



Online Quilt Magazine.com

**PROJECT –
Pieced
Tulip
Placemats**

**Recipe Corner
Old Fashioned
Hot Cross
Buns**

**4,5 and 9-
Patch
Blocks
Explained**

**Make The
Rolling Squares
Block**

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Cover – “Pieced Tulip Placemats”



Letter from the Editor

Jody Anderson

Hi!

You've got to love April! It's always feels like a month of change – half the world is embracing spring (and the other half is cooling down!) and kids are on school holidays (yes, again) to change up my working days... And best of all, I can finally stop resisting the lure of Hot Cross Buns. I've been holding out since they first appeared in the shops in January (!), but I figure with Easter only a couple of weeks away, that now is the time to indulge. Speaking of which – what's not to love about the fact that for this month, I need no justification at all for eating lots of chocolate!!! Helps the creative process they say...

As usual, we've got a jam-packed bumper issue for you this month too. You can make our featured Pieced Tulip Placemats, and a take a look at 4, 5 and 9 –patch blocks explained, by Penny.

There's plenty of hints and tips, and some 'how to's', new fabrics and more. Oh yes – there's also a recipe for Old Fashioned Hot Cross Buns if you're inclined to make your own too!

Happy Easter, and Have a Great Month!

Jody

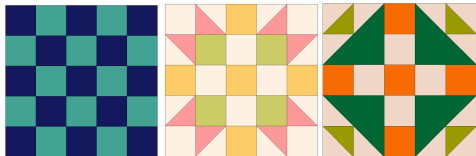


4,5, and 9 Patch Blocks Explained

By Penny Halgren from www.How-To-Quilt.com

You've no doubt heard quilt blocks being labelled as 4 patch, 9 patch, or maybe even 5 patch blocks. But, what does that mean, and why should it matter - after all we just want to sew the pieces together, don't we?

It's easy to tell which is which in some blocks - 5 patch blocks usually are divided into 5 squares across and 5 squares up and down, for a total of 25 patches.

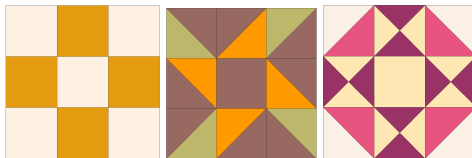


It gets a little complicated when each patch is made up of half-square triangles or quarter

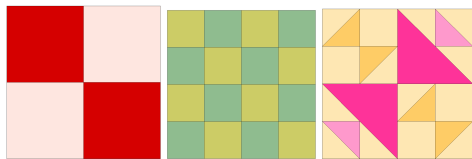
square triangles, or any other shapes. But 5 by 5 is the basic division.

Things change a little when you look at a 9 patch or a 4 patch quilt block.

Nine patch blocks start out by having 3 patches across and 3 patches up and down, for a total of 9 patches in the block.



Four patch blocks start out with 2 patches across and 2 patches up and down - for a total of 4 patches in the block.



But, you say - you've seen 4 patch blocks with 4 patches across and 4 patches up and down.

And that's what happens. You start out with the basic grid (2x2, 3x3, 5x5, or something else) and then each patch can be divided into its own little grid.

Each patch in the 4 patch gets divided into a 2x2 grid, resulting in 4 patches by 4 patches, making 16 patches in the block. And all blocks follow along.

But, really, what difference should it make?

For years, I just merrily sewed my quilt blocks together, making the patches and sometimes noticing whether it was a 4 patch, 5 patch or 9 patch. But I really didn't pay much attention.



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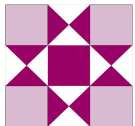
Then when I started using a quilt design software program, the difference became apparent, and I started to pay attention. It's nice to be able to cut patches using somewhat normal measurements - 1 inch, 1/2 inch, 1/4 inch, etc.

When you make a 9 patch quilt block into an 8 inch block, and you have 3 patches across and 3 patches up and down, each of your patches would be 2 2/3 inches square (plus seam allowances). Those 1/3 or 2/3 measurements aren't marked on any ruler I have, and it just seems inconvenient (at the least) to work with those numbers.

Why not just make the 9 patch blocks a size that can be easily divided by 3 or 9 - like 9 inches? And the 4 patch blocks into a size divisible by 4 - like 8 inches?

About the Author: Penny Halgren is a quilter of more than 27 years, and enjoys sharing her love of quilting with others. Sign up for her free quilting tips, quilt patterns, and newsletter at <http://www.How-to-Quilt.com>





Project – Pieced Tulip Placemats

By Jody Anderson from www.QuiltBlockoftheMonthClub.com

These pretty pieced tulip placemats bring a breath of fresh air into your home. Made from a solid colour and a handful of batik 5 inch charm squares, these modern drunkard's path blocks are fairly quick and easy to make. They could be great too for a non-traditional Easter!



Placemat 1



Placemat 2

These placemats measure 12 inches wide x 16 inches long.

You Will Need:

Placemat 1: (Grey tulip on coloured background)

½ metre (½ yard) plain grey fabric (this is a generous fabric allowance)

10, 5-inch charm squares. (You will need two of the same fabric for 2 square sets)

Piece batting at least 14 inches x 18 inches

Placemat 2: (Bright tulips on grey background)

½ metre (½ yard) plain grey fabric

8, 5-inch charm squares

Piece batting at least 14 inches x 18 inches

Spray starch - recommended

Construction:

First, piece the Drunkard's path blocks. Piecing these is exactly the same for both placemats – just the colour placement changes.

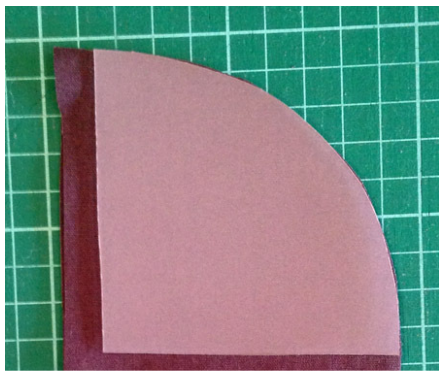


Use the attached templates to cut the pieces for your Drunkard's Path blocks.

For Placemat 1, cut 4 different charm square fabrics.

For Placemat 2, cut 8 of these pieces in the plain grey fabric.

We found it easier to piece these using Linda Hahn's method in her fabulous "New York Beauty Simplified" book. Keep the curve of the template, but allow extra fabric at each end as shown.



Using the other template, cut the quarter circle pieces.

For Placemat 1, cut 4 plain grey fabric pieces.

For Placemat 2, cut 8 from different charm square fabrics.

Again, follow the curve, and allow extra fabric at the sides.



Before sewing, press each piece well. Using spray starch helps a lot with sewing these curves, and avoids any unnecessary stretching of the fabric.

As shown, lay the convex curved piece (with the curve sticking outwards) on top of the concave piece (curve going inwards). Start at the top and line up your $\frac{1}{4}$ inch foot with the raw edges.

Sew a few stitches, then lift the foot (keep the needle down) and move the top piece over slightly, so that the edges line up again.



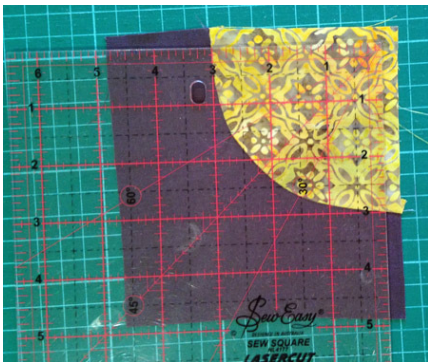
Work your way around the curve, stopping every few stitches to adjust the edges and line them up again with your $\frac{1}{4}$ inch foot.

It will curl up a bit behind you as you sew, but this is perfectly normal.

Sew around until you reach the other end of the curve.

Open out and press.

Your block is wonky, but the curve is perfect!

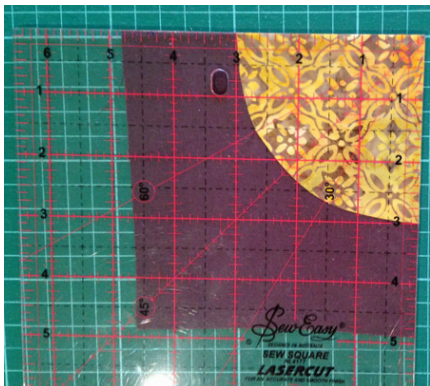


Now trim the blocks.

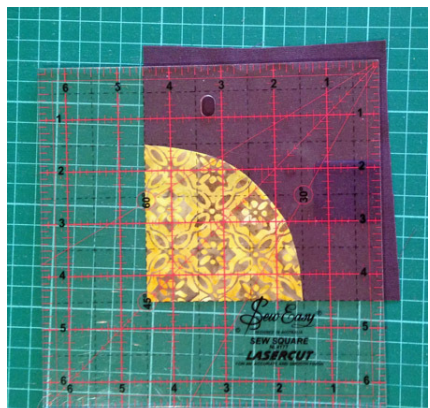
Line up your ruler so that the 3 inch mark on either side just meets the curved piece as shown.

The block needs to be trimmed to $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, so you need to make sure that measurement fits on the block too, but the angle doesn't matter, as long as you stick to the 3 inch points on the curve.

Trim the top and right side.



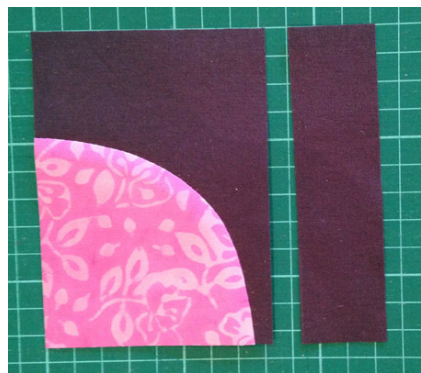
Turn the block around 180 degrees and square your block up to 4½ inches.





Ta Dah! One finished perfect Drunkard's Path block.

Finish all blocks in this way.



To make the top of the tulip, you need to trim one side and add a strip to the other.

For Placemat 1, you need to trim 2 blocks.

For Placemat 2, you need to trim 4.

Position the block as pictured, and cut a strip measuring $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches from the right hand side. The remaining part (with the curve) should be $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide.



For Placemat 1, cut 2 strips measuring $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches x $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches – one from each of the second of the charm square fabric pairs, so that the background is the same fabric.

For Placemat 2, cut 4 strips $4\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches from the plain grey fabric.

Sew the strips to the left hand side of the block as pictured.

Press well.

Finishing - Placemat 1:

Trim the remaining 4 charm squares of batik fabric to each measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches x $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Refer to the photo above, and arrange and piece the top, with the tulip block in the centre and a pair of plain charm squares to either side.

From the plain grey fabric, cut two strips measuring $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches x $16\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and sew one across the top of the pieced placemat centre, and the other across the bottom.

Press well.

From the plain grey fabric, cut a backing piece, approximately 14 x 18 inches. Also cut sufficient 2¼ inch strips for the binding.

Lay the backing face down on a flat surface. Smooth the batting on top, and then lay your pieced placemat top on top of that, facing up. Smooth all layers and pin or thread baste.

We echo quilted a couple of rows inside the grey tulip, and then filled in the batik background with a medium sized stippling. Quilt in the ditch along the top and bottom strips. Quilt yours as you wish. Trim to square it up.

Join the binding strips 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.

Finishing - Placemat 2:

Refer to the photo above and arrange your two tulip blocks as you like. Sew the pieces together and press well.

From the plain grey fabric, cut two strips measuring 2½ inches x 16½ inches, and sew one across the top of the pieced placemat centre, and the other across the bottom. Press well.

Also from the plain grey fabric, cut a backing piece, approximately 14 x 18 inches. Cut sufficient 2¼ inch strips for the binding too.

Lay the backing face down on a flat surface. Smooth the batting on top, and then lay your pieced placemat top on top of that, facing up. Smooth all layers and pin or thread baste.

We echo quilted a couple of rows outside each of the batik tulips, and then filled in each tulip shape with a fairly fine loopy design. Quilt in the ditch along the top and bottom strips. Quilt yours as you wish. Trim to square it up.

Join the binding strips 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.

For more Block of the Month Quilt Projects, go to www.OnlineQuiltMagazine.com

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STUDIO 18



## 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".



**30s Playtime 2 by Chloe's Closet for Moda Fabrics**

It's time for some vintage fun! Pop back into the 1930s with bright colors and playful prints!

The new 30s Playtime 2 collection by Chloe's Closet for Moda Fabrics will look adorable in vintage-inspired quilts!

Check it out at:

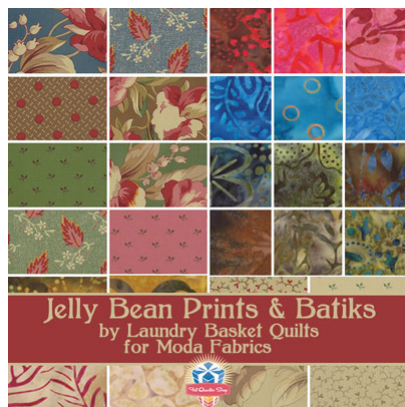
<http://www.fatquartershop.com/moda-fabric/30s-playtime-chloes-closet-moda-fabrics>



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

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



**Jelly Bean by Laundry Basket Quilts for Moda Fabrics**

Stunning prints and batiks to inspire your next quilting masterpiece. Jelly Bean by Laundry Basket Quilts for Moda Fabrics elegantly mixes color and prints for a stunning new collection.

See the Range at:

<http://www.fatquartershop.com/moda-fabric/jelly-bean-laundry-basket-quilts-moda-fabrics>



**Winter Wonderland by Bunny Hill Designs for Moda Fabrics**

It's never too early for Christmas sewing! Winter Wonderland by Bunny Hill Designs for Moda Fabrics is perfect for cheerful Holiday projects. Fill your home with red and white elegance during these holidays!

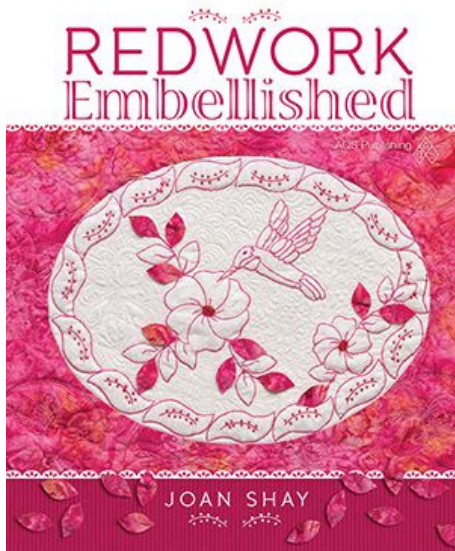
View this Collection at:

<http://www.fatquartershop.com/moda-fabric/winter-wonderland-bunny-hill-designs-moda-fabrics>



## Book Reviews

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



**"Redwork Embellished" by Joan Shay**

In this fourth book of Joan's she has combined traditional Redwork stitcheries with her "Applibond" technique using iron-on adhesive to make 3-D leaves and flowers and then adding them to Redwork designs.

This really enhances her work and adds a whole new level of interest. Beading is also used to great effect.

Redwork needn't always be red either. Blocks in black and white, blue, pink, or purple look equally pretty. Different colourways are pictured in the book.

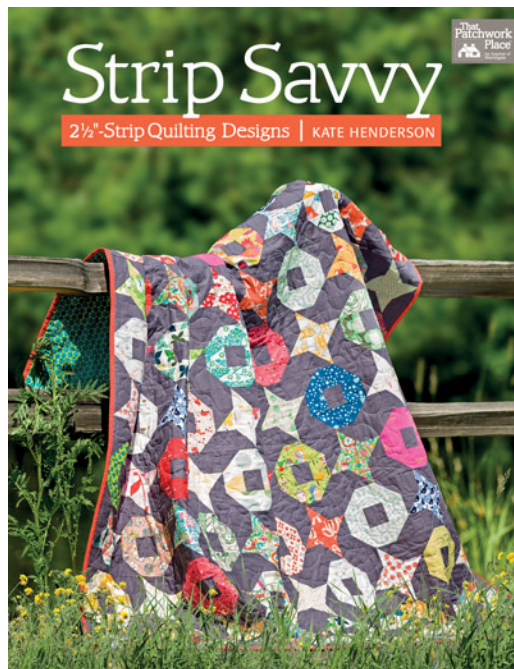
Joan Shay has shown the projects as individual blocks, but suggests you can combine them to make very striking quilts.

A history of Redwork embroidery is included in this book and also full explanations of the fabrics, supplies, threads and stitches, beads, glue and equipment needed.

Her "Appli-bond" applique technique is explained in full. Detailed photos show the quilting designs used.

These embellishments and additions to Redwork designs will really provide the "wow" factor for your next quilt.

**"Redwork Embellished"** by Joan Shay is published by AQS, P.O. 3290, Paducah, KY 42002-3290 USA and is available through your local craft book shop or online from:  
[orders@AQSQuilt.com](mailto:orders@AQSQuilt.com)



**"Strip Savvy – 2½" Strip Quilting Designs" by  
 Kate Henderson**

Kate Henderson explores the options for creating unique quilts in this book, with 18 fresh projects.

While Kate loves Jelly Roll strips, she also saves every last bit of her fabric scraps and cuts them into 2½ inch strips.



"Kaleidoscope"

She explains several quick piecing techniques to help speed up the process of making flying geese and half square triangle units. She suggests many types of borders using these strips. Included is a lot of good basic quilting advice.

This book is suitable for beginners, but the projects will also delight and provide inspiration for experienced quilters. Her instructions and cutting diagrams are clearly set out and you'll have many ideas for using up your stash with these pretty quilt designs.

Quilts without borders are shown to be just as attractive as those with. All the patterns could also be enlarged if you wish.

Kate lives in the southwest of Western Australia and also likes knitting and spinning. She's currently wondering how to sneak a loom or longarm quilting machine into the house unnoticed. You'll love her quilt designs.



**"Strip Savvy"** is available from Martingale,  
19021-120th Ave. NE, Ste.102, Bothell, WA  
98011-9511, USA and is available through your  
local craft book shop or online from:

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



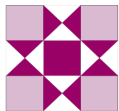
"Butterflies"

## Learn How to Free Motion Quilt ALL OF these Designs at:



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





## Recipe Corner – Old Fashioned Hot Cross Buns

This recipe is from the Australian Country Women's Association, and is sure to be a good one!



### Ingredients (in Imperial measurements):

1 lb flour  
1 oz compressed yeast  
1/2 pint milk  
pinch salt  
2 oz sugar  
2 oz butter  
2 oz sultanas  
1 egg

### Method:

Place yeast, milk, 1 teaspoon flour and 1 teaspoon sugar together and stand for 20 minutes. Sift flour, rub in the butter, add the salt, sugar and sultanas.

Beat the egg well and add to the milk and yeast. Stir this into the dry ingredients and mix into a fairly soft dough. Leave in the basin, cover with a



clean cloth and place in a warm place to rise from 35 to 40 minutes.

Turn onto a floured board and knead well. Cut into about 16 - 18 pieces of equal size. Form each into a bun and place on a slightly greased tin, evenly spaced and rather close together. Cover and place again in a warm place to rise for 10 minutes.

Mark a cross on top with a knife. Make a glaze by mixing 1 heaped teaspoon icing sugar and 1 tablespoon boiling water. Brush over the buns and bake in a hot oven for about 15 minutes.

\*\* You may like to add some spices to your buns too - try cinnamon, ground cloves and mixed spice.

Happy Easter!!



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## Quilters have cancer support in the bag

**HAMISH BROOME**

hamish.broome@northernstar.com.au

QUILTING is about bringing joy to others for 81-year-old Miriam Veness.

About five years ago the Lismore quilter stopped making ordinary quilts and started making something that was desperately needed.

Fellow quilters Annette Mira-Bateman and her daughter Jody started an appeal for their fellow quilters to make drainage bag covers for women and men in the post-operative stage of breast cancer.

Mrs Mira-Bateman said post-operative patients often experienced social isolation for up to 12 weeks because of the discomfort of having tubes in their body draining fluids into a plastic bag they had to carry around.

"You can imagine trying to go out... it's very embarrassing," she said.

The handmade covers are custom-designed bags with an adjustable shoulder strap to house the drainage bag.

"No one would think twice; they are able to go out and feel normal. If they don't like one side they can reverse it," she said.

Thanks to the global marketing of the mother and daughter's website where the instructions to make the bags are posted, it has developed a global life of its own, taking flight in places as

“All over the world, in places we don't know, there are women quilters making these bags.

— Annette Mira-Bateman

diverse as Madagascar, the Netherlands, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Spain.

"There have been huge efforts by some individuals, but Miriam Veness is our little champion in Lismore," Mrs Mira-Bateman said.

The tireless sewer has finished more than 600 bags in five years, delivering regular batches to the local Breast Care Service.

Mrs Veness downplays the achievement.

"These are small and easy to do; there's no stress, no thinking," she said.

There's a reason the bags are being made by the truckload – there is a huge demand from hospitals.

The Lismore district Breast Care Nurse gives about 20 to local hospitals every month and Mrs Mira-Bateman and Jody send 200 elsewhere every month too.

"All over the world, in places we don't know, there are women quilters making these bags," she said.



**ZIPPED UP:** Annette Mira-Bateman and Miriam Veness, from Lismore Craft and Quilters. Mrs Veness has made more than 600 drainage bag covers for breast cancer patients in Lismore. PHOTO: DOUG EATON

## We Made the Paper – a Quick Breast Cancer Bags Appeal Update: (Northern Star, March 2014)

Bags are still coming in, and going out to Hospitals around Australia, and other individuals and groups of dedicated sewers are keeping their local areas supplied with these much needed and greatly appreciated bags, in various destinations around the world. We would like to recognise your efforts and thank you so much for helping out. There's been some fantastic personal efforts, and this includes Miriam (above right) who's up to more than 600 bags made personally!

**INTERESTED?** To visit the quilting website for the free drainage bag pattern go to [www.quilts-n-bags.com](http://www.quilts-n-bags.com)



## Reader “Show and Tell”

This month we continue our regular segment of “Show and Tell” quilts made by our Online Quilt Magazine Readers. It’s been another busy month too!

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.

~~~~~  
“I just wanted to send you a picture of a quilt that I have just finished for the ‘Undies for Better Understanding – Gynae Cancer Awareness’. The individual blocks were made by the Ladies of the Herald Ave, Willetton WA, Quilters Group and I pieced and quilted the Quilt together. We presented the Quilt to Kath Mazella, OAM, founder of the International GYN Awareness Day on the 28 February 2014.

As a group we are now working on a ‘Corset’ Quilt. As a group we are enjoying the challenge and wonder if some other quilting groups would love to make a quilt as well?

- Monika W., Australia



"I have just made a new bag in shell motifs and a Km-quilt. The "Km-quilt" is a technique to utilize your scraps and it is very nice to do."

- Jacqueline B., Belgium



~~~~~



*"I just thought I would send you a photo of my completed "Fire & Ice" quilt which I think should be renamed "Two Worlds Collide"!"*

*I didn't like the idea of using solid colours, so I opted for batiks, which was a bit of a headache, however I do like a challenge!*

*Also, I changed some of the blocks and created some of my own. I also put it together as a quilt as you go, but in three sections, with no binding strips on the back.*

*I quilted it myself, using different threads for the different sections - a mammoth task, but it really turned out well and I am very proud of the end result.*

*As you can see, I didn't use any sashings between the blocks, which made it "flow".*

*- Helen W., Australia*





"I Wish...." - Annette

Annette and I went on a weekend quilt retreat last month, and we'd had a discussion about the next quilt we were going to make. As usual, we both pictured it differently, so we decided to each make our own as a small retreat challenge. The idea behind the design was the same (random blocks falling through a funnel to make a

9-patch quilt), and we agreed on the ground-rules – quilt size, blocks to be used, and that pieces could be cut, but nothing sewn before the retreat.

We had heaps of fun making these, and they turned out quite differently after all!



"I Wish...." - Jody



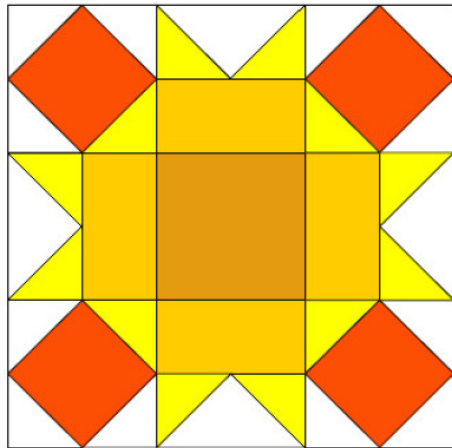
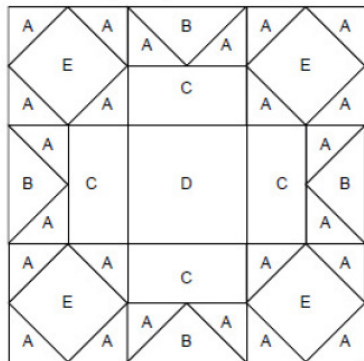
## Block of the Month

This month's block is a star block with a difference. It makes a lovely big border block, or try arranging more spaced out for a simpler look.

To make this 12 inch block as shown, you will need 5 different fabrics, and once you have rotary cut the pieces according to the Cutting Diagram, you can piece them together as shown.

### Rolling Squares

Key Block (1/5 actual size)



Cutting Diagrams

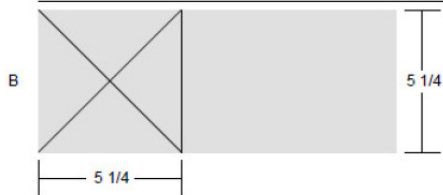
Patch Count



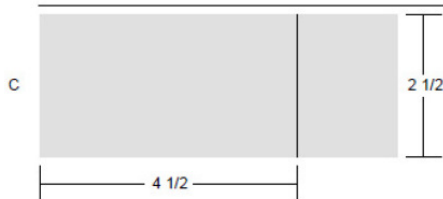
12 patches



12 patches



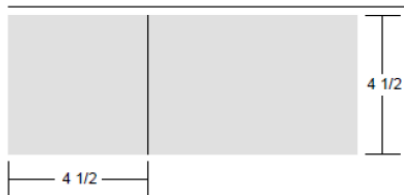
4 patches



4 patches

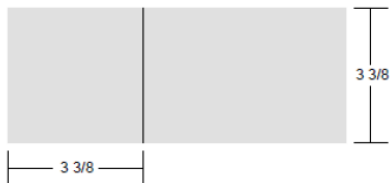


D

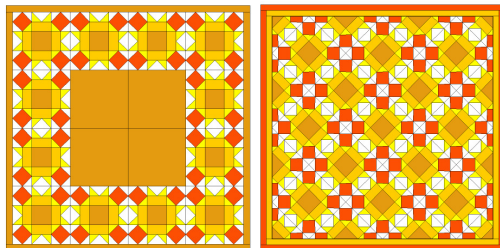


1 patch

E



4 patches



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

## Today's Tips:

- \* To reduce seam allowance bulk when machine piecing, seam allowances that meet should be pressed in opposite directions whenever possible.
- \* When doing stitch-in-the-ditch machine quilting, stitch as close to the seam as possible, on the lower side of the seam (the side of the seam opposite the seam allowance bulk).
- \* To keep bobbin thread from tangling on the back when machine quilting, always bring the bobbin thread to the top of the quilt before beginning to sew.
- \* Before adding binding, stitch near the edge of the quilt to stabilize the layers so that the binding goes on smoothly.
- \* When designing quilting patterns, don't forget these items to draw around: cups, saucers, plates, cookie cutters, baking plans, jelly moulds, knick-knacks.

The annual Australasian Quilt Convention (AQC) is set to celebrate its 10th birthday as the biggest, most celebrated quilting event in the southern hemisphere!

Returning to Melbourne from April 10-13, at the Royal Exhibition Building, AQC will provide a spectacular array of international tutors leading seminars and workshops for every skill level, together with stunning displays of the unrivalled talent of quilters from both Australia and around the world. The event also presents a unique shopping opportunity with an exceptional array of quilting products including many at bargain prices.

Dates: April 10-13, 2014 from 10am – 4.30pm

Royal Exhibition Building Melbourne, Carlton Gardens. [www.aqc.com.au](http://www.aqc.com.au)

Keep the tips coming! Send them  
all to  
[jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com](mailto:jody@onlinequiltmagazine.com)

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- 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!

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

- \* A messy house is the sign of a happy quilter
- \* I love sewing and have plenty of material witnesses.
- \* God put me on this earth to sew and finish a certain number of things. I am so far behind now I will never die!

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