



November 3, 2023

New Hours for Winter Time (starting Nov 5-May 22)

Monday-Saturday 10-5, closed Sundays unless a class is scheduled. Then we're open 1-5. Check the schedule. Note: Beginning Quilting will be held on Sundays Nov 5 and Nov 12, so we'll be open.

Gird your loins. Winter is here. Well, almost. Actually it was, and then it wasn't...

"What the are you talking about?" Becca asked.

"Watch your language, young lady," I remonstrated.

"Watch yours," she countered. "What's a gird, anyway?"

"It's a verb, Becca, not a noun. It means tighten or bind."

"Well why are you suggesting that we tighten our loins. Did you misspell that and mean lions? Cause I can really get behind binding up lions. I could bind up Padfoot for you." She smirked.

Okay, for those of you new to the post, Becca is my conniving Mini Australian Shepherd. She thinks up ways to torment the cat, Padfoot, but that's as far as it goes. She never follows through. At least I don't think she does because Padfoot never seems to be worried around her. Padfoot also has sharper claws, come to think about it.

"No, Becca, I mean loins. You see back in the old old days when guys wore togas, they had to pull them up to move more easily, like when riding a horse or going into battle."

"So it's a guy thing," Becca said.

"Pretty much," I agreed.

"So why are we girding out loins?" she asked.

"Well, I checked the calendar and we're basically at the start of winter. It gets darker earlier, it is colder, the trees have lost most of their leaves, the grass has died. Pretty much all the color has gone out of the world."

"Well, that's depressing," Becca said. "Couldn't you find something more cheerful to talk about?"

“Well, the good news is winter doesn’t last as long as we think it does. I always have to remind myself about that. We have brown and white and cold for 5 months, then greenish and warm for 4 months, one month of mud and one month of spectacular color. Which means, the best month of the year has just ended...”

“How do you figure that?” Becca asked. "And, you can't count."

“October is great,” I told her, ignoring her counting comment. “It’s colorful because all the trees and bushes change color, the sky is generally a bright blue, the sunsets turn pink. The weather and temps are decent. And we get Halloween, and the best month for watching scary movies. The World Series begins, football is on and the teams have finally figured out how to play. It’s cool enough to start wearing wool sweaters.”

“Okay, okay, you convinced me. October is great,” Becca said. “What’s the worst month, then?”

“Obviously, February. But fortunately, it’s short. Actually, February isn’t all that bad. It’s often fairly warm and sunny. But the problem with February....”

“Valentine’s Day?” Becca said hopefully.

“No. Well, maybe. But what I was going to say is that February is in the middle of the girding your loins period. Winter in November is tolerable because there is Thanksgiving to look forward to. Same for December and Christmas and all the pretty lights. You come into January off the high of Christmas and you basically just start paying attention to the cold and drab. Then February hits and it seems like it will be forever until summer and green is here.”

“You’re getting depressing again,” Becca said.

“Well the good news is March starts toying with you, hinting at better things to come. When I lived in West Virginia the daffodils started popping up. They grew wild all over the place.”

“Here we get two feet of snow,” Becca grumbled.

“True. But as we say, we need the moisture and it starts the grass on its way to being green.”

“Yeah, but summer is still slow coming,” Becca said. “There’s two more months of snow & cold before summer appears, sometime in the middle of June.”

“Right again, Becca. But if you add the months from November through May you get....”

“Seven months, not 5, of cold, snow, wind, and brown,” she said. "I told you, you can't count."

“Okay, I don’t count April and May as winter,” I said.

“Where do you live?” Becca asked. “Because around here I’d say April & May count as winter. You’re not wearing shorts, yet. And you’ve still left a month out of your counting.”

“All right, all right. But that’s what I’m talking about. We have to gird our loins for a few months...”

“Seven,” Becca added.

“Five. April & May don’t count.”

“November and December don’t count, either,” said Becca, helpfully.

“Right. So that just leave 3 dreary months to slog through.”

“But it won’t be green until June,” Becca said. “That’s 8 months.”

“Not helpful.”

“Girding our lions,” she said.

“Loins,” I replied.

Christmas (OR Not) Mystery 2023

Large 88” X 105”
Double 70” X 88”

Fabric Requirements

Small Quilt 12 assorted fat quarters. Suggestions for colors: 6 Greens and 6 Reds. Use both patterned fabrics and tone on tones prints. Choose a mix of value: light, medium and dark. Make sure the light prints are darker than your background.



Background: 2 ½ yards

Inner Border: ¾ yard (a little more than you need)

Outer border, cut straight of grain: 2 ¼ yard

Back: 5 ¼ yard (it is the same as the smaller quilt, vertical seam)

Binding: ¾ yard

Large Quilt 20 assorted fat quarters. Suggestions for colors: 10 Greens and 10 Reds. Use both patterned fabrics and tone on tones prints. Choose a mix of value: light, medium and dark. Make sure the light prints are darker than your background.

Background: 3 ¾ yards

Inner Border: ¾ yard (a little more than you need)

Outer border, cut straight of grain: 2 ¾ yard

Back: 5 ¼ yard (it is the same as the smaller quilt, horizontal seam)

Binding: ¾ yard

Other color choices:

This quilt works well in two colors, blue & yellow, pink & gray, purple and blue, etc. Make sure that you choose 6 & 6 (blue and yellow) or 10 and 10 (pink and gray). And then vary the value (lights-darks) and the prints (small-large, various prints from florals, dots, stripes, plaids, tone on tones, novelties, etc). Be sure to mix some tone on tone (not busy) prints into the mix. Keep the background light (I don’t advise using a dark background). You can use a patterned background as long as it’s not too busy. You can also use a light yellow or a light green, for example, as long as the fat quarter choices stand out against the background.

Choosing borders: Your border choices can be picked after the inside of the quilt is finished. Or, you can choose your borders first (as we usually do) and then pick your fat quarters based on the colors in the border.

Step One:

From each fat quarter cut 2 strips **5" X 21"**. Subcut into 5" X 9 ½" rectangles. You need 4 from each fat. Keep these together. Then cut 2 strips 2" X 21". You need 24 (40).

From Background:

Cut 12 (20) strips 5" X 42". Subcut into 96 (160) 5" X 5" squares.

Cut 13 (20) strips 2" X 41". Subcut into 2" X 21" segments.

Next week: Sewing!

Step two:

1. Take 4 5" X 9 ½" rectangles from your colors and sew a 5" square, on the diagonal, on one end. Pretend you are sewing half of a flying goose. Trim and square to 5" X 9 ½". Make 12 (20) sets. Set aside, keeping the sets together. (See (left hand side) pic below)

2. Sew a background 2" X 21" strip to a color 2" X 21" strip to a 2" X 21" background strip. Make 10 (16) panels. (L + D+ L) Set aside. Next, sew a color 2" X 21" strip to a background 2" X 21" strip to a color 2" X 21" strip. (D + L + D) (D = dark; L = light)

The panels should measure 5" wide after you have sewn the 3 strips together. Make 10 (16). Set aside. NOTE: you should have some extra color strips left. If you want more color choices for Step 3, make extra panels. You will have to cut some additional background 2" strips.

3. Cut the panels into 2" segments. These should measure 2" X 5". Keep the LDL segments in one bag and the DLD segments in a separate bag.

4. Sew the segments into a 9-patch (see pic below). Square to 5" X 5". Don't worry about color placement, just make things random. It will be fine.



What's New

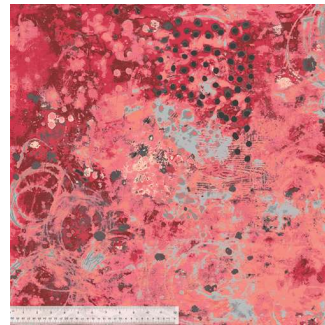
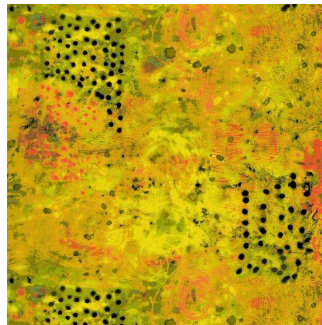
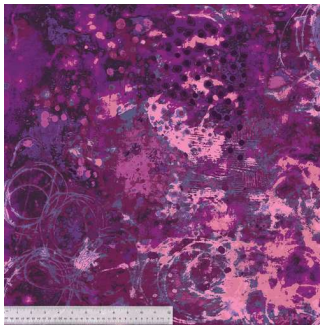
Two new quilts from In the Beginning fabrics will be coming in December and March. On both, I will be taking down payments for preordering the kits. I will have approximate pricing in a couple of weeks (freight plays a part in pricing, and that's all over the map these days). If you are interested, let me know. The number of kits are limited to 6, right now.



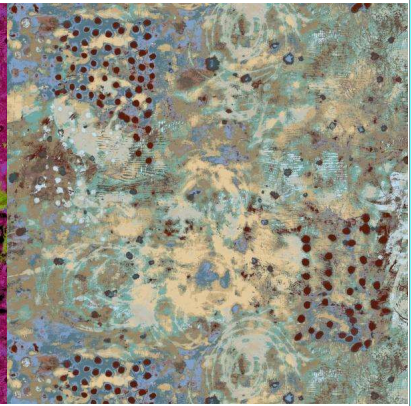
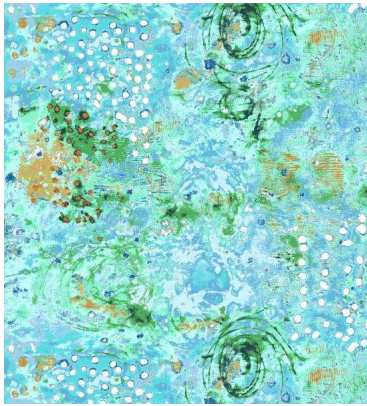
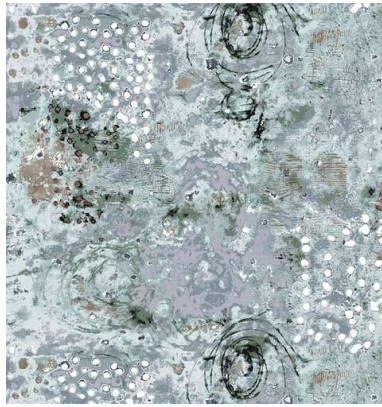
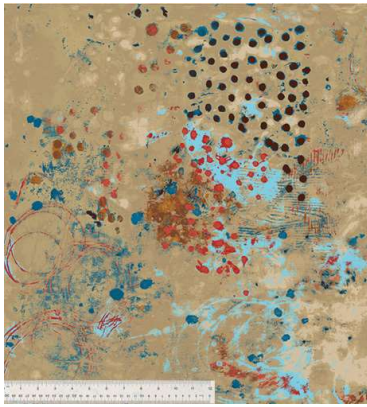
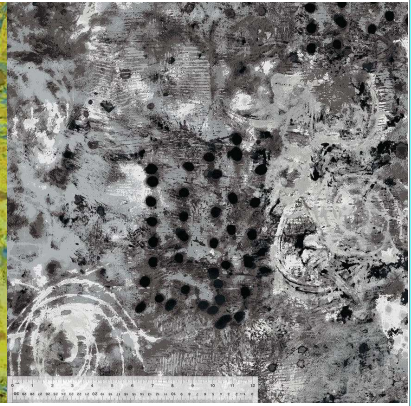
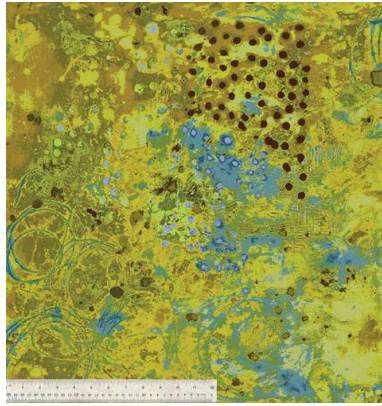
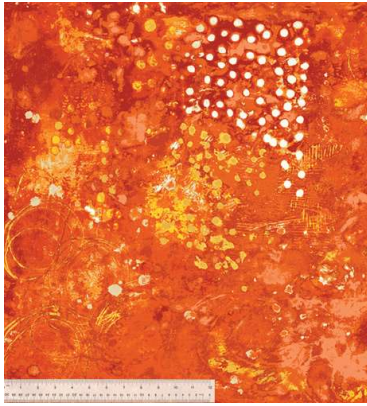
Decoupage, a simple and stunning quilt done with lots of black and white.
87" X 104"

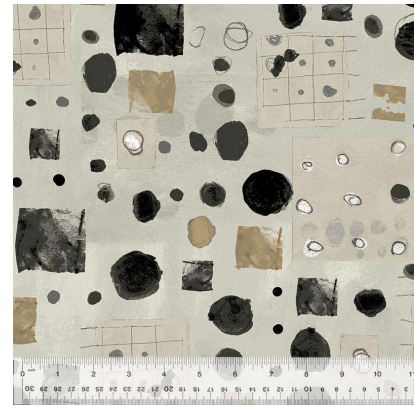


Sew Spring: We will do this as a class, starting in April or May. It will be taught as a "block(s) of the month," over a several month period, going into summer.
85" X 97"

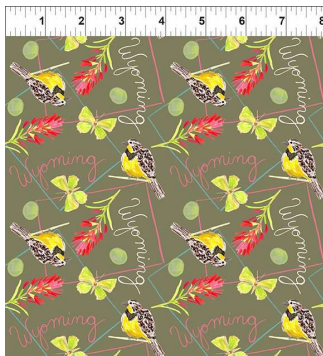


From Windham. Spotted Graffiti





wideback

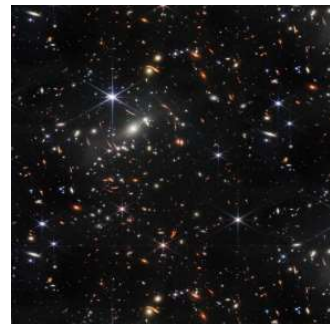
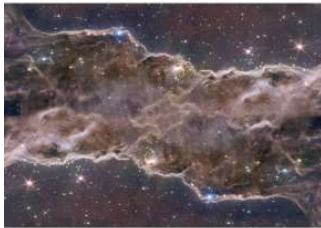


From In the Beginning: These are 13" squares representing each state & its bird and wildflower, and fruits, butterflies, insects, gems

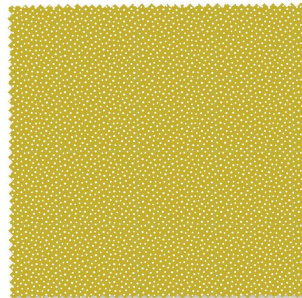
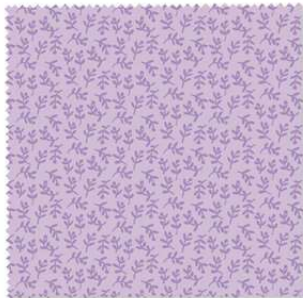




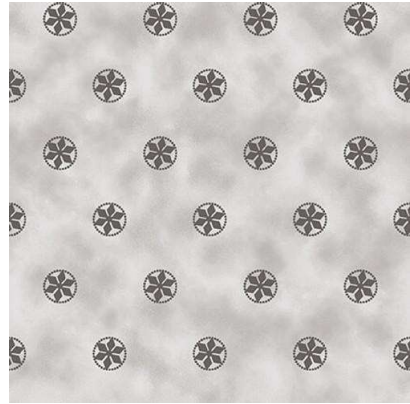
From Kennard & Kennard



From RJR

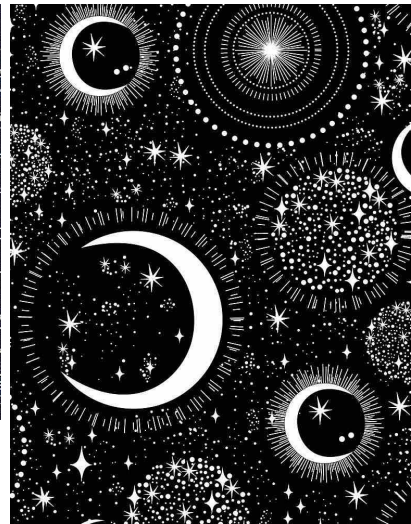


From Felicity



From Henry Glass

From Timeless Treasures



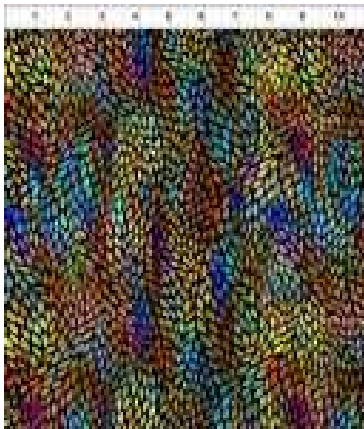
From Alexander Henry



We got in 9 new batiks, but I can't grab the thumbnails to show you, other than the 10" square pack.



From RJR

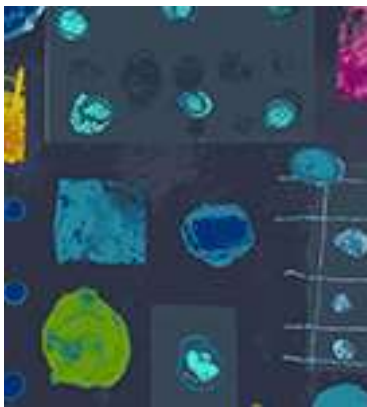
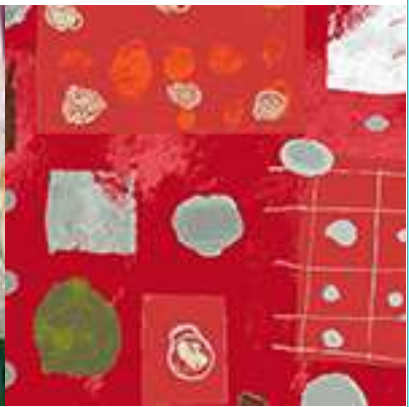
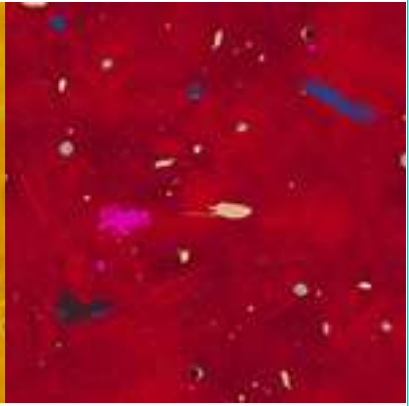
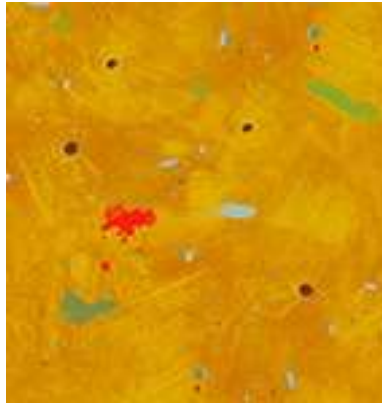


From In the Beginning: Once we get this kitted, the fabric will be available for sale. **Kits will be cut next week.**



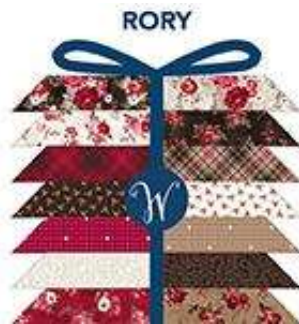
From Windham







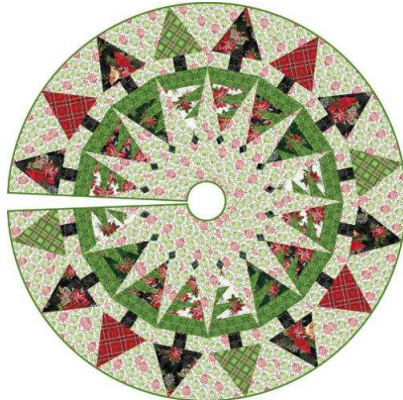
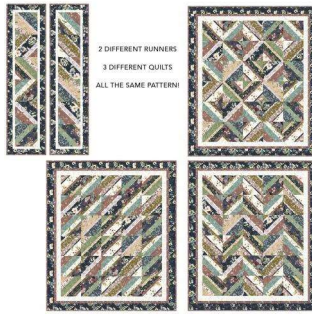
From P & B





From Windham

Fall Newsletter



It's hard to grab pics of everything. I don't have pics of the Trip Around the World, Chit Chat, one of the Happy Haunting. But samples are in the store. From upper left: Wildflower Path, Lone Star, Applique Tree, Happy Haunting, Bargello, tree skirt.

November Classes

Paper Pieced Tree Skirt Nov 4 1-4 \$30 Barb Boyer

Ah, paper piecing. This quilt is a free pattern, done with wedges. Parts of the wedges are paper pieced, then the wedges are sewn together to form a circular tree skirt. Paper piecing is easy and this quilt is not complicated, so if you haven't learned how to paper piece, this is the project for you.

Bargello Saturday Nov 21 10-4 \$40 Jean Korber

Bargello is a form of strip piecing, similar to Trip Around the World, but the panels you make are sliced into different widths, creating a cascading effect of colors.

Fat Quarter Class Quilts Show and Tell Sat Nov 25 11-noon (or longer as needed)

To everyone from this spring's Fat Quarter class: Bring your completed quilts or quilt tops to the shop for a show and tell on shop Small Business Saturday! To everyone else: Come see the quilts and learn what we are going to do in the spring!

Pot Luck Sat Sept 9, Oct 14, Nov 11 \$45 Barb Boyer On going

December Classes

Cathedral Window Ornament Dec 2 1-4 \$25 \$30 Barb Boyer

The Cathedral Window quilt block is a traditional quilt block made with a folded construction technique resulting in a dimensional block. While the block is not complicated, it requires a little time and a little patience. Consequently, we will teach the block as an ornament: You only have to make one and then you can decide if you want to make an entire quilt. These are spectacular quilts, meant to mimic the stained glass windows in churches.

Wildflower Paths Saturday Dec 9 1-5 \$30 Barb Boyer

This quilt may look hard, but it's the fabric that makes the stripes! So there is no piecing to make the individual blocks. This is another free pattern. If you need a quick Christmas gift, this would be it.

Attic Window Sat Dec 16 10:30-4 Barb Boyer \$40

This quilt is another Jason Yenter showcase quilt! I've called it Attic Window, because the main block is the traditional attic window block. We will use the Marvelous Miters method of making the block (easiest way to make accurate attic window blocks), and then I'll show you an easy way to make the circles so you will have no raw edges. The circles will then be appliqued using invisible thread (if you want to) and a blind hem stitch on your machine.

November 2023

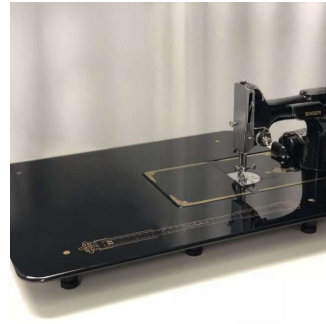
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Long Arm class 10:30	2 Long Arm Rental Day	3	4 BOM 10:30 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and <u>battings</u> Tree Skirt 1-4 <u>\$30</u>
5 Beginning Quilting 1-4 \$65	6	7 Hand work Club 2-5	8 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	9 Long Arm Rental Day	10	11 Embroidery Club 10-noon Potluck
12 CLOSED	13	14 Hand work Club 2-5	15 Long Arm class 10:30	16 Long Arm Rental Day	17	18 Bargello 10:30-4 <u>\$40</u>

19	20	21	22	23	24	25
CLOSED		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	CLOSED Thanksgiving	Black Friday Sale	Shop Small Business Sale TBA Show & Tell Fat Quarter Class Quilts 11-noon
26	27	28	29	30		
CLOSED	Full moon	Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day		Color of the month: Flowers

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Color of the month: red						BOM 10:30 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and <u>battings</u> Cathedral Window Ornament 1-4 <u>\$25</u>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CLOSED		Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day Long Arm Rental Day		Embroidery Club 10-noon Wildflower Path 1-5 <u>\$30</u>

10 CLOSED	11	12 Hand work Club 2-5	13 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	14 Long Arm Rental Day	15	16 Attic Window 10-4 <u>\$40</u>
17 CLOSED	18	19 Hand work Club 2-5	20 Long Arm class 10:30	21 Long Arm Rental Day	22	23
24 CLOSED	25 CLOSED	26 Hand work Club 2-5 Full moon	27 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	28	29 Customer Appreciation Pre Sale for Toad toters 10-5	30 Customer Appreciation <u>Sale 10-3</u>
31 CLOSED						



Nolting Quilting Machines



Nolting Longarm Machines

Nolting has 5 main machines, each with different reaches: from 17" to 30" depending on the machine. They are sold with or without a frame, but after I saw & helped set up one of the steel frames this week, I recommend buying the frame. All machines, except for the Standard--the most economical machine-- have a stitch regulator. I recommend a stitch regulator. All machines can be equipped with a computer and there are a couple of different ones to choose from. In addition, you can get an extended table base so that you can use rulers, you can get larger bobbins on some of the models and on the frames you can get hydraulic lifts to raise and lower the tables. In the coming weeks, I will print out more information on each model.

The best entry level machine is the Fun Quilter. It comes in 17", 20" & 23" reach. It comes with the Intellistitch Equalizer stitch regulator, standard speed control, needle up/down, and fixed handles in the front & rear. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

The Pro Machine has the Intellistitch Turbo stitch regulator, single stitch option, standard speed control, needle up/down and customizable handles in the front & rear. The Pro Machine comes in 20", 24" and 30" reach with 10-12" of inside height. There are easy dials on the front to set stitch length and other options. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

The NV Machine is the newest in the fleet of Nolting machines. This machine has a touch screen with programmable stitch regulation. You can stitch in 4 different stitch modes plus single stitch and needle up/down. It also has an adjustable brightness LED work light. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

Normal Shop Hours:
Monday-Saturday 10-6
Sunday 1-5

Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)

New Hours for Winter Time (starting Nov 5-May 22)

Monday-Saturday 10-5, closed Sundays unless a class is scheduled. Then we're open 1-5. Check the schedule.

Join the fun and come feel the difference of quality fabrics.

Happy quilting!

Sincerely, Barbara Boyer
Around the Block
307-433-9555
www.aroundtheblockquilts.com



Around the Block | 453 Vandehie Suite 120, Cheyenne, WY 82009

[Unsubscribe office@jubjub.com](mailto:office@jubjub.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by barbboy@msn.com powered by

