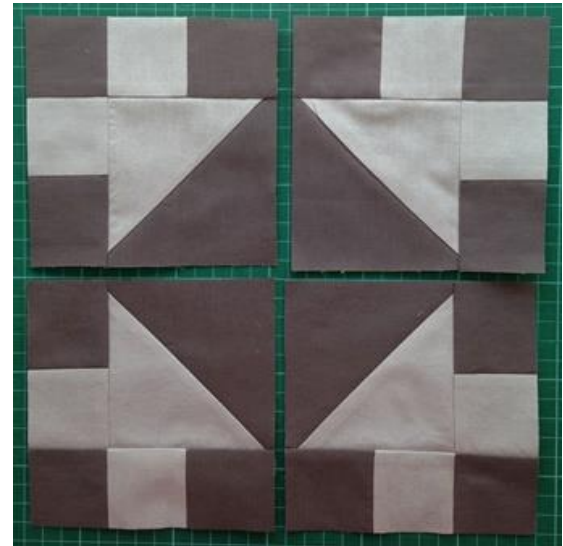
As your finished block should measure 10½ inches square, you should be able to cut in half

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

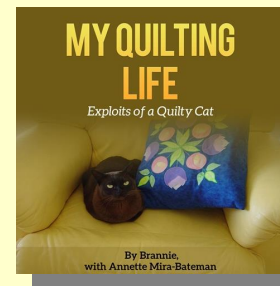
**However** – if your block is slightly out, don't worry – it is more important to cut evenly through the middle of the centre square, as shown.



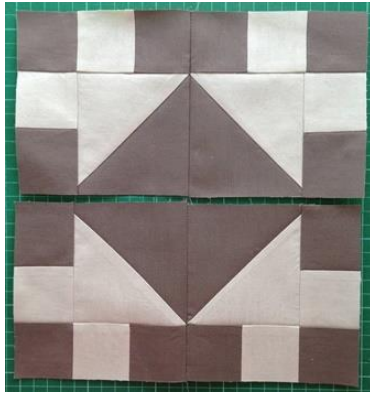
Try some variations. You might like to rotate two opposite corners only...



...or rotate all quarters equally as we did.



Go to <https://wwwcreatespace.com/5561384> to order your copy today.



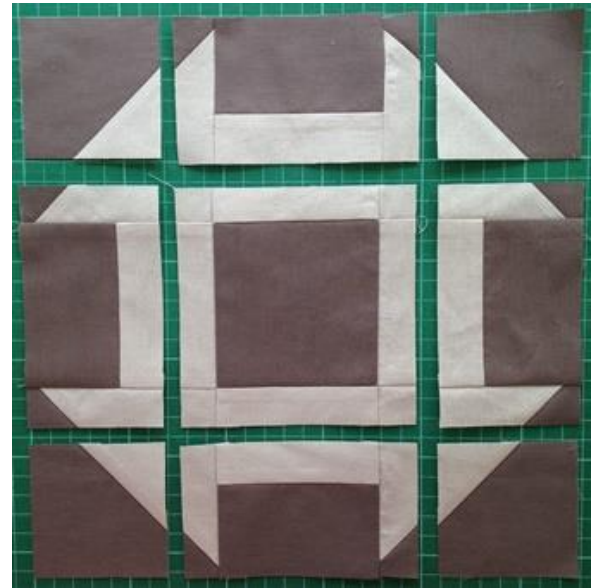
Sew into pairs, and press seams in opposite directions.



Join the pairs together to finish your 4-patch variation.

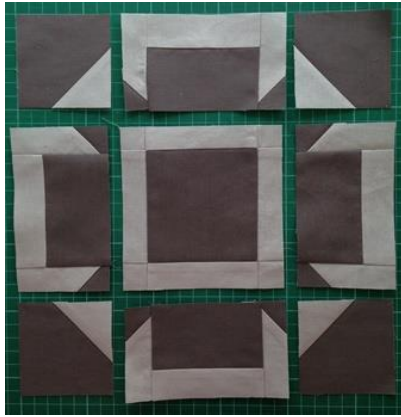
### 9-patch:

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

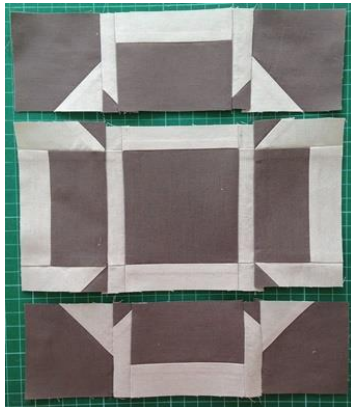


This is an UNEVEN 9-patch.

Square up your block first, then cut  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches in from each edge, as pictured. Cut horizontally, and vertically to divide your block into 9.



Rotate the middle units 180 degrees, as shown.



Sew the units into rows.

Press seams well, and in opposing directions between the rows.



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

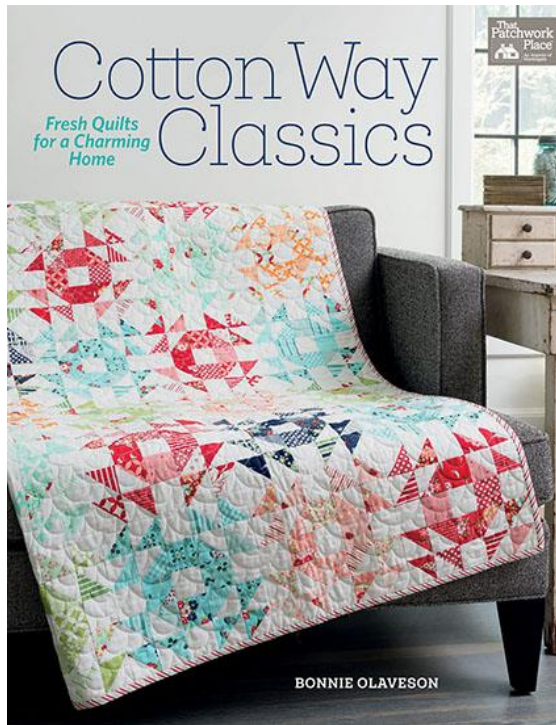
As before, this finished block will be smaller than your original block (approx. an inch), but we will take care of that when we assemble the quilt top at the end of this project.

**Keep an eye out for our final block next month.**



## Book Reviews

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



### **"Cotton Way Classics" Fresh Quilts for a Charming Home**

Bonnie Olaveson comes from a long line of quilting ladies and in turn she has taught her children the delights of quilting and working with fabrics. She and her daughter Camille now design for Moda Fabrics under the name Bonnie and Camille.

The 13 patterns in this book include traditional and modern designs which all use white to effectively contrast the patterned fabrics for beautiful, stylish and fresh-looking quilts.

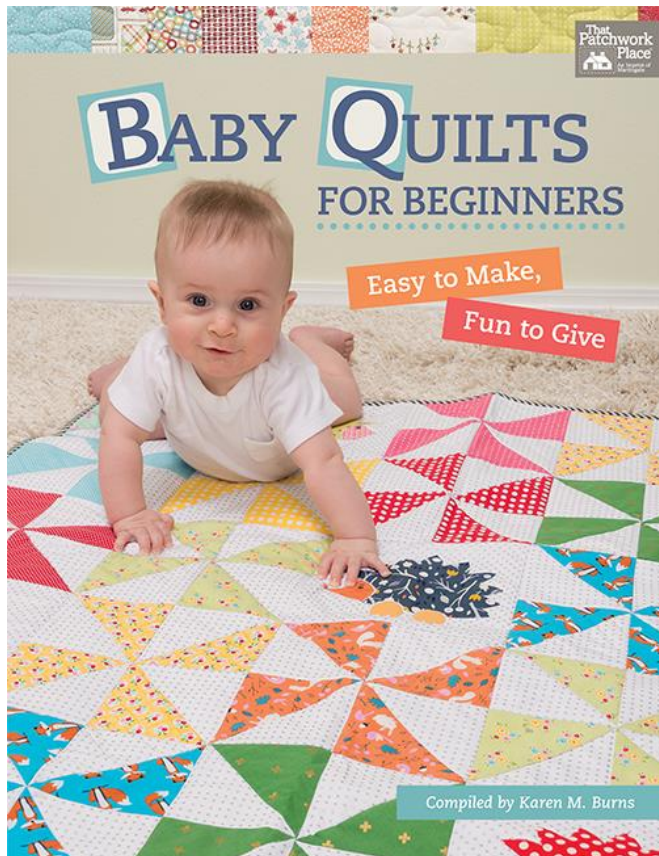
The Double Wedding Ring pattern here is one to try if you've always thought it looked too hard. With gentle curves and simple construction techniques, you'll have this traditional quilt made in no time. The instructions and diagrams are very clear.



Most of the patterns in this book are simple to make. More patience is required with some, but all these designs showcase the lovely fabrics used when contrasted with white. The patterns are bold, but very effective.

**"Cotton Way Classics"** by Bonnie Olaveson is available through your local craft book shop or online from: [www.ShopMartingale.com](http://www.ShopMartingale.com) (Photos courtesy of Brent Kane, Martingale)





**"Baby Quilts for Beginners" Easy to Make,  
Fun to Give**

This book is a compilation by Karen M. Burns and includes 13 quilt patterns from talented designers: Kim Diehl, Kimberley Jolly, Amy Ellis, Melissa Corry, Amy Hamberlin, Sue Pfau, Pipers' Girls, Vicki Reubel and Krystal Stahl.

Many of us begin our quilting life by starting with small projects - often with a baby quilt. This book is a delightful collection of 13 patterns. It is intended for beginner quilters.

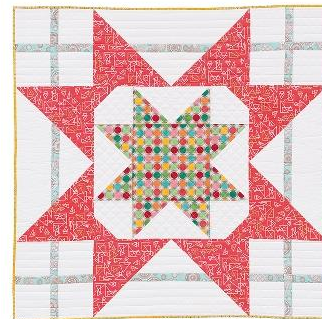
The designs are simple, the pieces large, with pieceing and applique combined. The only problem I can see is choosing which quilt to make first.

They are all beautiful and are a great way to learn quilting. If you can make any of these projects, you have the ability to make any quilt.

The book would make a great gift for anyone thinking of starting quilting and the quilts are a perfect gift for baby.

The little guy on the front obviously loves his new quilts. You don't have to be a beginner to enjoy these lovely quilts.

**"Baby Quilts for Beginners"** 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 – Chocolate & Beetroot Cake



### Ingredients

1/2 cup (125ml) vegetable oil  
1 cup (220g) firmly packed brown sugar  
1/2 cup (125ml) maple syrup  
60 g (approx. 2 oz) dark chocolate (70%),  
chopped  
250 g (around 2 cups) raw beetroot (beets),  
coarsely grated  
3 eggs, lightly beaten  
1 1/2 cups (225g) self raising flour  
1/4 cup dutch cocoa powder

### Ganache

3/4 cup (185ml) thin cream  
150g (5 1/4 oz) dark chocolate, finely chopped  
1 tablespoon maple syrup

### Method

Step 1 - Preheat the oven to 160°C/320F.  
Grease and line a 20cm/8in round baking tin  
with baking paper and set aside.

Warm the oil in a medium size sauce pan on  
very low heat. Add the brown sugar, maple  
syrup and chocolate and stir until the  
chocolate is melted. Remove from heat.

Add the grated beetroots.



Whisk the eggs in a small bowl and then add them to the sauce pan. Sift the flour and cocoa powder together and stir into the beetroot mixture.

Pour the batter into the tin and bake for 1 hour or until a skewer inserted comes out clean. Leave to cool for 5 minutes in the tin, before turning out and cooling completely.

Step 2 - To make the ganache, combine all ingredients in a small saucepan over low heat.

Stir over a medium-low heat, for 5 minutes or until the chocolate is melted and the mixture is smooth and glossy.

Leave to cool for 5-10 minutes until the mixture thickens slightly and pour over the cake.



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## 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) .**

~~~~~

“I have recently made this bag. I used a pattern that I have had for several years. There were no pockets in this pattern so I added my own.”

Valerie D., Australia



~~~~~

*“My first grandchild is due at the end of the year and my daughter-in-law’s favourite colour is lilac. This is really special to us all as my husband passed away 4 years ago and will never get to hold his first grandchild, even though I know he will be there is spirit.*

*Another quilt I would love to share with you also, is a king bed doona cover that I made for my daughter. Started to be a quilt but she loved it and asked to have it turned into a doona cover. I also made 2 pillow cases to match.”*

*- Jenny B., Australia*



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“This king-sized quilt was made for my son and his fiancé. Although it was a challenge I quilted it on my home machine.”

- Sonja P, Florida, USA

- Jacqueline B., Belgium



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*"The first quilt is one that was very amusing to do. Make some blocks in squares, cut them in four, and put them together again. Some without the 4th piece, others with the 4 pieces. You make a 3D effect without many problems.*

*The second is a Ricky Tims technique, that is always modern. Fits in every living room!*

*This “Thank You Vet” quilt was made by Gloria R., USA*



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!

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The following quilt was sent in by Diane M., USA



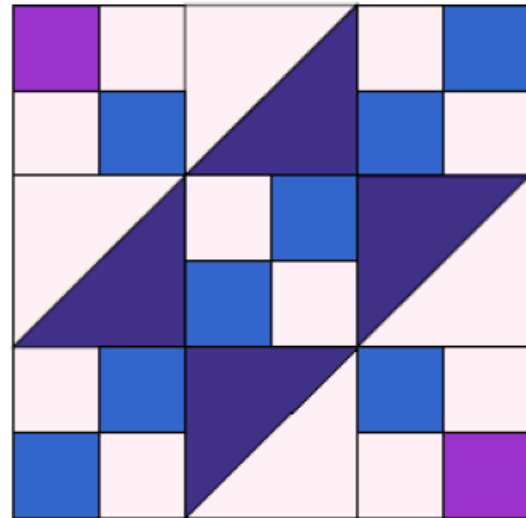
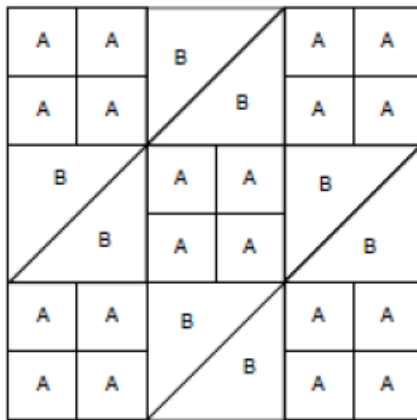
Block of the Month

This Block is an easy to make chain style block, that can be chain pieced too! It looks great as a big border block, or a quilt design by itself.

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.

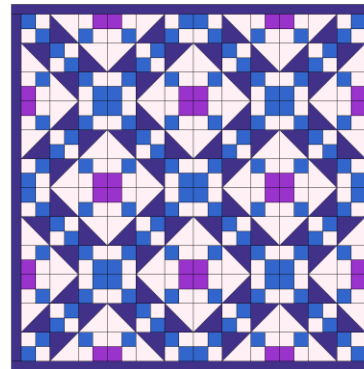
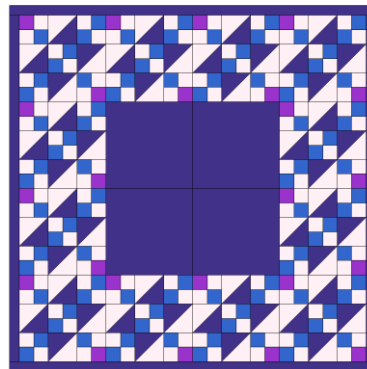
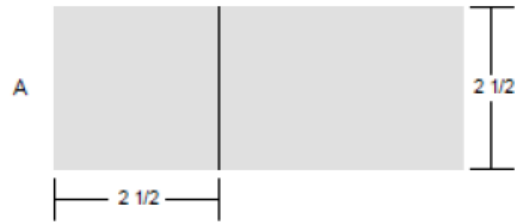
Blue Chains

Key Block (1/5 actual size)



Cutting Diagrams

Patch Count



Use for a big border block, or rotate alternate rows for a star/diamond pattern.

For more great quilts and blocks, visit www.QuiltBlockOfTheMonthClub.com

Today's Tips:

* Rotary cutters are a very important tool and are the source of many mistakes made in quilting. Some tips to help with this tool include: keep spare blades on hand, always keep the blade covered, use the rotary cutter while standing - sitting or leaning can cause crooked cuts, avoid cutting pins because pins nick the blade which leads to imperfect cuts.

* After you have been cutting with the blade one way, unscrew the nut and turn the blade around. I find you get a bit more life out of a blade.

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We liked this tip that Kathy sent in -

"For quilters who like to keep the bobbin and thread spool together when storing, I have an idea that works and costs you nothing.

I have purchased many gizmos for keeping the correct bobbin with the top thread spool.

One day I found myself in need of one of those gizmos and all of mine were in use. Instead I took a twist tie which came with my garbage bags and ran it up the hole in the thread spool and then through the bobbin center hole and gave a twist.

Now I use nothing but this method and save myself a lot of money. Any quilter who has had to dig through their stash of bobbins to match the top spool will appreciate this as well."

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* To keep your thimble from coming off your finger as you sew, blow into it just before you place it on your finger. The hot moisture in your breath helps provide just enough "grabbing" power to create suction. Who knew?

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

"Quilt-y" Jokes...

** A yard a day keeps the blues away.*

** A fat quarter is not a body part!*

** One quilting project, like one cookie, is never enough!*

** Quilting fills my days, not to mention the living room, bedroom and closets.*

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