



October 18, 2024

If you don't have your Halloween costume by now, you'll never be able to make Martha Stewart's Queen of Halloween costume.

Before we get to the specifics, though, we need to look at the list of the 14 trending Halloween costumes, as determined by Martha Stewart. Actually, these ideas are not original to the Martha Stewart team. They stole all the ideas from other sources, just like I'm doing.

So on the list are the characters from *Wicked*, the movie musical that's not coming out until November. The two main characters are Glinda, the pink costumed good witch, and Elphaba, the green skinned supposedly evil witch.

Next is Taylor Swift. Now, I don't want to get in trouble with the costume police, but I'm guessing that most of her outfits would not be suitable in a grade school setting. I'm just saying. Next up are costumes based on the show *Bridgerton*. Think wigs and Victorian ball gowns.

The next hot costume is Raygun. Don't remember her? You must not have watched break dancing during the Olympics. She was a 36 year old break dancer from Australia who performed a very unorthodox routine. Unorthodox at least in the break dancing world, which doesn't apparently condone kangaroo-inspired hopping. You

can spin around on the ground on one hand, do weird splits and funky arm movements, but hopping like a kangaroo is just not done. The fallout from her routine went viral, and not in a good way. But, she's got the hot costume for 2024.

Other movie and tv related costumes include Deadpool and Wolverine, Beetlejuice, Wednesday Addams, Minions, Ghostbusters, Inside Out characters, and Harley Quinn and The Joker. And then there are the pop stars that I don't recognize like Sabrina Carpenter and Chappell Roan. Or Elisabeth Sparkle (Demi Moore from The Substance), Challengers like Zendaya as Tashi Duncan (not a clue), Harper Stern (HBO drama about bankers, so I guess you dress like you have a trust fund?), Hawk Tuah Girl (a car-mechanic who wears pink?), Rosalía and a cigarette bouquet (which requires a black bralette and cigarettes), Cowboy Carter (okay, apparently Beyonce in a cowgirl get up wearing Addidas and denim chaps, because, of course, tennis shoes and denim are useful cowboy attire), and Charli XCX and Troye Sivan (not a clue, but it seems like you just need to dress all in black).

At the bottom of the Martha Stewart list is the Martha Stewart Halloween Queen costume, a DIY costume that you don't have to raise the sheep yourself before you can knit the yarn for the sweater. No. Martha's costume only involves hiring teams of experts to dress her up like Queen Elizabeth I. The costume was designed by Jenny Peet, master sewer and draper for the Metropolitan Opera in New York City, who specializes in creating historical costumes for the opera singers. The accessories are from Lauren Dumler, a former Martha Stewart Living staffer and display artist for Ralph Lauren, Anthropologie, and Bergdorf Goodman. So, good luck.

But because Martha Stewart is Martha Stewart, she believes you can make it yourself, following the detailed instructions in her article. So here we go.

How to Make Martha's Queen of Halloween Costume:

You need a gold cape, ermine capelet and a ruff collar, to begin. Gold cape = gold muslin. Ermine capelet =- faux fur with black chandelier crystals. Ruff collar = tulle and nylon horsehair braid. Good luck finding the ingredients.

Next you need a crown, chain of office, scepter, and orb. Start with faux jewel beads, ribbon, and glue. The scepter is made from a curtain rod and the orb is a large plastic ornament spray painted gold with gems glued on the side and a small pumpkin on top. Yup. A pumpkin. It took me awhile to figure that one out. The crown is likewise made with fake diamonds and pearls.

Three months later, you can figure out for yourself what dress to wear underneath all of this, because the article doesn't mention how to make the gown.

But if you're interested in the supply list, this is what you need: Basic sewing supplies, sewing machine, fabric shears, 8 yards of gold fabric, preferably 54 inches wide, 1 yard white faux fur fabric, 4 yards white lace with a scalloped edge on both sides, 2 yards pale yellow polyester organza, 2 yards stiff tulle, 9 yards 3/8-inch soft nylon horsehair braid, 1 spool 14-gauge aluminum craft wire, wire cutters, 40 to 50 black replacement chandelier crystals, 2 spools of matching gold thread, 1 spool white thread, bias tape (I'm surprised she didn't have you make your own), safety pins, 4 large-size hooks & eyes. Again, good luck.

She does provide instructions for making the costume, which I won't get into, because you're never going to make this. But, there is one instruction I found a bit curious: "Let the cape hang overnight to let the sides stretch out before hemming. While the cape is hanging, finish off the outer edges of the back and front facings with a zig-zag or overlock stitch, and stitch the facing pieces together at the shoulders and back." Did you catch that? **While the cape is hanging.**

My favorite Halloween costumes are based around puns: Pinning math tools to a t-shirt bearing the likeness of Osama bin Laden with the circle/slash around him: You are weapons of math destruction. Or spray painting blue a piece of insulation formed

as a tube with shoulder straps and gluing white crystals and paper guns and knives to the tube: Assault and battery. Or pinning tiny cereal boxes and paper weapons to a t-shirt: Cereal Killer. These are cheap and quick to make and nobody can figure them out.

A final idea: You can go as Moo Deng, the baby pygmy hippo. Moo Deng, which means bouncy pig, is both ugly and adorable. Just wear something baggy and gray and add some pink streaks to your hair.

P.S. You could also go as Becca. She's about the same size as Moo Deng, but not as bouncy. Just wear something baggy and red and put copper streaks in your hair. And never, I mean never, tell her you're going as her. She's off hunting haunted houses right now, otherwise she'd be growling about my suggestion she's the same shape as Moo Deng.



Christmas Mystery 2024

Part One

Collecting the Fabrics

Fabric Requirements (quilt size 88" X 94")

Background: 4 yards. Choose a mix of prints, all on the neutral or light side.

Greens: 3 yards. Choose a mix of prints in mediums and darks. You can use prints, even prints with other colors of them. But make sure the overall "color" reads green.

Brown: $\frac{1}{4}$ yard

Gold or Yellow or Silver: 1 yard. This fabric will be the stars. So you could use silver, orange, white. The fabric must stand out against the green.

Inner Border: $\frac{3}{4}$ yard (a little more than you need)

Outer border, cut straight of grain: 2 ½ yards (a little more than you need)

Back: 7 ½ yds with horizontal seams. 8 ½ yards with vertical seams.

Binding: ¾ yard

Batting: 100 inches (2 ¾ yds)

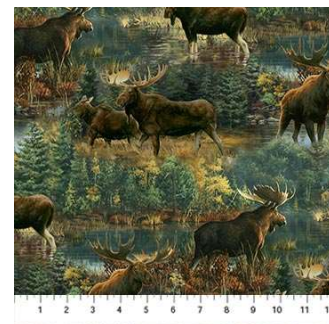
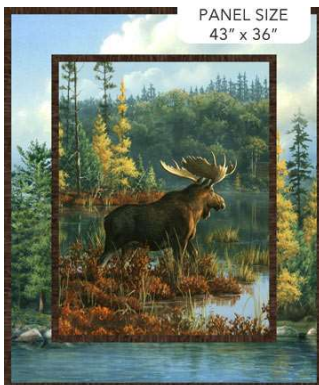
Color choices:

Hint: This quilt has a tree in it. The stars are decorations on the tree. Trees are green. Stars are silver or gold. You could also have a blue spruce tree (change the green yardage to blues), or silver, like an aluminum tree, or a multi colored tree, like a fiber optic Northern Lights tree. You could have a "cat" or a "dog" tree. Or a red tree or a purple tree. The stars can act as ornaments, so they can be all one color, or multiple colors, as long as they stand out against the tree.

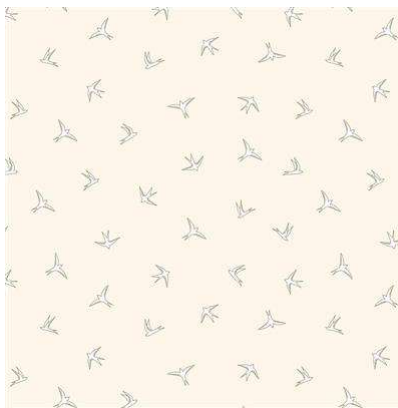
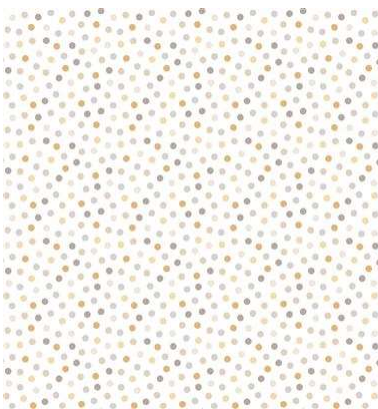
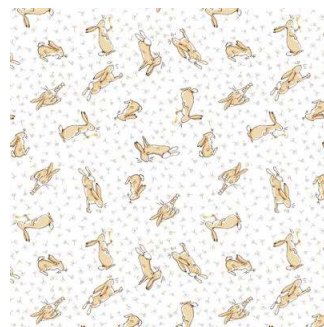
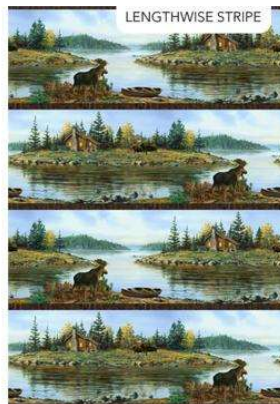
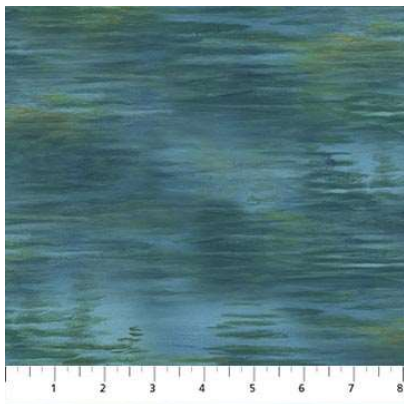
Choosing borders: Your border choices can be picked after the inside of the quilt is finished. Or, you can choose your borders first (as we usually do) and then pick your colors based on the colors in the border.



New Fabric

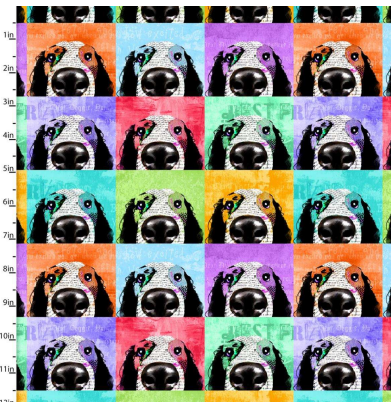


From Northcott

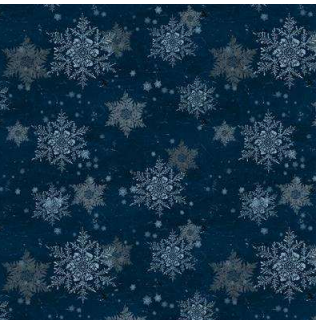
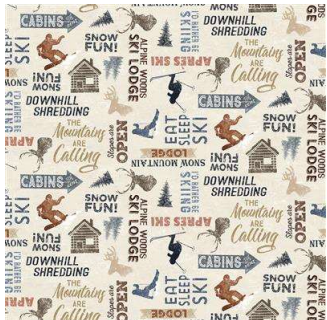
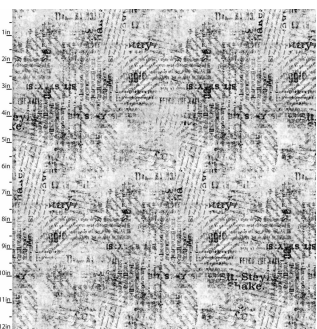
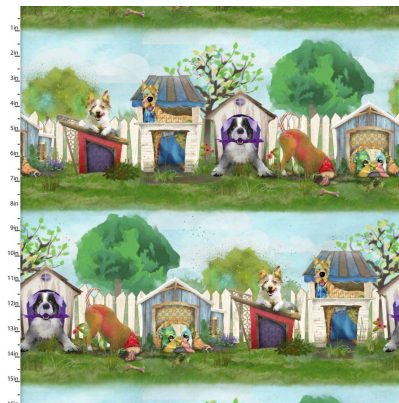
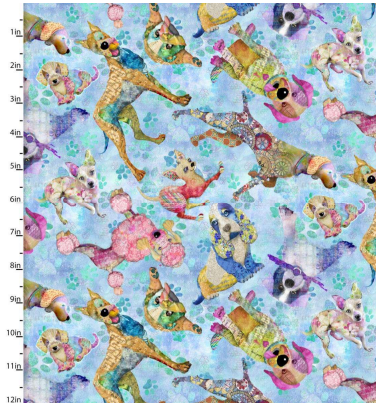


From Clothworks





From 3 wishes



From Clothworks

Flannel

Flannel





From 3 Wishes



Y

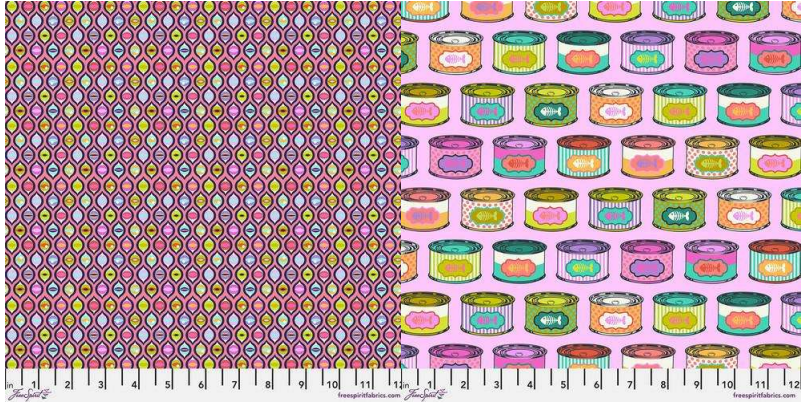
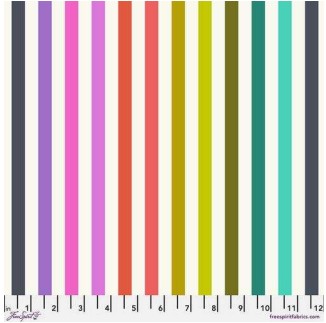
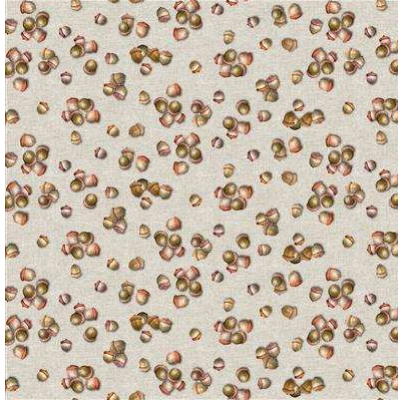


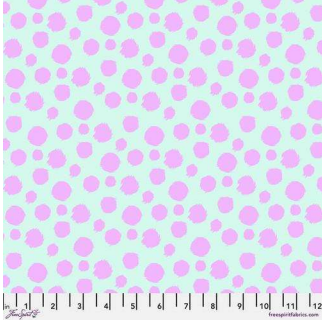
From Riley Blake



From Clothworks: Secret
Life of Squirrels II



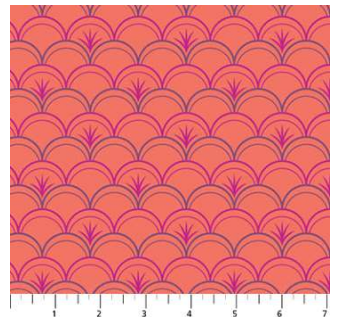
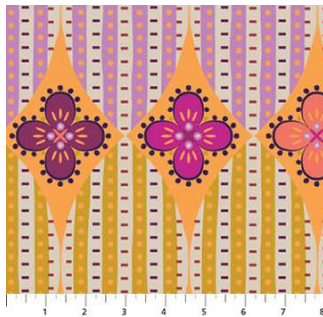




From Tula Pink

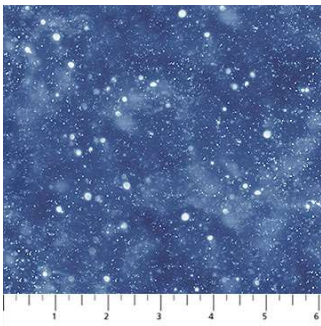


From Dear Stella





From Figó + rolls & squares



From Northcott: flannel, except for the 2 sports fabrics

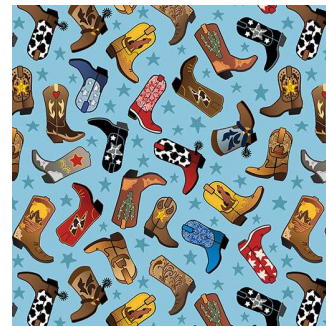




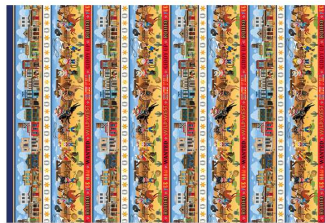
Yoy 7 remaining!"



From Hoffman



AS SHOWN 42" X 24"

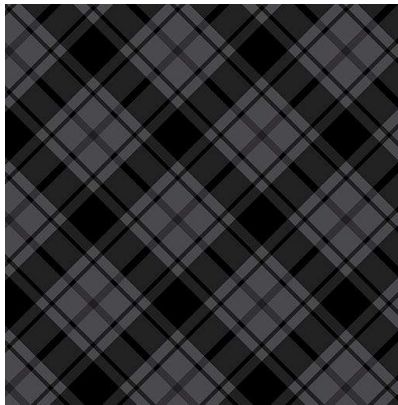
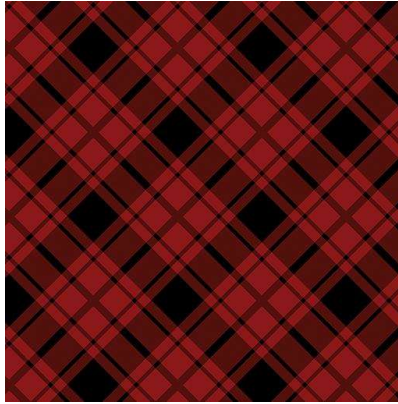
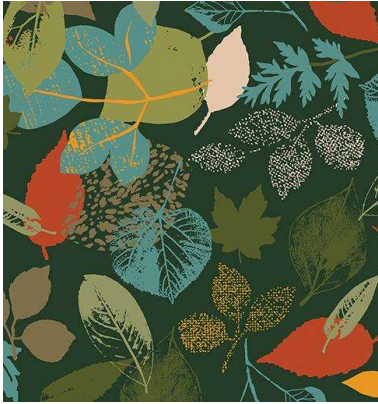


AS SHOWN 44" X 30"
*stripe runs parallel to selvage



PANEL MEASURES APPROX. 18" X 27"

From Benartex: The fall looking ones are flannel



A Reminder:

First Saturdays of the month, from September thru December, is the Finish Your Quilt Sale! Backing, Binding and Batting are 20% off any of the three, BUT you have to bring in your finished quilt top for show & tell to get the sale price. No exceptions. We want to see your quilts!

OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Hand work Club 2-5	2	3	4	5 BOM 10:30 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and battings Lost Socks 1-5
6 CLOSED Beginning Quilt 1-4	7	8 Hand work Club 2-5	9 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	10 Long Arm Rental Day	11	12 Embroidery Club 10-noon Jingle Pops Christmas Tree 1-5
13 Beginning Quilt 1-4	14 Columbus Day	15 Hand work Club 2-5	16	17 Full Moon	18	19 One Block Wonder Part II 10:3-5
20 Beginning Quilt 1-4	21	22 Hand work Club 2-5	23 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	24	25	26 Travel Bag Part II 10:30-4
27 Beginning Quilt 1-4	28	29 Hand work Club 2-5	30	31		Color of the month: green

NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color of the month: Purple					1	2 BOM 10:30 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and battings Bison Wall Hanging Part I 1-5
3 CLOSED	4	5 Hand work Club 2-5	6	7	8	9 Embroidery Club 10-noon Bison Wall Hanging Part I 1-5
10 CLOSED	11 Veterans Day	12 Hand work Club 2-5	13 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	14	15 Full Moon	16 Strip Quilts 10:30-4
17 CLOSED	18	19 Hand work Club 2-5	20	21	22	23 Krista Moser Christmas Tree Skirt 10 30-4
24 CLOSED	25	26 Hand work Club 2-5	27 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	28 Thanksgiving Day	29 Black Friday Sale	30 Shop Small Business Sale

DECEMBER 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 CLOSED	2	3 Hand work Club 2-5	4	5	6	7 BOM 10:30 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and battings Machine Quilting with your BSR 1-4
8 CLOSED	9	10 Hand work Club 2-5	11 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	12	13	14 Embroidery Club 10-noon Storm at Sea Part I 1-4 Full Moon
15 CLOSED	16	17 Hand work Club 2-5	18	19	20	21 Storm at Sea Part II 10:30-4
22 CLOSED	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27 Toad Toter Sale	28 Year End Sale
29 CLOSED	30 CLOSED	31 CLOSED				Color of the month: red

Please look on the calendars above for times and dates. NOTE: I will be doing a pillow case workshop in October on Thursdays in the afternoon. I will post the times and details soon.

Also, we did not include Machine Binding in the class schedule, but I will try to include it in November. Details to follow.

We may also do something special on Veteran's Day. So much to plan....

Ongoing Classes & Clubs

Block of the Month First Sat of month 10:30-11:15 FREE Barb Boyer

Join at any time. You get a free fat quarter if you come to class with the previous month's completed block. This year the challenge will be ... come in January and find out!

Hand Embroidery Club 2nd Sat. of the month, 10-noon FREE Kathy Sconce

If you want to learn to hand embroider or just brush up your technique, join us on the second Saturday of the month from 10 to noon. You can work on your own projects or you can join the project we are doing, which are sheep! From Crabapple Hill

Knit Pickers' Club 2nd and 4th Wed of each month, 2-5 Carol Moler

Come join our Knit Pickers= Club. We knit 2 days a month every second and fourth Wednesday, from 2-5. The Club is open to all skill levels and, despite the name, includes crocheters as well. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and knit. We may work on some felting projects, fingerless mittens, mittens, and socks. We can even help you get started—teach you the basics.

Hand Sewing Club every Tuesday afternoon 2-5

This club is open to everyone. Bring your hand sewing (embroidery, binding, knitting, crochet, etc) and sit & stitch.

Toad Toters Club

On full moon days (as noted in the calendar) you will get 20% off all purchases (not otherwise discounted) that you can fit in your bag. You must bring your bag to participate.

Full Moon Days: September 17, October 17, November 15 and December 14.

Discount Policy

We will honor only one discount -- whichever is largest. You can't combine a 10% with a 25% discount to get a 35% discount. On this we can't be bribed.

Color of the Month and Book of the Month

September orange; October Book of the Month; November purple; December red

October Classes

Lost Socks Sat Oct 5, 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

We all have a lost sock or two. This quilt celebrates all of the lost socks that no longer have a match. There are big socks and small socks and they are machines appliqued onto various backgrounds. You can make the quilt out of flannels, brushed cottons, wovens or regular fabrics. Make each sock unique and use all different applique stitches to secure them.

Jingle Pops Christmas Tree Sat Oct 12 1:00-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

The Jingle Pops are Hoffman fabrics famous 2 ½" strip sets, done in golds or silvers. Or you can use your own strip set to make this delightful Christmas Tree quilt. Easy to do and done before Christmas.

One Block Wonder Parts I and 2 Sat Sept 14 1-4 and Oct 19 10:30-5 \$45 Jean Korber ongoing

November Classes

Bison Wall Hanging Parts I & II, Nov 2, 1-5 and Nov 9, 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

The Bison Wall Hanging comes from Wyoming pattern designer Sewn Design. The head of the bison is made in a crazy quilt style or from left over bits from your stash. The rest of the bison is created from one piece of fabric. The two pieces are then fused into place on a background. I'll show you how to "window pane" the bison,

to reduce the amount of fusible needed for the quilt. Then the bison is secured using a machine blanket stitch—or any other decorative stitch. Part I is making the head and Part II is fusing in down and appliqueing in place.

Let's Strip! Quilts Sat Nov 16 10:30-4 or 5 Jean Korber and Barb Boyer \$130

March's quilt is Tulip Patch. You will need 25 assorted green strips for stems and 25 assorted strips for the tulips, plus background (and borders, if you want them). This quilt teaches different ways to use the 45 degree flip method for making flying geese-styled blocks.

Krista Moser Christmas Tree Skirt Sat Nov 23 10:30-4 \$45 Jean Korber

Krista has done it again with a great eloquent tree skirt. We love Krista Moser patterns because they go together so well and look like they are so complicated: Not. We also like offering her classes because the quilts use a 60 degree diamond ruler and we like to get as much use out of our specialty rulers that we can!

December Classes

Machine Binding with your BSR Sat December 7, 1-4 \$45 Jean Korber

Do you have a Bernina and you have the BSR (stitch regulator) and don't know how to use it? This class is for you. Jean will show you the ins and outs of machine quilting on your Bernina with the BSR. This is hands on class. You will need a small project (10" to 40", table runner, small wall nagging, place mat, etc) that is ready to be quilted. When you sign up, we will tell you how to prepare your project so you are ready to quilt in class.

Storm at Sea Sat December 14 1-4 and 21 10:30-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

This quilt used to be intimidating—then a ruler was developed and now it's a breeze! We will work with Deb Tucker's ruler for the construction of the block. We will also talk about various color schemes, one of which includes coloring the blocks to make a heart appear within the design.



Normal Shop Hours:

Monday-Saturday 10-5:30

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

