

Mystery Quilt - 2010

What is a Mystery Quilt? Mystery Quilts are step by step quilt projects that community members can participate in all at the same time. What makes it a mystery is that you won't know what the quilt looks like until it is all done! Mystery Quilts are fun and easy quilts to make and a great way to use up your stash. At the end of each project, you can post pictures of your finished quilts and see how everyone else's turned out.

From the October Newsletter:

Mystery Quilt to begin January 2010

The Burger QUEEN Quilt--Have It Your Way

I have gotten permission to share this mystery quilt with the guild by it's creator, Connie Regner. This mystery was done on a Yahoo Group called "Stashbusters". -Peggy

In the spirit of having it your way, you get to choose the fabric, the block and the layout.

Choosing Your Block

It must be a "9 Patch" type block that can be made in sizes that are multiples of 3 (3, 6, 9, 12). You will be using the same block for your entire quilt.

Choose a block that you know you can comfortably make 3" blocks.

Examples of appropriate blocks are:

Cat's Cradle

Churn Dash (2 color)

Double X

Maple Leaf

Ohio Star (2 color)

Shoo-Fly (2 color)

Swamp Angel (2 color)

9 Patch

Friendship Star

Greek Square

Greek Cross

Stay away from blocks that have flying geese elements unless you enjoy making very tiny geese.

If you choose to do a 9 Patch:

be sure you are making a “positive” 9 patch; that is, the four corner and the middle patches are your focus fabric. The opposite is called a “negative” 9 Patch and is not appropriate for this quilt. Next month-fabric.

From the November Newsletter:

Choosing Fabric

You will need the following—Non-Scrappy

3 yards of background fabric (blocks, inner border, binding) must be nondirectional

3 yards of focus fabric (blocks, border)

Scrappy Only

3 yards background (blocks, inner border) must be nondirectional.

If you do not want a scrappy border you will need 1 yard of border fabric.

Focus can be scrappy as long as there is high contrast between focus and background. You will need scraps as large as 5" square for some blocks. The background fabric cannot be scrappy—you want your blocks to “float”.

Medium scale prints work best for the focus fabric. Large prints will be lost in the small blocks and very small prints will be boring in the large blocks. When you pick your focus fabric try to imagine what it would look like in a 4" square and what it would look like in a 1" square.

Don't choose a boring background. The focus fabric and background fabric should have a definite contrast; you don't want the focus to disappear into the background.

A note on yardage; since everyone gets to choose their own block and each block has a different ratio of focus to background fabric I had to make an arbitrary decision on yardage. 3 yards of each fabric is plenty to complete the quilt. Depending on which block you choose, each of you will have different amounts left over.

From the December Newsletter:

Preliminary Cutting

Most of the cutting is done as you make your blocks but some preliminary cutting must be done before you begin your blocks to insure you are using the fabric frugally. Cutting instructions assume 42" usable WOF.

Background Cutting (Scrappy & Non-Scrappy)

From the background cut 4-3.5" strips. Sub-cut into 12-3.5 x 3.5 squares. Label these “A” and set aside someplace you will remember ;) Sub-cut the remainder into 14-3.5 x 6.5 rectangles. Label these “B” and put them wherever you put “A”. Reserve the remainder of the strip for the blocks.

From the background cut 5-2.5" strips, label them “inner border” and put aside.

That's all the background cutting.

Focus Fabric Cutting—Non-Scrappy

Cut 5- 6.5 " strips. Label them “border” and put aside.

Focus Fabric Cutting--Scrappy

There is no preliminary cutting if you are making the scrappy version. If you don't want a scrappy outer border then you will need to cut 5-6.5" strips from your border fabric. There will be no instructions for a scrappy border. You can create one of your own when the time comes.

Binding

There are no cutting instructions for binding. You may wish to make them from the focus fabric or the background. If you are sure which fabric you want to use then you can cut binding strips whatever width you normally use. Cut 7 strips x WOF.

Ready or not here we go!

Mystery Quilt--Month 1--Blocks

This week you start making the blocks. Since each of you has chosen a different block I can't give you specific cutting directions, just some guidelines. Cut and sew as accurately as you possibly can. It is important that your blocks come out to the size(s) indicated. This will make your quilt go together very smoothly when it is

From the January Newsletter:

Month 2 Make 13 -6"(6.5" unfinished) blocks.