

We are kicking off a new year of Block of the Month with a mystery quilt!!! Instructions for creating this quilt will be provided at the monthly guild meetings and in the newsletters from January through May. In June, we will have a special “Show and Share” so everyone can see how these mysterious quilt tops turned out.

There are three ways to participate:

**OPTION #1:** Pick up a fabric kit during the January guild meeting. There is a limited number of kits, so it will be first come first serve.

**OPTION #2:** Pick up a focus fabric during the January guild meeting. If you use fabric provided by the guild, we ask that you return the finished top so it can be quilted and donated to community service.

**OPTION #3:** Use fabric from your stash and keep your mysterious creation. Of course, some of you may choose to make one to keep and one to donate, which would be awesome!

You will find the first two steps of the instructions at the bottom of this newsletter, and for those choosing option #1 or #2, please come to the Block of the Month station to pick up fabric.

Claire Reeves & Julie Cook

## **MYSTERY QUILT INSTRUCTIONS:**

### **Step 1: Fabric Selection**

**Fabrics:** You can use a single fabric for each number or use scraps in similar color/values for each selection. Either should yield a great quilt!

**Hints for new mystery quilters:** Choose focus fabric or color first. Or choose a multicolored border material and draw colors from it. Take a piece of paper and tape a snip of each fabric next to the numbers 1 – 5. Also, make sure you use a **consistent** quarter-inch seam allowance.

**Fabric Number 1:** Background 1 1/2 yards

**Fabric Number 2:** Dark Fabric 1/2 yard

**Fabric Number 3:** Focus fabric 3/4 yard

**Fabric Number 4:** Medium-light accent fabric 1/2 yard

**Fabric Number 5:** Medium-dark accent fabric 3/4 yard

**Example 1:**

1: Pale green print

2: Black stripe

3: Large coral print

4: Slate blue print

5: Reddish orange print

**Example 2:** (1930's style scraps)

1. Various white-on-white prints

2. Lavender prints

3. Green prints

4. Yellow prints

5. Blue prints

**Step 2: Cutting**

(**HINT:** Label each stack of fabric with its letter. Store in a flat box)

**Fabric 1 (background)**

Patch A: 84 squares cut 3 1/2" by 3 1/2"

Patch B: 21 squares cut 2" by 2"

Patch C: 42 squares cut 4" by 4"

**Fabric 2: (dark)**

Patch D: 84 rectangles cut 2" by 3 1/2"

**Fabric 3: (focus)**

Patch E: 42 squares 4" by 4"

**Fabric 4: (medium light accent)**

Patch F: 84 squares cut 2" by 2"

**Fabric 5: (medium dark accent)**

Patch G: 105 squares cut 2" by 2"

## NINE-PATCH BLOCKS FOR BABY BLANKETS

Along with the mystery quilt, from January to May, we will also have block kits for completing nine patch blocks to be combined with an alternate block and made into baby quilts for RISE. The block kits will include 2.5-inch strips to sew together, crosscut, and then sewn into as many nine-patch blocks as the fabric strips allow. Instructions can be picked up during the guild meetings at the Block of the Month station, and can also be found at the bottom of the newsletter.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR NINE-PATCH BLOCKS

1. The block kit contains 2.5-inch strips cut from a darker fabric and from a lighter fabric. Sew a dark fabric strip to each side of a lighter fabric strip and then crosscut into 2.5-inch wide units creating "Unit A". Press the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams to the darker fabric.
2. Sew a lighter fabric strip to each side of a darker fabric strip and then crosscut into 2.5-inch wide units creating "Unit B". Press the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams to the darker fabric.
3. Complete the nine-patch block by sewing a Unit A to the top and bottom of a Unit B.

