



*Premium*

# Online Quilt Magazine.com

**NEW PROJECT**

**Christmas**

**Tannenbaum**

**Quilt**

**We're Up To**

**Month 4 of Our**

**Autumn Sampler**

**BOM**

**PROJECT –**

**Christmas**

**Weekender Bag**

**NEW PROJECT**

**– Scrappy**

**Trees Table**

**Topper**



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# Letter from the Editor

Jody Anderson

Hi!

We did it! We're finally here with our Annual Christmas issue, and with another great year under our belts. It's been a big (and very quick!) year this year, and I've officially joined the Countdown to Christmas with the kids now. Presents are made and ready to go, and I've played Santa and bought more fabric for myself too, to get a head start on new quilts for next year. So many ideas and so little time.... I'm spending the festive season sewing!!!

You're going to love our super quick and easy "Tannenbaum" Quilt on the cover, and make sure to have a play with some Scrappy Trees too! If you're travelling this season, do whip up our Christmas Weekender Bag too. Lori shares her Holly FMQ motif, Penny has some gift ideas for the quilters in your life, and for a change, we have a Christmas Pudding Icecream recipe! (Our Christmas here in Australia is supposed to be hot again...)

Thank you all for a wonderful year sharing all things Quilt-y, and we wish you and yours all the very best for a safe, happy and healthy festive season. Happy New Year!!!!

Best Wishes,

*Jody*



# Gift Ideas For Quilters On Your List

By Penny Halgren

Christmas gifts for quilters are abundant and can fit into any budget.

Give a gift card or certificate to the quilter's favorite craft, hobby, or fabric store. The gift recipient can use the gift for whatever quilting supplies he or she needs.

If you think a gift card isn't personal enough, there are plenty of other Christmas gifts for quilters.

How about a nice pair of scissors? Good scissors are a tool that every quilter needs. When you shop for scissors as your Christmas gift for the quilter on your list, you will see just how many kinds of scissors there are on the market.

Take time to read the packaging carefully. You wouldn't want to give your quilter a pair of embroidery thread snips instead of a sturdy pair of fabric cutting scissors!

Books and magazines about quilting styles and techniques make great Christmas gifts for quilters. It does not matter how many your quilting friend already has, books and magazines that show new techniques or trends are always a welcomed gift. Quilters often find inspiration for new color choices, quilting patterns and project ideas in books and magazines.

Give the gift of an Internet quilting club membership. Many online quilting clubs give their subscribers great quilting tips and offer one-on-one assistance for members who email them questions. Some websites even

feature regular interviews with quilting pros or offer video streams which show demonstrations of various quilting techniques!

Make a quilt yourself. Even if you're not a quilter, making a quilt (or quilted wall hanging, throw, or even a potholder) will show your quilting friend that you recognize his or her love for quilting. Use your imagination and see what you can quilt. If you're not a quilter, give yourself plenty of time for your first quilting project.

Give the gift of a quilted look in accessories for the home or office. Even if you yourself are not a quilter, there are plenty of unique Christmas gifts for quilters you can create yourself.

Decoupage a picture frame to look like a quilt. Or, cover a frame, desk calendar and inexpensive business card holder in coordinating fabrics. A fabric printed or woven with a quilt pattern would be an extra nice touch!

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Give a quilter's gift basket. Buy a nice basket to match your quilting friend's decor. Include several quilting products in it.

Good choices are various strengths of quilting thread, a rotary cutter and cutting surface, scissors, scraps or fabric remnants, and quilting needles (if your friend quilts by hand; machine needles if your friend quilts by machine).

Don't forget to add a copy of your favorite quilt pattern or a book full of patterns! If you're giving the gift of a quilting web club membership, it would be nice to "wrap" your gift in a small gift basket.

If the quilter on your list likes to quilt using vintage fabrics, visit your area thrift store. Keep an open mind. When shopping in thrift stores, you'll rarely run across a bolt of fabric. Your vintage fabrics may be recycled old ties, old blouses, old socks or old t-shirts!

Any of these gifts would be appreciated and enjoyed by the quilter on your holiday gift

giving list. Wrap them in fabric or tie a nice fabric bow on top of whichever gift you decide to give for a great finishing touch!

Penny Halgren

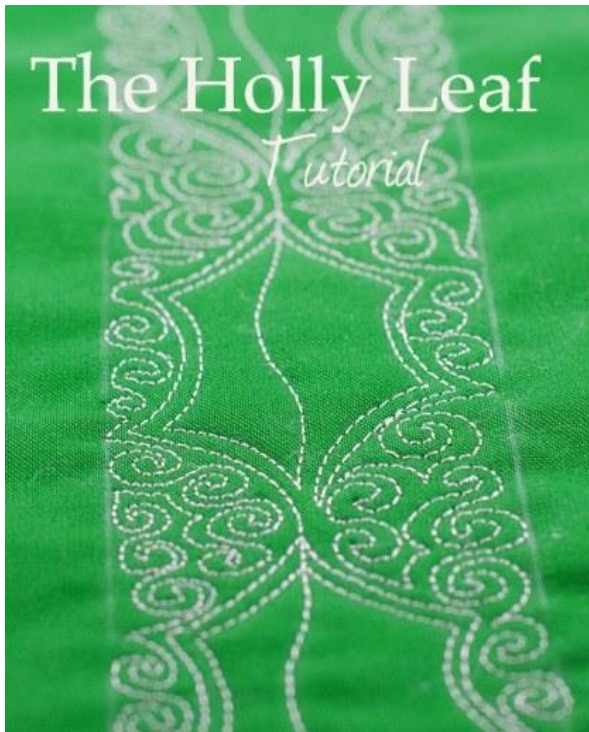
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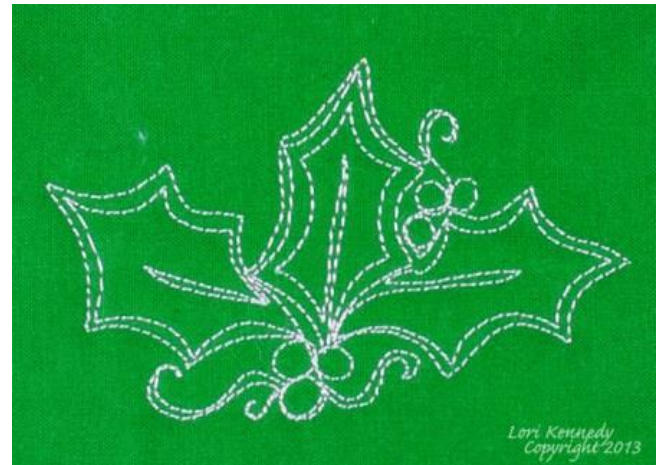


# Free Motion Quilt Tutorial – Holly Leaf

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

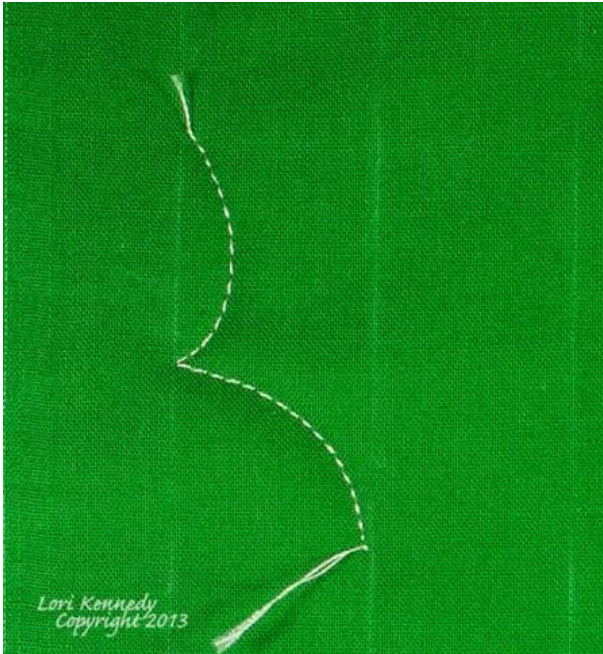


This month, we'll look at the most iconic of Christmas motifs, **The Holly Leaf**.

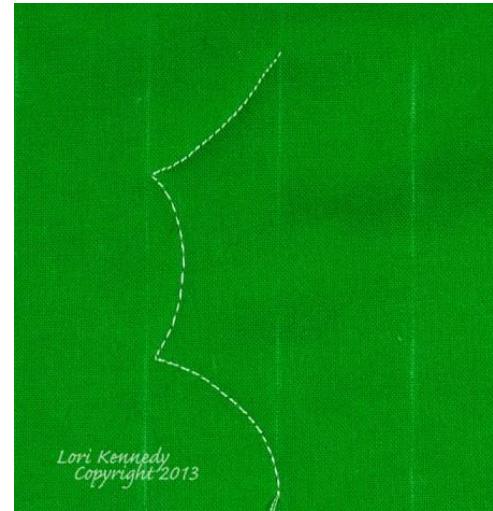


Begin by drawing three lines, equidistant apart. In the sample below, the “rails” are one inch apart.

Begin stitching on the center rail. Stitch a curved line up and to the left rail. Make a sharp point and stitch a curved line, finishing again on the left rail.



Stitch a slightly curved line and stop on the center rail.



Stitch the right side of the Holly Leaf

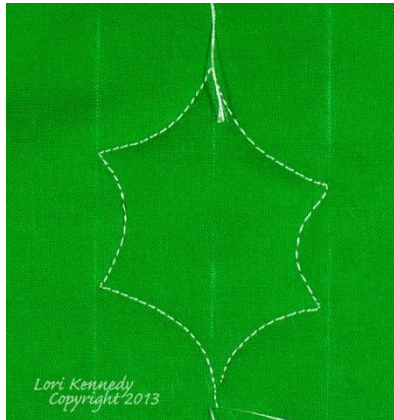
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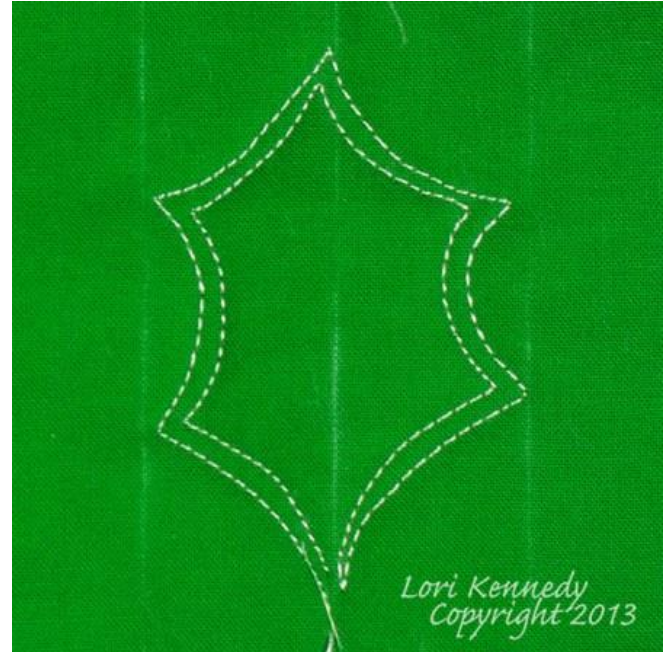




Return to the starting point—but leave a small space as an “escape”—where you can later stitch out of the leaf without stitching over another line.



From the bottom of the leaf, echo back around the Holly Leaf—Do this by stitching on the INSIDE of the leaf.



When you reach the bottom of the leaf, stitch up and through the tip of the leaf to begin the next Holly Leaf in the chain.



When you have completed the entire row of Holly Leaves, stitch back through the center of the leaves and add a few berries and ribbons.



For a beautiful ribbon-effect add spirals as filler around the leaves to fill in the margins.

The Spirals are reminiscent of holly berries and give it a very festive look.



A row of Holly Berries would look **lovely down the center of a table runner** for your Christmas feast or a few leaves would look lovely in the **corner of a dinner napkin**.

Whether you are stitching on a long arm or on a domestic sewing machine like I do - this pattern is easy—a Beginner Pattern. I stitched this on Kona cotton with Aurifil 50 wt in the bobbin and Sulky 45wt in the top. I used a Schmetz 80 Universal needle.

From my workshop to yours,

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](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 books *"Free Motion Machine Quilting 1-2-3"*, and *"More Free Motion Machine Quilting 1-2-3"* or her Craftsy Classes [Divide and Conquer: Creative Quilting for Any Space](#), [Creative Free-Motion Techniques, From Doodle to Design](#) and her newest - [Creating a Quilting Plan: Approaches for Any Quilt](#)






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# Vintage


# Christmas

by Lori Holt of Bee in my Bonnet Company

## Purchase your copy today!

Step into Lori's scrappy happy vintage world this Christmas season with all-new quilt blocks and over ten quilty projects.



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





## PROJECT – “Tannenbaum” Quilt

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



Oh Tannenbaum... What better way to share the festive spirit this Christmas than with our fab and fun starry Christmas Tree quilt?

It's surprisingly quick and easy to make, and a great way to show off some seasonal coloured fabrics.

We chose a traditional green and red theme for ours, but feel free to mix it up and make yours modern, bright or batik!

This quilt measures 53½ inches wide x 56½ inches high.

### **You Will Need:**

An assortment of red and green fabrics. We used a good selection of fat quarters and scraps left over from other projects. You would need something like 10-12 fat quarters at least, and ideally they are a range of tones and plains and prints.

1¼ metres/yards of plain or finely patterned white fabric for the background.

Small amount of yellow fabric for the top star.

Fusible web for applique

Water erasable fabric marking pen

½ metre/yard fabric for binding (We had about ¾ metre/yard and used the fabric for the stars too.)

Batting measuring at least 59 x 62 inches

Backing fabric measuring at least 59 x 62 inches

### **Applique:**

There are four sizes of stars that are appliqued onto the centre panel, with a very easy quilt-as-you-go kind of technique.



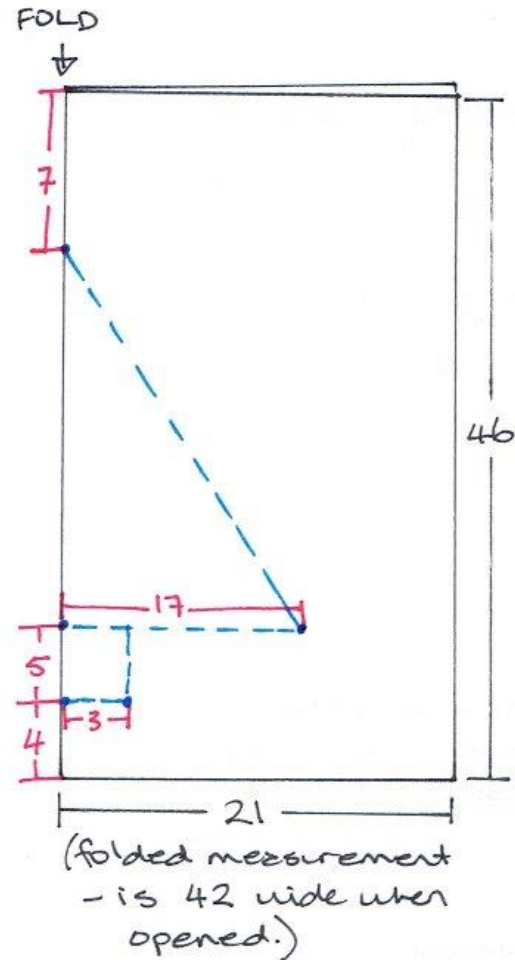
Fold your white background fabric in half lengthways and trim off the selvages, so the folded width is 21 inches. (This will give you a total width of 42 inches when the panel is opened out.)

Square up the bottom edge, then measure and trim the top so the panel is 46 inches long.

Keep folded and use your blue fabric marking pen to draw in the tree shape according to the following diagram.

With the fold to the left side, use this diagram to mark out your tree shape. You will mark half of the shape first, then open it out and fill in the second half.

To start, measure up the fold (from the bottom edge) 4 inches and make a mark. Measure up another 5 inches from that mark and make a second mark.



From the first mark, use your ruler to keep the line straight and parallel with the lower edge of the fabric and measure out to the right 3 inches. Draw that line.

From the second mark (9 inches up from the bottom fabric edge), again use your ruler to draw a line parallel to the bottom edge that extends for 17 inches. This is the bottom of the tree.

Connect the short lower line up at right angles to meet the long line. This is the tree trunk.

From the top edge, measure down 7 inches on the fold, and mark that point. Finally join that top point with the end of the 17 inch line to give the shape of your tree.

When you have marked half of the tree shape, open out your fabric and extend the lines in a mirror image to draw in the second half of your tree. The trunk will be 6 inches

wide and 5 inches high, and the tree will extend another 17 inches to the left. When you have drawn those lines, again, extend a straight line from the end of the 17 inch line to meet the point at the top 7 inches down from the top fabric edge.





You will need a whole lot of stars to fill in this shape. Using the four different star templates, draw a variety of shapes onto the paper side of your fusible webbing.

Fuse the shapes to the wrong side of your fabrics, mixing up the sizes and colours as you go.

Cut out the star shapes and start arranging them to fill in your tree. Use the blue drawn lines as a guide to keeping your tree nice and even.

Start at the top and work your way down, arranging several stars then fusing them into place with your iron.

Arrange the stars in a random design, mixing the reds and greens together.

You may find it easier to place a couple of big stars first, then add the smaller ones around them, juggling to fit. Try and keep a fairly



even spacing between the stars, for the best effect.

When you are happy with the placement, fuse them in place, and work on the next section.



We made a yellow large star for the top of our tree.

Place a smaller star at the top of your tree – inside the drawn blue lines, then arrange the yellow star above that.

We made the trunk of our tree all in smaller stars, and all from the same darker green fabric.

Press all stars in place well on the panel.  
They will be sewn when you quilt this quilt.

### **Border:**

The border for this quilt is made from piano key style pieced strips, with pieced cornerstones.

Make the cornerstones first.



You will need to make 4 of these log cabin style cornerstone blocks.

For EACH block, cut the following:

1 red square measuring  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches

1 green square measuring  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches

1 green strip measuring  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$  inches

1 red strip measuring  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$  inches

1 red strip measuring  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$  inches



To start, join the green square to the red square as shown.

Press seam.



Next join the green strip to the left hand side and press seam.



Add the smaller red strip across the top and press.



And finally, sew the long red strip to the left hand side and press block well.

Make 4 in total.



The borders are made from pieced 2½ inch strips, cut 6½ inches long.

You will need 21 strips for each of the top and bottom borders, and 23 strips each for the two side borders. This is a total of 88 strips measuring 2½ x 6½ inches that you will need to cut from your red and green fabrics.

We used slightly more green than red, and do make sure that you start and finish each border strip with a green stripe, so they contrast with the red of the cornerstones.





Sew the longer border strips to either side of the centre panel and press seams.

Sew a cornerstone block to each end of the top and bottom borders, making sure the red square is at the outermost corner as pictured.

Join the strips to top and bottom to finish your quilt top.

### **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.

As pictured, free motion quilt around the inside of each star. This secures the applique in place, and quilts your top at the same time!

We filled in around our tree with a simple stippled filler design, and quilted in the ditch of all the border strips.



### **Finishing:**

From the green binding fabric, cut sufficient 2¼ inch strips. Join your binding strips together with 45 degree seams. Press the ¼

inch seams open, then fold the strip in half, right sides out and press.

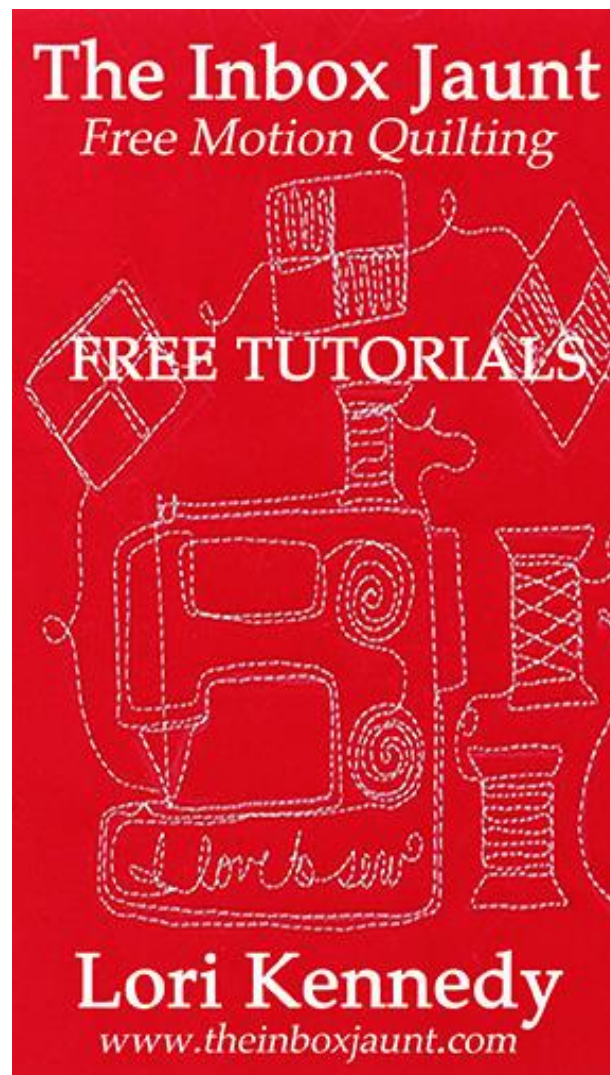
Join the binding to the right side of the quilt edge with a quarter inch seam, mitring each corner as you go. Turn the folded edge of the binding to the back and slip stitch it in place with thread that matches the binding to finish.

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Download the full pattern and  
Applique Star Templates from:

<http://www.onlinequiltmagazine.com/members/content/f/id/712/>

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## Quilting Questions Answered

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

*This month, we're continuing a series of everyday quilting questions that have been answered by Leah.*

**What type of batting do you normally use? Do you use different batting for different types of projects? Without doing trapunto, which batting would best show off the quilting in the top block?**

I use Quilter's Dream polyester batting almost exclusively. I do have other batting in the studio that I'm trying to use up, so occasionally I'll use something weird, but 99% of the time I'm using either Select or Request thickness Quilter's Dream Polyester.

As for different projects – no, I don't change batting for different projects. A quilt is a quilt

is a quilt. And for me at least, I know a quilt comes out nice, and is predictably easy to stitch with this batting.

Of course the one exception is quilted garments. I can't ignore the fact that if you quilted a jacket using normal batting, even the thinnest poly, it would likely come out so puffy you'd look like the Stay Puff Marshmallow Man. For garments I use 100% cotton flannel that has been washed and dried twice in hot water to get the shrink out.

As for what batting creates a super puff similar to trapunto – I have HEARD about using wool batting, but I have not tried it

myself so I cannot really say whether it works well or not.

Keep in mind that I'm a crazy nut for trapunto! If I want something puffy, I'm not going to leave it for the fates to grant me good luck with a wool batting. I'm going to quilt that sucker twice and relish every second I get to clip batting away (my favorite part).

For trapunto, I use Quilter's Dream Polyester in the Deluxe thickness for the first layer and Select thickness for the second layer. It always comes out perfect. Always.

Now that I've answered the main question, it's time for a little lecture...

Just like with needles and thread, batting is an opinion driven material, and one that's subject to hot debate.

Many quilters hear that I use polyester batting and thread and don't want to hear

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another word out of my mouth. Their response usually goes something like this:



HERETIC! How dare you suggest we use something other than COTTON!

Whenever I hear this kind of thing, I always have to ask:

“Have you personally had an issue with either poly batting or poly thread?”

...and the answer is always:

“No, but I’ve HEARD that...” which begs the argument:

Shouldn’t your opinion should be based on what YOU have actually experienced?!

Get out there and try something NEW! Do you want to create a quilt with a super puff? Get your hands on some wool batting and play with it! A little 20 inch table topper quilt should be more than sufficient to know whether that batting is going to do the job or not.

Are you looking for a batting that will shrink a bit to hide mistakes? Try a cotton or cotton/poly blend with a small amount of shrink. Give it a go with a SMALL project to see what this batting will do before investing a ton of money and time into a bigger project.

Too often I hear quilters complain “I’m trying out a new batting and I really hate it. It’s ruining my project completely.” and guess what they decided to test that batting out on? Inevitably it’s always a queen to king sized quilt.

That’s a really good way to ruin a quilt and hate your life for a LONG time with a batting that works in an unpredictable way.

When I say Test, I mean test and experiment with batting in a scientific way.

Make a list of all the things you want your batting to do. You might want it to:

\* Shrink slightly to hide mistakes.

- \* Not shrink at all to keep the quilt flat.
- \* Shrink a LOT so the quilt gets a pretty antique look.
- \* Drape softly so the quilt is soft and comfy when quilted.
- \* Remain stiffer so the quilt looks good on a wall.
- \* Very thin and low loft so the quilt is easy to manage in your machine.
- \* Super thick with a high loft so the finished quilt is big and puffy.
- \* Allow quilting up to 4 or 6 or 8 or 12 inches apart.

This is just a starting list of possible characteristics a batting can have. Sit down and think for a bit about what you want YOUR quilts to look and feel like when they're finished.

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## Wedding Dress Blue



Please stop by and check out my  
Quiltalongs and Tutorials.

<https://weddingdressblue.wordpress.com/>

When you shop for batting, look at the different packages, write down some names, then go home and Google the companies before buying. Learn more about different batting types from the company itself.

Hint: if the batting company doesn't even have a website, that's a good sign to go with another batting.

Of course, there's always a list of things we DON'T want batting to EVER do:

- \* Shift within the quilt – this creates ripples and lumps within the quilt you can feel when you run your hand over it.

- \* Beard – Just like guys wake up every morning with fuzz on their chin, terrible battings get out of the washer and are covered with fuzz on the back or front. The batting is literally leaking through the cotton fabric and once it starts, it usually doesn't stop.

- \* Smell – I know this sounds weird, but I once bought a batting that stank right out of the bag. I didn't want to risk a quilt that never lost that smell so that batting ended up in the trash.

When you invest in batting to test with, only purchase the smallest size. Many companies are now offering craft size, which is even smaller than crib size, and is a great size to start with.

Cut out a 20 – 24" section of the batting and either use plain fabric or piece together some orphan blocks to create a very small quilt top. Baste and quilt this mini test quilt the exact same way you will baste and quilt your regular quilts.

Finish the edges in some way quickly, then wash and dry the test quilt the same way you will treat your regular quilts.

Take note of what the batting is doing at every step of the game. Ask yourself questions:

Do you like the way the batting feels and acts in the machine? Is it too puffy / not puffy enough? Is the machine liking this material, or wanting to eat it?

Do you like the way the batting feels after washing? Is it draping nicely? Did it shrink as you desired? Is it showing any signs of bearding, shifting, or smelling?

Remember you don't have to go for gold with each of these little test quilts. It's a test, not a masterpiece, so don't spend an excessive amount of time on each project, otherwise you'll burn out before finding a good batting.

Is it really worth going to this much trouble to find a good batting? Absolutely!

It's no fun to waste money on batting that sucks.

But the only true way to know if something works for you is for YOU to try it. If it doesn't work, tear that batting up into tiny pieces and stuff a doll with it. That way it's not totally gone to waste and make a note of the brand and thickness in a notebook so your lesson will not be forgotten.

Above all, never share an opinion about a particular material unless you've actually experienced it yourself. There seems to be a lot of talking and hearing in the quilting world, but not a lot of experiencing!

Just please don't contribute to someone else's phobia of new materials. We now have awesome bamboo, silk, soy, recycled polyester, and wool battings that all deserve a chance right next to the traditional cotton batting.

That being said, once you've found what works and produces the effects you like, **STICK WITH IT!**



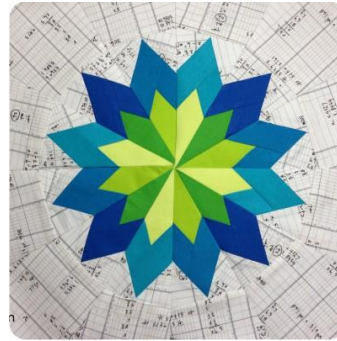
This is basically where I'm at with batting, thread, and needles. I've had my experimental phase and found what works. For me, Quilter's Dream is the perfect batting and I have no desire to play the field to find something else that also works. What's the point?!

That said, I am keen to try the polyester created from recycled drink bottles. That just sounds cool!

Time to go quilt!

Leah Day

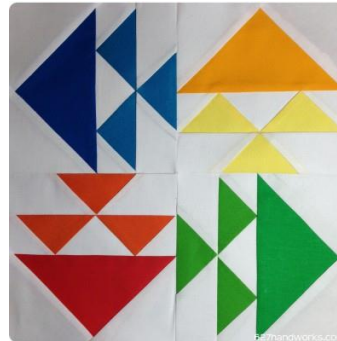
**About the Author:** Leah Day is the author of the [Free Motion Quilting Project](#), a blog project dedicated to creating new free motion quilting designs each week and sharing them all for FREE! Leah is also the author of From [Daisy to Paisley - 50 Beginner Free Motion Quilting Designs](#), a spiral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

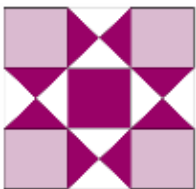


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## FREE Quilt Pattern Roundup!!!

(Check out what's available to make for FREE this Month!!)



Make a cute pieced Christmas Tree block!

Download the Free pattern at:

<http://shrs1.com/1bq4o>



Or sit and sew this lovely little stitchery design.

Download the Free pattern at:

<http://shrs1.com/1bq4q>



A

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## PROJECT – Scrappy Trees Table Topper

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



Tree 1



Tree 2



Tree 3



Tree 4

Grab your Christmassy coloured scraps and start playing around to make your very own improvised pieced Christmas trees. We made four different trees and joined them to make a sweet table topper, but you could make all manner of festive quilted projects with yours. Think about cushion covers, table runner and placemat set, wallhanging/s and so on.

The instructions given are to make a table topper similar to ours, but vary yours as you like, and alter your background fabric pieces to suit.



## You Will Need:

A mixture of fabric scraps in colours/patterns of your choice. We used a mixture of different green fabrics with a bright red to contrast. We used the same red to bind our little quilt, and a fat quarter was more than enough for everything.

Plainer fabric for the background. We used a white fabric with fine silver polkadot print. We used about 1½ metres/yards for the background and backing.

Batting measuring at least 23 x 23 inches

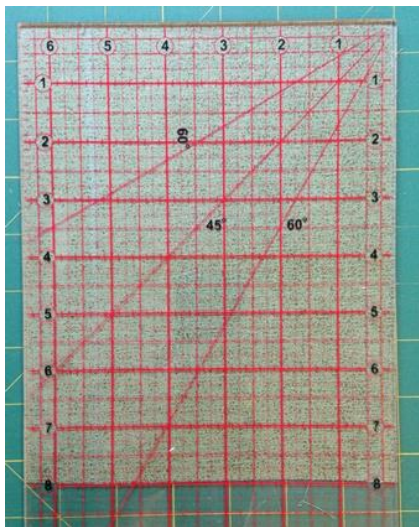
Our table topper measures approx. 22 x 22 inches.



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## Tree Number 1:



To start, we cut a rectangle of green fabric measuring  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8$  inches.

These measurements are all approximate, but will give you a guide to make finished blocks about  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  inches.



Cut an angled piece off the top corner as shown.



Cut a red strip one inch wide, and sew to insert it in the cut you just made.

Press well.



Make a second cut on the opposite angle.



Insert a second 1 inch strip and press well.



Make a third cut towards the bottom, angled as shown.



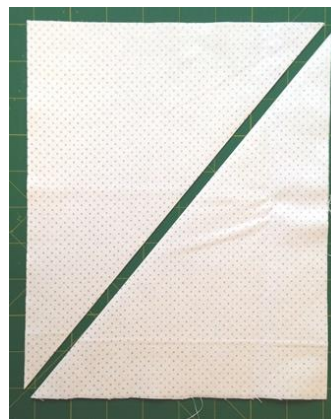
Insert a third strip and press well.



Cut a Christmas tree shape from your pieced panel. (Note – we just freehand cut each of our trees, but if you want standard sized trees, you may like to draw and cut out a tree template to use for each of your blocks.)



Your pieced Tree 1.



From the background fabric, cut a square/rectangle and cut in half diagonally as pictured. Our rectangle was about 8 x 10 inches.

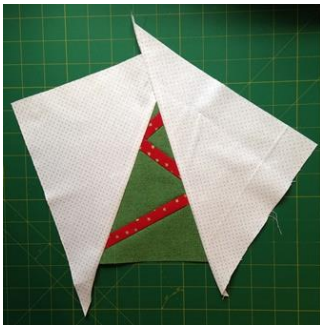




With right sides together, match the straight edges and sew one background fabric piece to one side of your tree.



Trim the top corner to give a long straight edge for the other side of the tree.



Sew the second background fabric piece to the other side of your tree and press well.



Checking that your tree is straight, trim to square up the bottom edge.



Add a strip of background fabric to the bottom edge as shown. We cut a strip about 2 inches wide.

Press well.



Finally, trim to square up your block.

Ours ended up measuring 6½ inches wide x 8½ inches high.



Your finished Tree Number 1.



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>

## Tree Number 2:



To make the second tree, start with a strip of one green fabric. The width of the strip doesn't matter – you just need to piece a block large enough to cut your tree from at the end, so add more strips if needed.



Make an angled cut on one bottom corner.



Cut a second (different) piece of fabric to match that angle.



Join the second piece to the first and press well.

Cut a different angle at the bottom edge, and cut another strip of fabric to match.



Join the third strip and press well.



Repeat to add a fourth strip of fabric.



Make sure that your pieced block is large enough to cut your tree shape from, and if not, add another strip or two as you need.





Either freehand cut or use your tree template, and cut a tree shape from your pieced block.



Your pieced Tree 2.



As before, cut a large rectangle from the background fabric and use to add to either side of your tree. Trim and add strips as needed.





Add background fabric pieces around all side of your tree and press well.



Trim to square up your tree block.



Your finished Tree Number 2.

### Tree Number 3:



The third tree is pieced from a selection of different strips pieced horizontally.

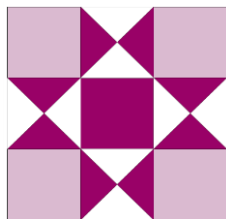


Arrange strips of different widths as you like, sew them together and press well.

Make sure your pieced block is large enough to cut your tree from.



Freehand cut or use your tree template to cut your tree shape from the pieced block.



Your Tree 3.



As for the other trees, cut and sew background fabric pieces around your tree shape.

Press well and square up for your finished Tree Number 3.

#### Tree Number 4:



The fourth tree is pieced in vertical strips.

Arrange a selection of different green fabric strips (in random widths) as you like.

Note – make sure the strips are long enough to cut your tree shape from.



Join the strips together and press well.



Make an angled cut as shown.



Cut a red strip one inch wide and insert between the cut pieces as shown.

Move the green pieces along slightly, so the fabrics don't match up exactly.

Press well.



Make a second cut lower down.



Insert a second red strip and press well.





Freehand cut or use your tree template to cut out the tree shape.



Your Tree 4.



Add the background pieces as before and press well before trimming to square up your block.

Your finished Tree Number 4.

Show Us What You've Made....

Email your quilt photos to  
[jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com](mailto:jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com) –  
we'd love to see them!!!

## Assembly:



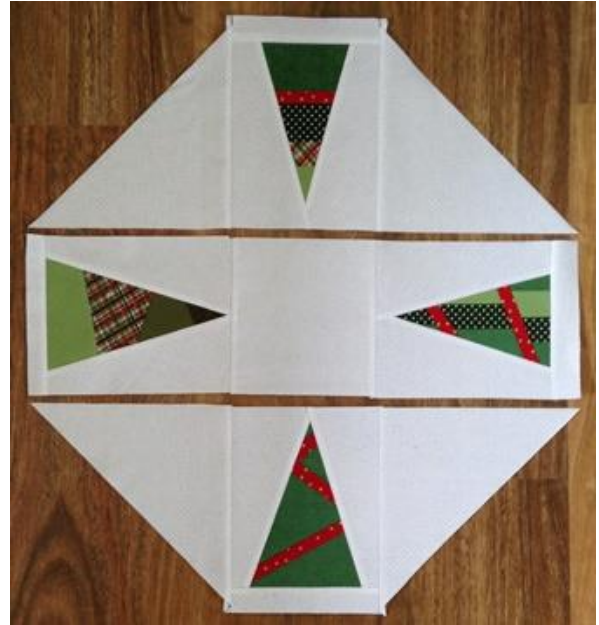
We arranged our four trees as pictured, to make an octagonal table topper.

Cut one square from your background fabric to match the width of your blocks – in our case it was 6½ inches square.

Cut two large squares with the side measurement equal to the length of your

block, plus a ½ inch. Our blocks were 8 ½ inches long, so we cut 9 inch squares.

Cut the squares in half once diagonally and arrange as pictured.



Sew together in rows and press seams in opposite directions between the rows.



Join the rows together and press well.



We used the small star template from our “Tannenbaum” quilt pattern to cut 4 red stars to fuse to the top of our trees as pictured.

### Quilting:

Place your backing fabric face down on a flat surface, then smooth the batting on top. Put your topper on top of that, centred and smoothed flat. Pin the layers together in preparation for quilting.

We chose to echo quilt around our trees, and we quilted just inside the star shapes to both quilt, and secure them at the same time. We quilted a simple stipple over the rest of the background, but you can quilt yours as you’d like.

### Finishing:

Cut sufficient 2¼ inch strips from the red fabric for your binding. Join your binding strips together with 45 degree seams. Press

the  $\frac{1}{4}$  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.



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## Hints and Tips From Brannie

By "Brannie" Mira-Bateman

Every now and then my Dad goes off after breakfast to what he calls the "community garden". I don't know what that is, but he usually comes back later tired and dirty and he brings home a bag of plants.

My Quilty-Mum says, "Oh, good. Carrots, spinach and potatoes. Lovely."

Then she puts them away.

Last time he brought back lots and lots of spinach. It went into a bucket in the laundry. He said he would give some to the neighbours.

It was still there when they went off for their early morning walks.

My Quilty-Mum was back first, so she noticed that I had been sick on the food room floor. "What's all this green stuff?" she asked as she cleaned it up. "Oh, no! Have you been eating spinach?"

I didn't answer. I didn't feel really good. She went and looked at the bucket of leaves. I had chewed and tasted nearly every leaf. Sort of created frilled edges on them all. I thought they looked quite good, but really they weren't tasty.

"How can I give them to the neighbours with little holes all round the edges?" she asked.

Not my problem, I thought. I don't know why they'd want any. They don't taste nice.

Later on my Quilty-Mum went to the sewing room to work on a quilt. She talks to me while I sit around snoozing and keeping an eye on her. She was muttering, "Now I need to sew with dark thread. I need to change the bobbin." (There's a new word "bobbin" I thought. I wonder what that is?)

Suddenly she let out a yelp and up jumped 'bobbin' out of her hands and on to the floor! I hit the floor at the same time. Bobbin jumped and spun, then rolled and twisted really quickly. I pounced, she yelled; all the time bobbin was running and jumping and trailing thread.

I hit it a few times to help it along. Great fun! Quilty-Mum was yelling, "No! Not around the chair! Not under the table!"

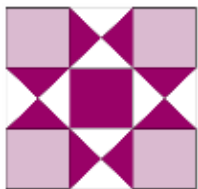
Eventually bobbin stopped and order was restored. She grabbed it and wound up all the thread, grumbling.

I'll have to sleep with one eye open in future in case bobbin escapes again. Next time that bobbin goes bob, bob, bobbin along, I'll be ready for it. I didn't know quilting could be so exciting.

### *Love Brannie,*

The Online Quilt Magazine Cat!





## PROJECT – “Autumn Sampler” Block of the Month Quilt – Month 4

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

This month you will piece the next three blocks on this quilt.



(A)



(B)



(C)

**You Will Need:**

4 metres (4 yards) finely patterned sand coloured fabric for the main background (A,B,C)

$\frac{1}{4}$  metre ( $\frac{1}{4}$  yard) mid blue fabric for pieced blocks (B)

$\frac{1}{2}$  metre ( $\frac{1}{2}$  yard) dark blue fabric for pieced blocks (A)

$\frac{1}{2}$  metre ( $\frac{1}{2}$  yard) light green fabric for pieced blocks (A)

$\frac{1}{2}$  metre ( $\frac{1}{2}$  yard) a darker green fabric for pieced blocks (A)

$\frac{3}{4}$  metre ( $\frac{3}{4}$  yard) pale lemon fabric for pieced blocks (B,C)

$\frac{1}{2}$  metre ( $\frac{1}{2}$  yard) maroon fabric for pieced blocks (A,C)

$\frac{1}{2}$  metre ( $\frac{1}{2}$  yard) dark grape fabric for pieced blocks (C)

$\frac{1}{2}$  metre ( $\frac{1}{2}$  yard) lavender purple fabric for pieced blocks (B)

**Pieced Blocks:**

For each block, refer to the following block cutting guides. Cut the required number of pieces and assemble as shown in the top diagram.

Press seams well. Each block should measure  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches when finished. Put aside for Month 9 when you assemble your quilt.

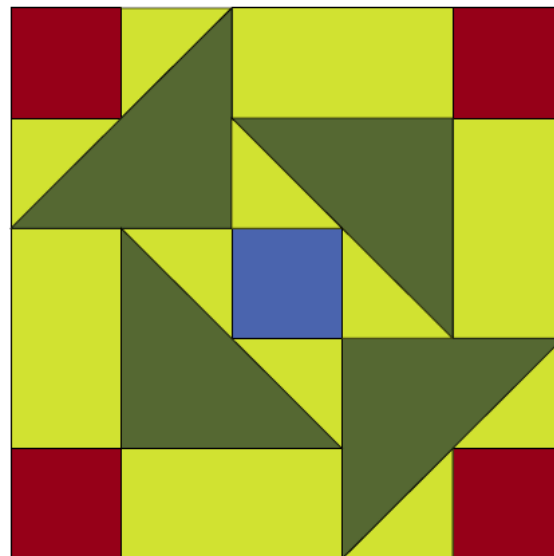
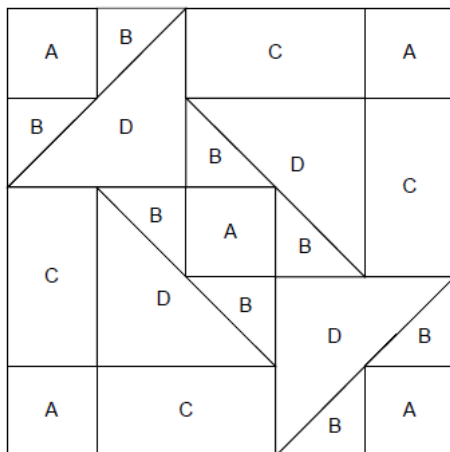
Next Month, you will make a further set of three sampler blocks in this quilt.



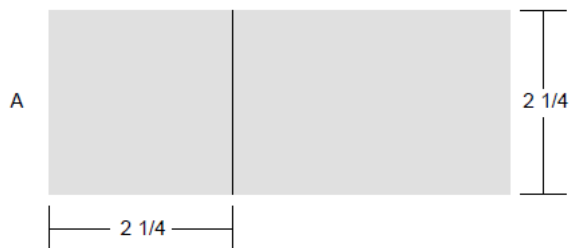


## Grandmother's Puzzle

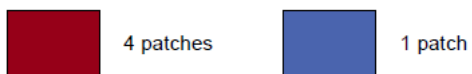
Key Block (27/100 actual size)



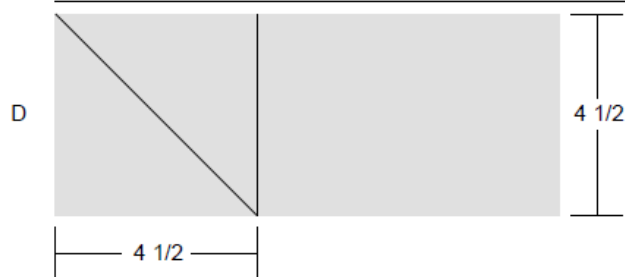
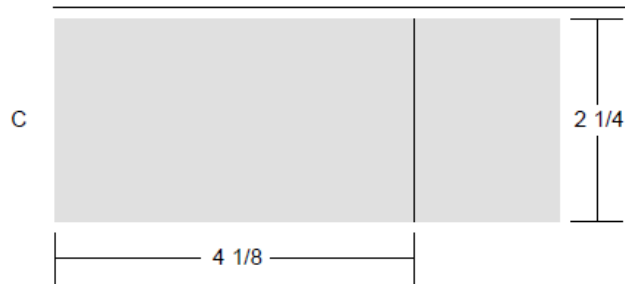
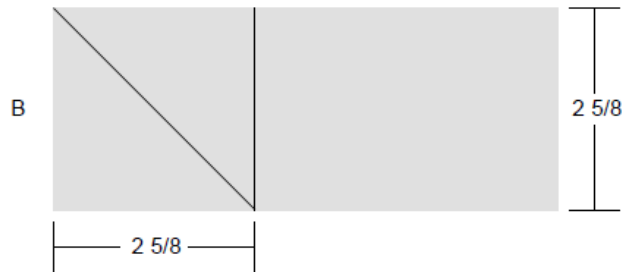
Cutting Diagrams



Patch Count

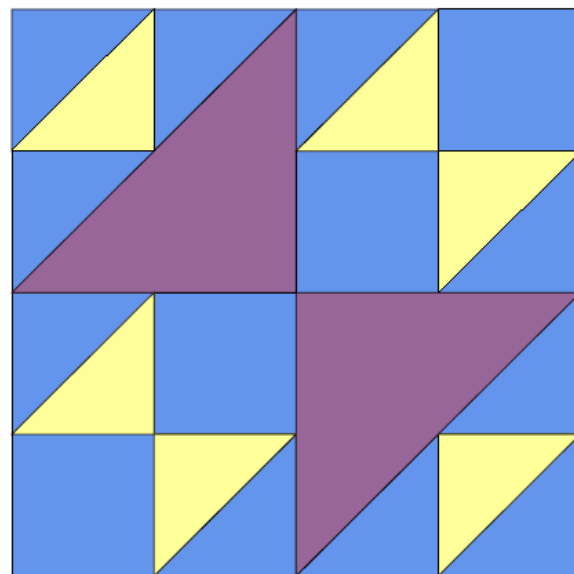
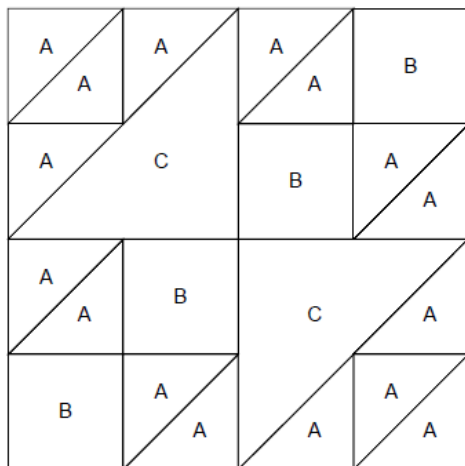


(A)Grandmother's Puzzle Block cont.

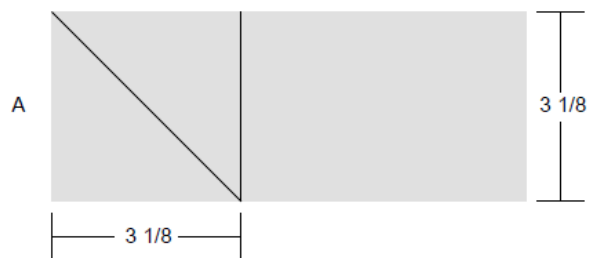


## Old Maid's Puzzle

Key Block (27/100 actual size)



Cutting Diagrams



Patch Count

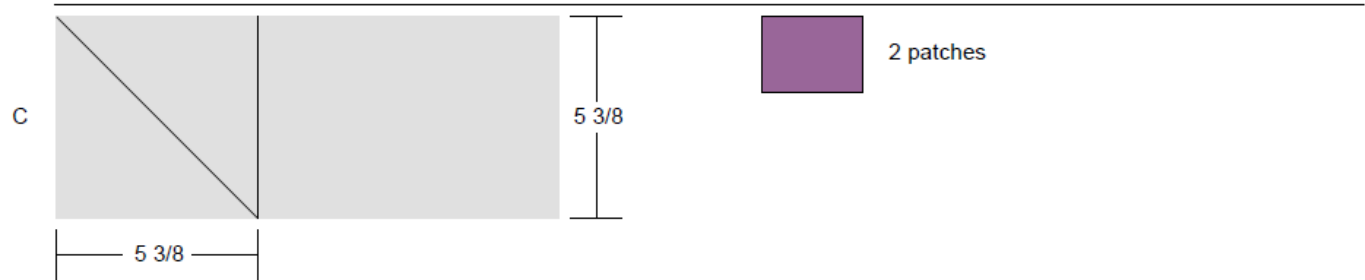
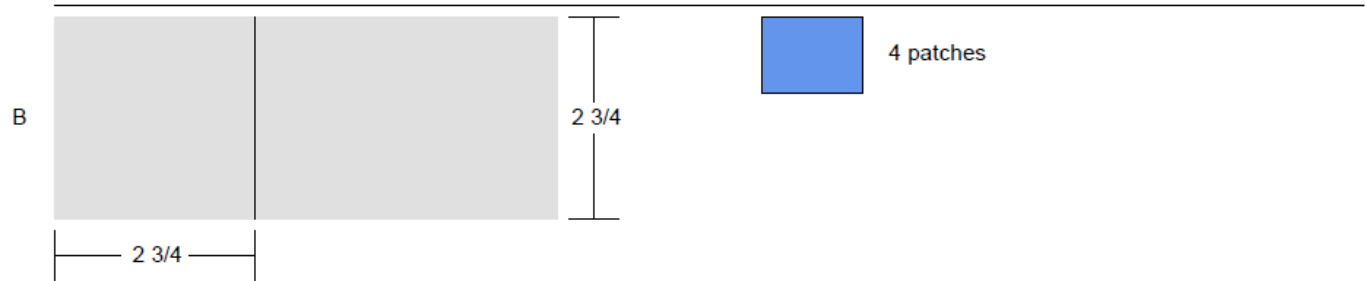


10 patches



6 patches

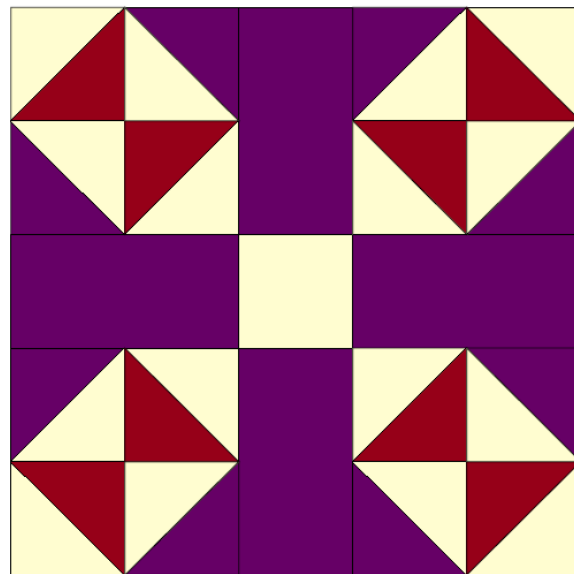
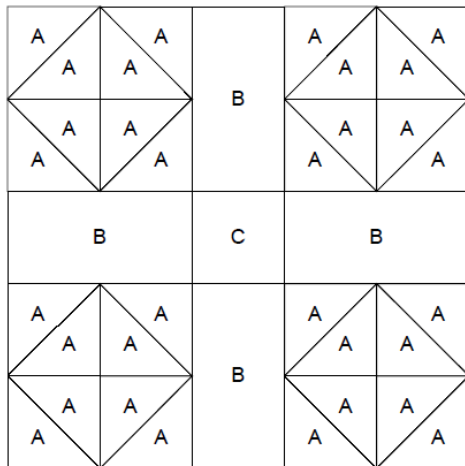
(B) Old Maid's Puzzle Block cont.



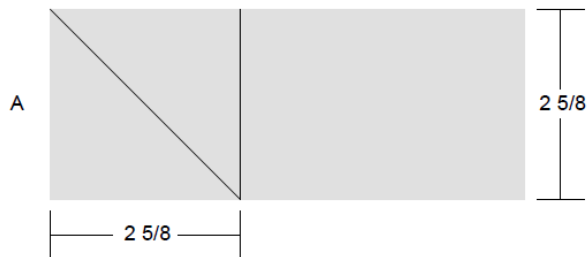


## Red Cross

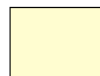
Key Block (27/100 actual size)



### Cutting Diagrams



### Patch Count



16 patches

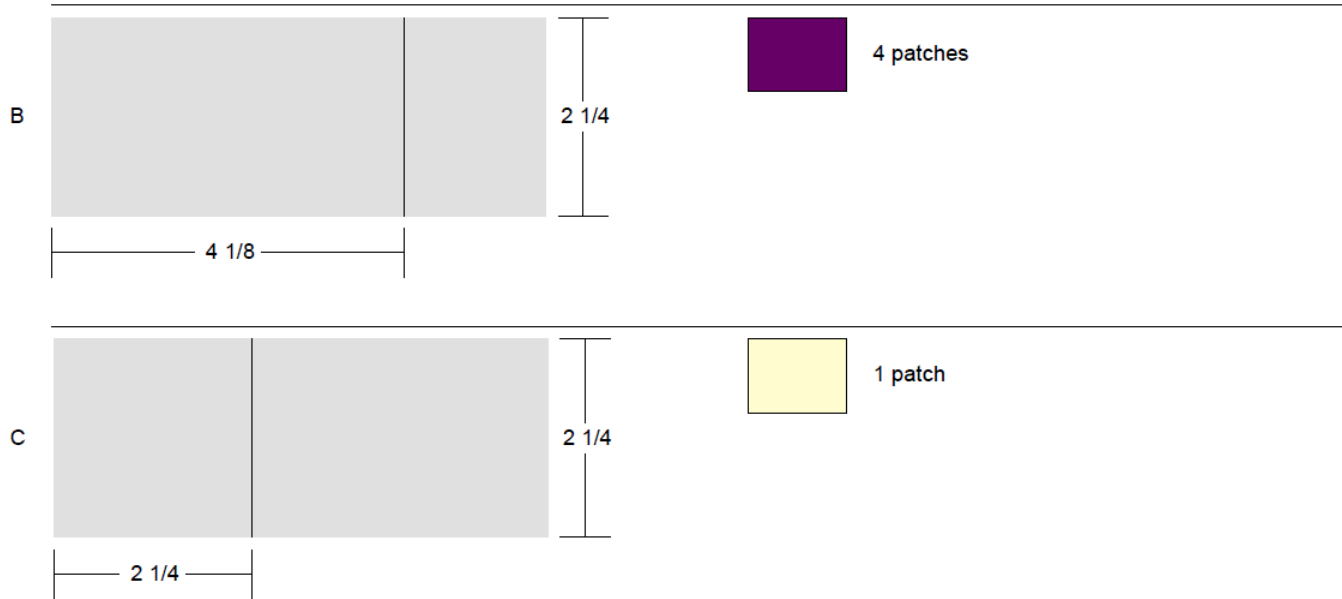


8 patches



8 patches

## (C) Red Cross Block cont.



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!



## 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".



**Circa 1800 Essentials Fat Quarter Bundle  
Pam Buda for Marcus Brothers Fabrics**

Pam Buda brings her passion for early American quilts to this range of 19th century reproduction prints. Think of the possibilities you'll have!

Oh, to sew a quilt based on a real 1800's quilt pattern from these fabrics, wouldn't that be something?! The collection is available in all precuts and yardage.

View this Collection at:

<https://www.fatquartershop.com/marcus-brothers/circa-1800-essentials-pam-buda-marcus-brothers>



### **Amberley by Brenda Riddle for Moda Fabrics**

This collection is the epitome of floral elegance! Pastels, gray and a burst of rose color evoke a springtime garden. Timeless designs like florals, toile, gingham and dots make this collection an instant classic.

Amberley is available in all precuts, several coordinating patterns and quilt kit Courtly Graces.

See more at:

<https://www.fatquartershop.com/moda-fabric/amberley-brenda-riddle-moda-fabric>

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### **Mrs. Miller's Apprentice by Pam Buda for Marcus Brothers Fabrics**



Indigo blue and light quilts were so very popular in the 19th century and are still a classic today! Pam Buda's own collection inspired her to create a Block of the Month program built around it.

Mrs. Miller's Apprentice is based on the diary entries of Mrs. Miller and her young protégé neighbor, Ellie. Recreate the blocks they stitched, for what's sure to be a treasured quilt in your collection.

The collection is available in all precuts, yardage, and Mrs. Miller's Apprentice Block of the Month club (starts January 2019).

Details at:

<https://www.fatquartershop.com/marcus-brothers/mrs-millers-apprentice-pam-buda-marcus-brothers>

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### Urban Cottage by Urban Chiks for Moda Fabrics

Simple modern farmhouse at its finest! Amp up the volume with black and white prints. Big polka dots, florals, and fun sayings make this modern collection sing. The collection is available in all precuts, several coordinating patterns, home and kitchen accessories, and quilt kit Farmhouse Star.

Check it out at:

<https://www.fatquartershop.com/moda-fabric/urban-cottage-urban-chiks-moda-fabric>



## PROJECT – Christmas Weekender

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



With the  
Holiday Season  
upon us, what  
better time to  
make a smart  
and practical  
bag for a  
weekend away?

This oversize weekender bag is quite simple and quick to make, and features a zippered top, and padded handles for over-the-shoulder comfort. Bag Dimensions are 13½ inches wide at the base x 15 inches high and 7 inches deep.

### **You Will Need:**

$\frac{3}{4}$  metre (  $\frac{3}{4}$  yards) fabric for bag outer (A slightly heavier weight fabric may be better – we used a cotton canvas)

1 metre (  $1\frac{1}{4}$  yards) fabric for lining

$1\frac{1}{2}$  metres ( $1\frac{3}{4}$  yards) medium-weight fusible interfacing

1 metre (1 yard) light-weight fusible pellon

1 x 25 inch length chunky zip

Piece heavy template plastic measuring 7 inches x  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches (If you have no heavy plastic, use 2 layers of the thinner one for a stronger base)

### **Bag Construction:**

Please read all instructions fully before beginning. All measurements are in inches,

and unless stated otherwise, a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance has been used.

Referring to the attached Cutting Guide, carefully cut the required bag pieces from the bag fabrics, interfacing and pellon as required. Fuse the interfacing and pellon to the wrong side of the bag outer pieces as indicated in the Cutting Guide. The lining is just interfaced.

### **Handles:**

First, make the two handles. Fuse the pellon strips down the centre of each handle, on top of the interfacing. Use your iron to fold up and press the seam allowances down the length of each strip.

Fold in half lengthways with wrong sides together, pin and topstitch to secure. Also topstitch down the length of the strip on the

other side, to finish. Repeat for the second handle.



Position one handle on each of the bag outer sides as shown.

Align the raw edges with the bottom of the panel, and each end of the handle should be 5½ inches in from the outer edge.

Pin in place. Measure down 6 inches from the top edge of the bag panel and mark that point on each handle side.

Starting at the bottom, topstitch up the length of the handle to that marked 6 inch point, sew across the width of the handle and back down the other side. Sew the other side of the handle in the same way, and repeat for the other bag outer side with the second handle.

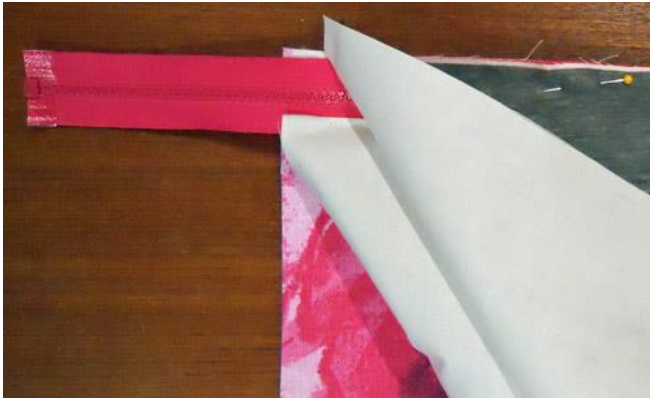
### **Assembly:**

Now insert the zip at the top. This zip also joins the lining and bag outer panels together as well.

As shown below, lay one bag outer panel face up on a flat surface. Place the zip at the top,



facing downwards, and align top raw edges. Put a lining panel on top of that with right side down. Make sure the zipper pull end of the zip (when zip is closed) is aligned with the side raw edges, and the other end will extend out past the end of the bag.



Using your zipper foot, sew in the zip, between the bag layers. Open out and topstitch along that seam to secure all layers neatly away from the zip. Note – start and stop your rows of stitching about a ½ inch from each edge, as you still need to sew the side seams of the bag.

Repeat for the remaining side of the zip as shown above. Open out and topstitch along this seam too.

Open the zip at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the length of the bag. Open out the bag panels so that the zip is in the middle, with the bag lining panels (right sides together) at the top and the bag outer panels (right sides together) are at the bottom.

Pin the bag outer panels together, matching the handle ends at the bottom edge. Sew down the sides and across the bottom.

To make the bag base, pinch together the bottom corners – align the side seam on top of the bottom seam, mark down  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the sewn corner point and sew across that line at right angles to the other seams. Repeat for the other corner.

Next, make a sleeve from the template plastic cover panel. With right sides together, fold

the panel in half around the piece of template plastic. Pin so it fits snugly, then remove the plastic and sew together. Turn the tube right sides out. Round the corners of the template plastic and slide it into the fabric cover.



(Note – photo from a different bag)

As shown in this example, pin and sew the cover to the folded bag base.

With the seam facing towards the bottom of the bag, pin one end of the template plastic tube to one of the sewn triangle ends at the base.

Sew on the same seam you made to form the base, and join the covered template plastic slip to the bag.

Make sure the base is firmly pulled to fit the bag base, and repeat with the other end.

Trim away the excess fabric at each end once that's done.

### **Lining:**

With the bags still both inside out, now sew the lining bag together in exactly the same way.

Pin and sew down both sides and across the bottom – making sure to leave most of the middle of the bottom seam open to turn the bags through later.

Fold the base, measure, mark and sew each side to form the base exactly as you did for the bag outer.

Carefully turn the bag right sides out through the hole left in the lining bottom. Tuck in the seam allowances on the gap and pin and topstitch closed. Push the lining into the bag outer to finish.

(Note – you may find a small gap under where the end of the zip extends past the end of the bag, where you couldn't sew right to the top. If this is the case, simply tuck in the seam allowances and topstitch to finish.)

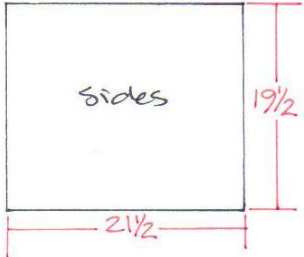
Finally, fold the zip tab in half over the end of the zip. (You may find this easier if you first press the seam allowances.) Tuck in the top allowances and topstitch around all four sides to finish.

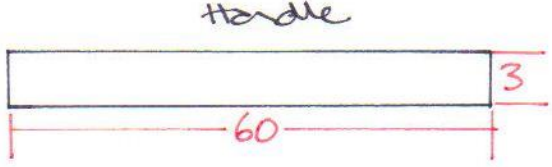
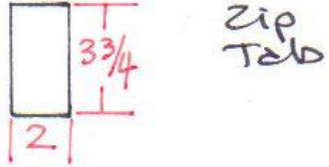
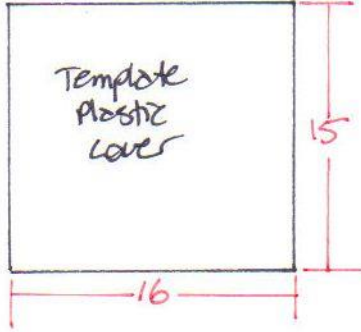
Now, get packing and you're away!

## Christmas Weekender Cutting Guide

Cut the required number of each piece according to the measurements on each diagram.

\* Please note – all measurements are in inches.

 <p>A diagram of a rectangular piece of fabric. The word "Sides" is written in the center. The width is labeled as 2 1/2 inches and the height is labeled as 19 1/2 inches. Red dimension lines and arrows indicate the measurements.</p>	<p>Cut 2 outer fabric</p> <p>Cut 2 lining fabric</p> <p>Cut 2 pella</p> <p>Cut 4 medium-weight interfacing</p>
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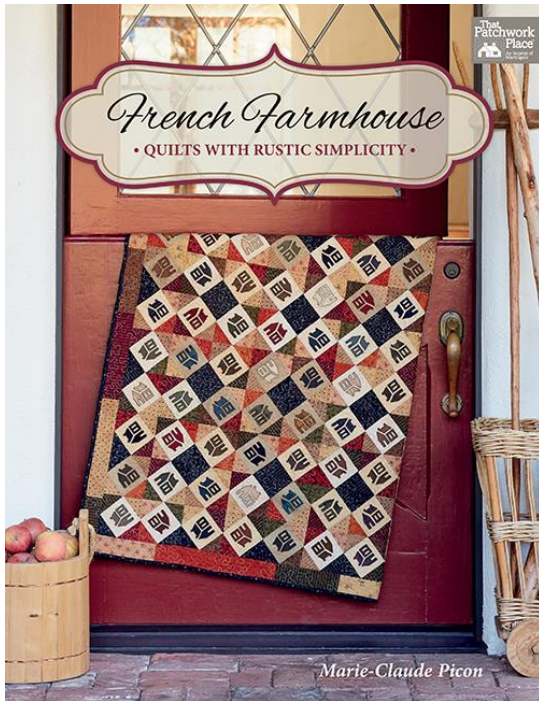
 <p>Handle</p> <p>60</p> <p>3</p>	<p>Cut 2 outer fabric</p> <p>Cut 2 pellon (2½ inches wide)</p> <p>Cut 2 medium-weight interfacing</p>
 <p>Zip Tab</p> <p>3 3/4</p> <p>2</p>	<p>Cut 1 outer fabric</p>
 <p>Template Plastic Cover</p> <p>16</p> <p>15</p>	<p>Cut 1 lining fabric</p>





## Book Reviews

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



**“French Farmhouse – Quilts With Rustic Simplicity” By Marie-Claude Picon**

Designer Marie-Claude Picon is from the South of France. These 10 projects have combined stitchery, prints and textures to create lovely quilts with a farmhouse feel.

You'll be able to say "Bienvenue a la Maison" if you make some of these quilts for your home. The French look is created with certain combinations of prints - tickings, squares, florals and dots in colours like greys, taupes and tans.

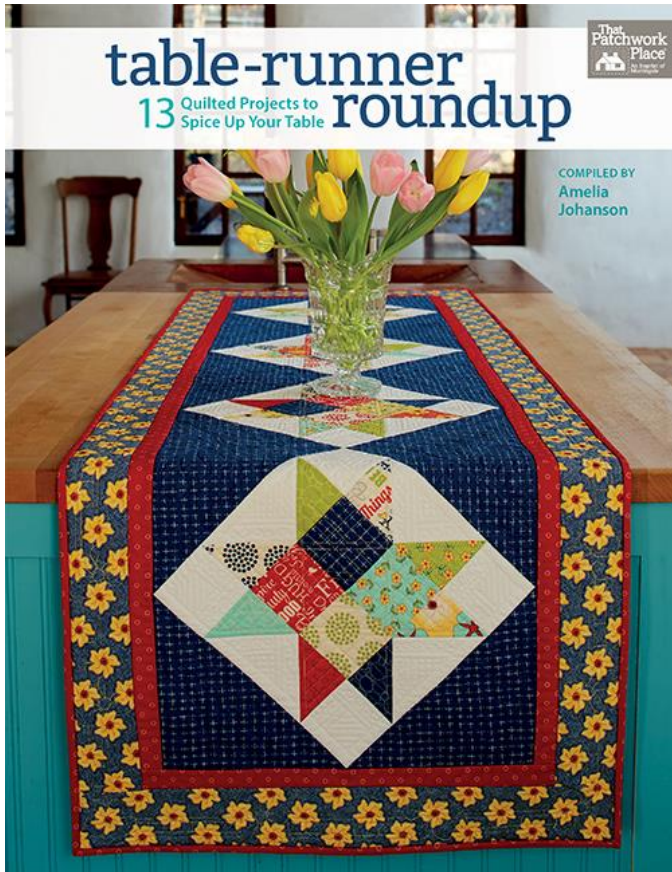
Marie-Claude has also incorporated woollen appliques and primitive stitchery into her designs. To create a rustic look, tone down the colours, say, tans and taupes rather than reds and whites.

Appliqueing woollen stars on top of pieced quilts can add movement and texture.

Beginners or advanced quilters will enjoy making these pretty designs, from simple 9-patches and strips to more challenging stars.

"French Farmhouse" by Marie-Claude Picon is available from your local craft book shop or online from: [www.ShopMartingale.com](http://www.ShopMartingale.com).





**“Table-Runner Roundup – 13 Projects to Spice Up Your Table”**

This collection has been compiled by Amelia Johanson and you could really spice up your whole house with these versatile table-runner projects.

They could also be used on side tables or dressers or even as wall hangings.

They are bright and cheery with colour combinations to delight, in modern or traditional designs. Simple or complex, combining piecing and applique, all these works will use up scraps if you wish.

Smaller projects are often fun for a change and you'll certainly find inspiration in this book. The 10 different designers showcased here have produced a wide range of styles and ideas.

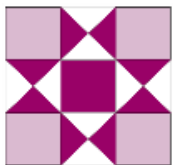
You'll love the detachable hexagons with which you have an option of place mats or a table runner.



"Embellish a vanity, dress up a dresser or display a runner ... on a wall space." There is a feast of ideas in this book - "don't be surprised if you're suddenly hit with a desire to perk up all your unadorned surfaces."

"Table-Runner Roundup" is available from your local craft book shop or online from:  
[www.ShopMartingale.com](http://www.ShopMartingale.com) .





## Recipe Corner – Christmas Pudding Icecream



250g / 1/2lb butter

1 kg / 2.2lb mixed dried fruit

200g/7oz glace cherries

4 tbsp brown sugar

1 cup milk

1 tsp bicarbonate soda

1/2 cup brandy

200g / 7oz walnuts, chopped

4L / 140oz good quality ice cream

1 bottle of Ice Magic (hard chocolate ice cream topping)

Set aside a few cherries to top the puddings with.

In a large pot, melt the butter and add the brown sugar, fruit, cherries and milk. Bring to the boil and add the bicarbonate soda. Simmer for 5 minutes until the fruit is all puffed up. Stir in the brandy and walnuts.



Stir through the ice cream while the mix is warm.

Line two pudding bowls with cling wrap and pour the ice cream mix into both bowls. Cover with cling film and freeze for 12 hours.

When ready to serve, pour over Ice Magic and add glace cherries to the top.

Makes two puddings.

#### Notes

Use large noodle bowls to form these "puddings".

You can make mini-puddings by using a muffin tin lined with cling wrap.

If you make them for your children you can just omit the walnuts and brandy for a G rated version.

(This recipe was created by Jennifer Cheung for Kidspot)

# MY QUILTING LIFE

*Exploits of a Quilty Cat*

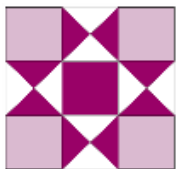


By Brannie,  
with Annette Mira-Bateman

## Brannie's 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://www.createspace.com/5561384>  
to order your copy today.



## Reader “Show and Tell”

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

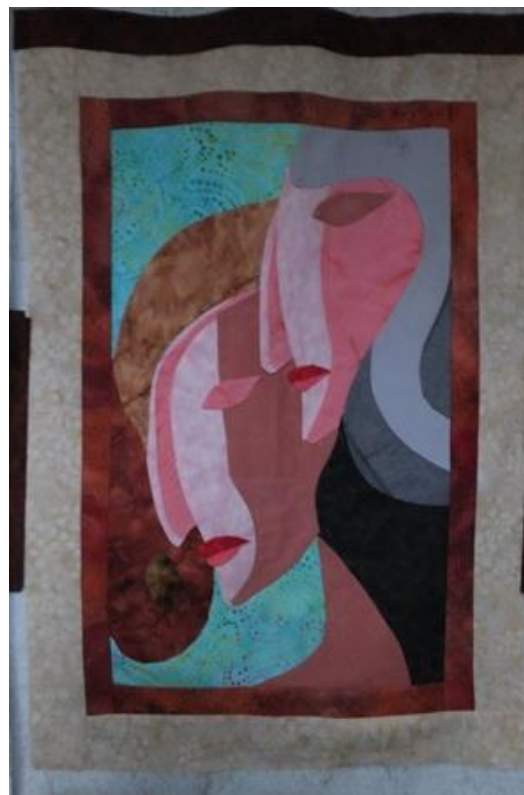
We will include them as long as you can send them to us, and that way we can all share in the wealth of creativity and inspiration abundant within our quilting community.

**We love seeing what you’ve made! Please 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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*“Modern Figures”*

- Jacqueline B., Belgium



*"I've attached my quilt for 2018 – a memory quilt for the pilgrimage we undertook to Israel in Nov 2017. It was an awesome tour, seeing wonderful places, meeting fantastic people. I used photos taken on the trip to create the appliqued, thread sketched panels – each of a site on the tour that had specific meaning to me. I also attached a story-panel to the back of each block, with a short description. The layout of the quilt is based on a wooden door we saw at Station VI on the Via Dolorosa in the Old City in Jerusalem, and the border shows some of the 7 Fruits of Israel."*

*- Yvette De J., South Africa*



*"...my latest work."*

*- Daphne W., Australia*

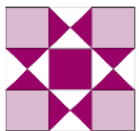




*"...the small quilts that I've recently completed."*

*- Valerie D., Australia*





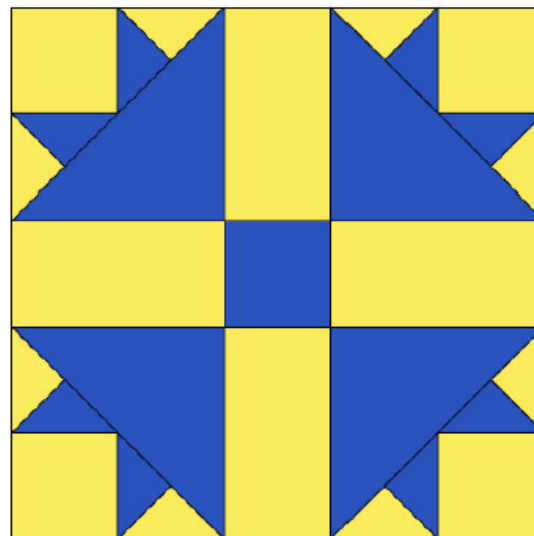
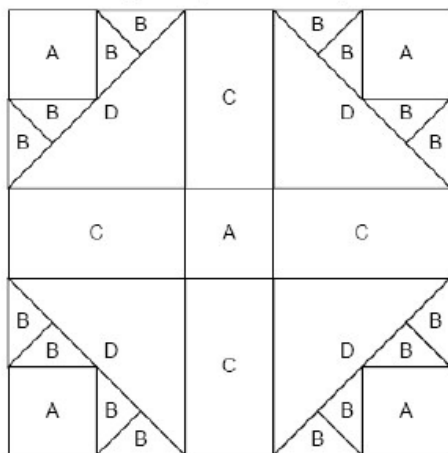
## Block of the Month

This month's block is a striking pieced block called the Cross and Crown. There are some great layout designs for this block to get different effects in your quilts.

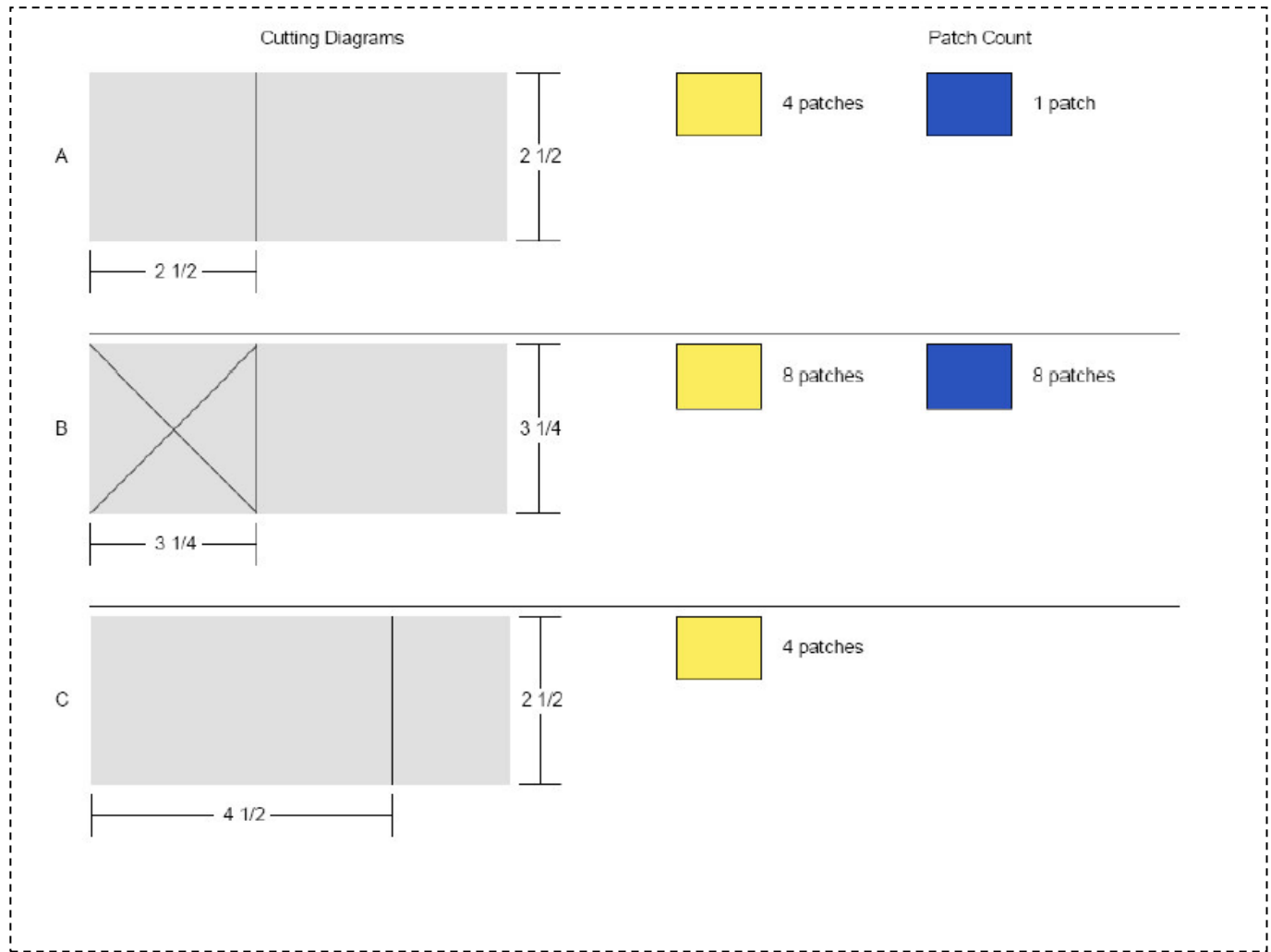
To make this 10 inch block as shown, you will need 2 different fabrics, and once you have rotary cut the pieces according to the Cutting Diagram, you can piece them together as shown.

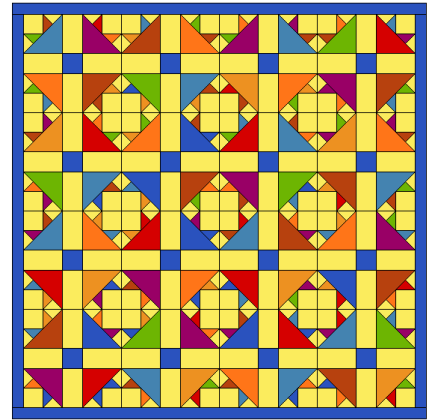
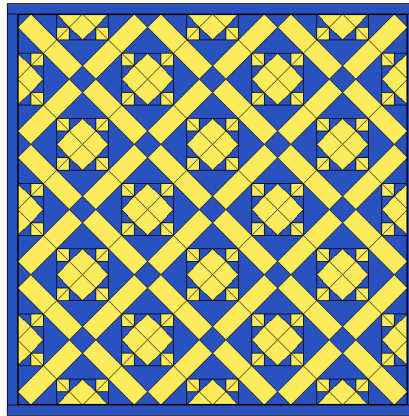
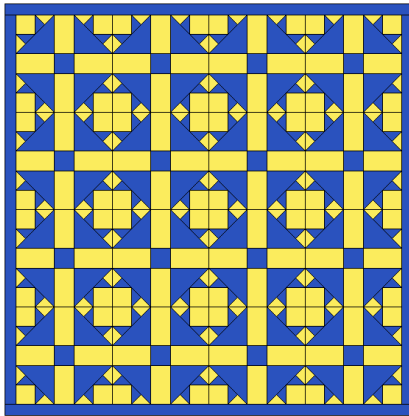
### Cross and Crown

Key Block (5/20 actual size)









Try horizontally, or on point, or even as a scrap quilt for a great effect!

## Today's Tips:

No tips today, but a fun Christmas Poem to share...

'Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck...  
How to live in a world that's politically correct?  
His workers no longer would answer to "Elves".  
"Vertically Challenged" they were calling themselves.  
And labour conditions at the North Pole  
were alleged by the union to stifle the soul.

Four reindeer had vanished, without much propriety,  
Released to the wilds by the Humane Society.  
And equal employment had made it quite clear  
That Santa had better not use just reindeer.  
So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid  
Were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know that looked stupid!

The runners had been removed from his sleigh;  
The ruts were termed dangerous by the E.P.A.

And people had started to call for the cops  
When they heard sled noises on their rooftops.  
Second-hand smoke from his pipe had his workers  
quite frightened.  
His fur trimmed red suit was called "Unenlightened."

And to show you the strangeness of life's ebbs and flows,  
Rudolf was suing over unauthorised use of his nose  
And had gone on Geraldo, in front of the nation,  
Demanding millions in over-due compensation.  
So, half of the reindeer were gone; and his wife,  
Who suddenly said she'd enough of this life,

Joined a self-help group, packed, and left in a whiz,  
Demanding from now on her title was Ms.  
And as for the gifts, why, he'd never had a notion  
That making a choice could cause so much commotion.  
Nothing of leather, nothing of fur,  
Which meant nothing for him. And nothing for her.

Nothing that might be construed to pollute.  
Nothing to aim, Nothing to shoot.  
Nothing that clamoured or made lots of noise.

Nothing for just girls, or just for the boys.  
Nothing that claimed to be gender specific.  
Nothing that's warlike or non-pacifistic.

No candy or sweets...they were bad for the tooth.  
Nothing that seemed to embellish a truth.  
And fairy tales, while not yet forbidden,  
Were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden.  
For they raised the hackles of those psychological  
Who claimed the only good gift was one ecological.

No baseball, no football...someone could get hurt;  
Besides, playing sports exposed kids to dirt.  
Dolls were said to be sexist, and should be passe;  
And Nintendo would rot your entire brain away.  
So Santa just stood there, dishevelled, perplexed;  
He just could not figure out what to do next.

He tried to be merry, tried to be gay,  
But you've got to be careful with that word today.  
His sack was quite empty, limp to the ground;  
Nothing fully acceptable was to be found.  
Something special was needed, a gift that he might  
Give to all without angering the left or the right.

A gift that would satisfy, with no indecision,  
Each group of people, every religion;  
Every ethnicity, every hue,  
Everyone, everywhere...even you.  
So here is that gift, it's price beyond worth...  
May you and your loved ones, enjoy peace on Earth.

Author Anonymous



**Check out the HUGE range of [classes](#),  
[kits and fabrics](#)!!!**

## 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)

### " Christmassy Quotes..."

- \* It's all fun and games till Santa checks the Naughty List.
- \* I'm dreaming of a White Christmas, but if it runs out I'll drink the red.
- \* When you stop believing in Santa you get underwear.
- \* Don't get your tinsel in a Tangle.

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