

Patchwork Press



Newsletter for the Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild

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May 2021 – Issue 09

| www.durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca

| Email: dtqguild@gmail.com

President's Message - Debbie K

Good Day Fellow Quilters.

For the last few days, I have been thinking about what to say in this article. Wondering what I could say to be uplifting and inspiring, yet how I can do that when I feel anything but? I could pretend that everything is sunshine and roses, trying to be a Pollyanna for you, but where would be the truth and help for you if I do that?

Both my husband and I are feeling overwhelmed in many ways, bored in others, and sad because we are still mourning my Mom and dealing with the rest of our life changes. We have had no opportunity to do the community grieving that usually happens which helps in saying goodbye to your loved one. Just like so many this past year, we are learning (or relearning) how to do things differently in ways that work for us.

This past year, my husband lost his job, we did a major renovation project, we decided to sell our house, buy some land, moved, left



"And while I have you, Mom, quick apologies for ages 13-22"

behind a big social net, bought a different house and land when our first plan got sideswiped by somebody else's plans, are moving again less than three months from the last time, and are waiting for one person to finish doing his job so that my hubby can get paperwork in for a job he really wants.

When you check out the research, you find that each one of these events lies on the same stress level as having a death in the family. So, either my hubby

and I are very strong, the ton of bricks has not hit us yet, or the skills we have both learned over time from others and life experiences are helping us to navigate these very unique times.

A big part of my frustration is from hearing on one hand how a small percentage of the population refuses to follow health protocols because of their lack of discipline/cultural beliefs/religious leanings/boredom – then I hear from my friends in the healthcare world/

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frontline workers how bad it is in reality, and how their lives and the lives of so many are being put at risk because of the behaviour of stupid people. (Ignorance is when you don't know better and you do something. Stupidity is when you do know better and choose to do the behaviour anyway.)

I worry about my family, friends, acquaintances, and those I have not met but care about. These gerbil thoughts running around in my brain have affected my sleep, mood, and ability to get anything done. My creativity has taken a huge dive. Now, motivating myself to accomplish anything takes so much effort. My go-to escapes are Facebook games and just vegging out.

I am not telling you this to garner sympathy. I am sharing this

Anyone who works on a quilt, who devotes time, energy, creativity, and passion to that art, learns to value the work of her hands. And as any quilter will tell you, a quilter's quilting friends are some of the dearest, most generous, and most supportive people she knows.

-- Jennifer Chiaverini

*Be very proud
of yourself.
You have
survived and
many of you
have thrived.*

because many of you are dealing with the stressors of life right now and may think you are at the end of your rope. You are not sure that you have anything left inside to continue to fight with and move forward with this type of life. You are frustrated with yourself because even with all this time at home, you are not accomplishing as much as you think you should. Many of you are now homeschool teachers, childcare workers, PSWs, along with working from home and still dealing with all the home stuff we normally do. There never seems to be a break time for you, either from work or other people. Then we have the other side of the scale where many of you are living alone. You are used to being social, enjoying time with friends and family, doing all sorts of things together and sharing while making memories. Now your whole way of life is completely changed, and you have had to deal with this

for over a year. And it is extremely hard.

First of all, be very proud of yourself. You have survived and many of you have thrived. You have learned many new skills. You have garnered a greater appreciation for the people in your lives. You have dug deep, overcome many different hurdles and built a large reservoir of resilience in yourself and helped others do the same.

You have learned new ways of connecting with others, how to make masks, how to encourage others, learned new skills with computer-based training, figured out that your dining room chairs really do need new cushioning and that going for a walk outside is a wonderful pleasure. Online shopping, curbside pickup, and figuring out what a fabric is really like on the computer or finally, shopping from our stash are a few of the other skills we have perfected.

We have learned to appreciate the small things of listening to the birds, sitting in a sunbeam and just being, having an impromptu conversation with someone and really being able to take the time to listen to each other. Learning that the small words of praise and encouragement to another are huge boosts to the person receiving those words. Understanding that sending a note in the mail,

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“Be kind to all the past versions of you. They are the soil in which you now bloom.”

-- Arielle Estoria



a card, a little parcel can make a huge difference in someone's day and give them hope which adds joy to the sender's life.

We have also learned the fun of having sewing Zoom times where we can be in our own sewing rooms and have friends there beside us. So many projects shared, questions asked, and advice given. It feels like a retreat where we don't have to pack up. People even help us to find things we have mis-

placed. We get to cheer each other on, get so many of our projects completed because we are hanging out with like-minded people (they help us to not get distracted...) and we get to feel the joy of having others appreciate our work when we show a finished project. This is community, this is doing more than surviving, this is being there for each other in whatever way is needed.

Speaking of being there for each other in whatever way is needed, your Guild Executive needs you to volunteer to fill the vacant positions. Sharon has listed the open positions in the last two newsletters and the position descriptions are listed in this one also. This wonderful Guild is a team effort of volunteers. We all help each other to get the different tasks done well and as a team, we continue to keep this great opportunity of being a Quilting Community open for all who wish to be part of it. You do have the skills needed to fill the open positions. You will be working with a team and be shown the ropes. We just need you to come forward and volunteer.

Lina has been doing an awesome job with Program. She loved the fact we would pass on information to her so she could book our speakers. Maria and Andrew have shifted focus from Library to kit-

ting up Cuddle Quilt kits. Laura has been wearing three hats for quite a while, and her work demands have increased so we need someone to step forward to help take some things off her plate. If we all do a small part, then it all gets done well. Fresh new ideas (and rejigging of old ideas) get brought forward, and we continue to create an invigorating Guild year that helps everyone do better and be better. Please, contact Sharon and let her know what position you are willing to fill for the next couple of years.

Enjoy yet another fantastic DTQG Newsletter, put together by the amazing Kay with input from quite a few of our members. Team efforts create wonderful things. Thank you for being part of the creative team.

Stay healthy, keep generating beautiful works of art, get out and enjoy the wonderful weather, and continue to focus on the good stuff. I am going to go smile at myself in the mirror because I have discovered it really does lift your mood, change your outlook and changes your body physiologically especially if you see someone else smile. By looking at yourself in the mirror, your brain responds as if it was someone else looking at you. Also, it helps you practice smiling with a mask on and making sure the smile shows in your eyes. Be blessed all.



Bethany, breaktime at the TETR



"and the earth cried," Bethany Garner, 2020



Bethany at the TETT evening before show opening

May 10 Guild Zoom Meeting

Speaker: Bethany Garner

Topic: Pandemic Art Quilts' Journey

The speaker for May will be Bethany Garner, and she will be joining the Durham Trillium Quilters to share her live talk and a PowerPoint presentation related to her "PANDEMIC ART QUILTS" journey.

Bethany has been making new art quilts since March and is sad that the pandemic keeps them from being able to travel to the exhibitions she always love to enter.

Bethany creates original art with printing techniques, dye painting and soy wax batik work. Bethany's quilts and other information can be found at www.bethanygarner.com.

Guests are welcome! To purchase a ticket for this event, be sure to click on the link below. Guest tickets are available until May 6 at 11:30 PM. Ticket holders will be emailed the Zoom meeting invitation a few days before this event.

[Bethany's Website](#)

[Guest Tickets](#)

Open Positions for Executive Committee - Sharon M

The Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild is only as successful as its members' involvement.

The nominating committee is still seeking volunteers. Please consider sharing your talents and skills by joining our Executive team.

The positions that still need to be filled are:

- Membership
- Program
- Community Outreach Leader

If you need more information on any of these positions, please refer to the April newsletter or call Sharon or Laura and we can chat.

Looking forward to completing the Executive search.

April Newsletter

**Let's admit it:
We put "made with love" on our creations because "made with cursing, two trips to the fabric store, and lots of wine" just won't fit on a cute little label.**



10 Quilting Hacks from Our Latest Quilt 'Til You Wilt Sew Day Friends - Jacqueline H

1. Gardening Gloves – for pumping gas. Keep them in the trunk of your car.
2. Use a craft hammer for those stubborn seams that won't lay flat (can be purchased from Princess Auto)
3. Use divided storage boxes for a multitude of things (keeping bobbins, thread, stitching floss, buttons, sewing feet etc) organized. And place any instructions needed for those parts or pieces right in the box with the item.
4. Hemo stats can be used to hold your sewing needle in place while you put a new one in your machine. Or it can be used to hold a stubborn seam or piece of elastic while you sew
5. Magnetic wand to pick up fallen pins
6. Tweezers for cleaning machines
7. Dollar store make up brush to clean out bobbin area
8. Garment rack for \$50, or a laundry hanging rack to hold your quilt up while you are machine quilting it.
9. Olfa cutting mats from Princess Auto
10. Dollar store boxes for your rotary cutters

Note: our Quilt Til You Wilt had many friends joining in an out when time permitted. We had a few participants hand in their "QUILTO" card. The draw winner (for a \$10 Apple Seed Quilt Works in Lindsay) will be randomly chosen from the entries.

Quilt til you Wilt started at 9:00 AM, and our fearless leader, Debbie went all the way until 4:30 AM, the NEXT day!! I wonder if we should check the Guinness book of world records.

8" Economy Block

This quick tutorial is a back to basics look at building a fast and easy quilt. This would be the perfect application for an "I spy" quilt.

Star Block Ideas

In my humble opinion, star blocks have a way of making quilts look really, well, "quilty." This tutorial puts some interesting techniques to work in building the main feature star block. There are a ton of ideas at the bottom of the post for you to start, well, another quilt?

Dresden Plate Ideas

I've actually made a Dresden plate block, and it was cool to see it come together. Here's more inspiration to tickle your needle.



Community Quilts - Maria S

This month I am putting together some mini quilt kits suitable for the Children's Aid Society. They are in need of some new-born size quilts 45" by 45" for example. Click on the picture above for a free PDF pattern download.

If you would like to donate some quilts to the Guild but don't have any batting or backing, please let me know and we can arrange to get some to you. Please remember that we still have some kits ready to be quilted at Laura's house.

I would like to sincerely thank Betty H for her generous donation of three boxes of good quality quilting fabrics. We are looking forward to making wonderful quilts.

Hope to hear from you soon and thank you for helping the needy during this COVID-19 time.



Historical Flashback

Have you ever seen a sewing machine attached to an ironing board?

Here we have contestants in the Mrs. America pageant participating in a competitive ironing event - 1954

Click on the picture to link to the website and scroll through the pictures for an historical flashback.

Did you know?

If you right-click on any image on the internet, you can scroll down to "search Google for this image" in the drop-down menu that appears. This comes in handy when you find a picture of a block or quilt and you would like to know more. After your right-click on the photo to get the menu, click on the "Search Google" option to activate the search. When the results come up, sometimes you can track down a pattern to go with the picture you just Googled.



Sweet Mom Moment

What do you give your mom as a gift when your mother is Jenny Doan of Missouri Star Quilting Company?

Watch how her girls surprise Jenny in this "Triple Play" video. You'll also see some neat techniques for a few projects. Just click on the logo for the link to the video.



**In my dreams, fabric is FREE
and quilting makes you
thinner.**



Show & Share - Anne M & Jean K

Our monthly Show & Share is a chance to share finished quilt projects. We love to admire your work and hear the background story about the importance of the project to you. To display your quilt "virtually," please send a photo of finished projects with a few remarks to Laura B via dtqguild@gmail.com by 5:00 PM on Friday, May 7.

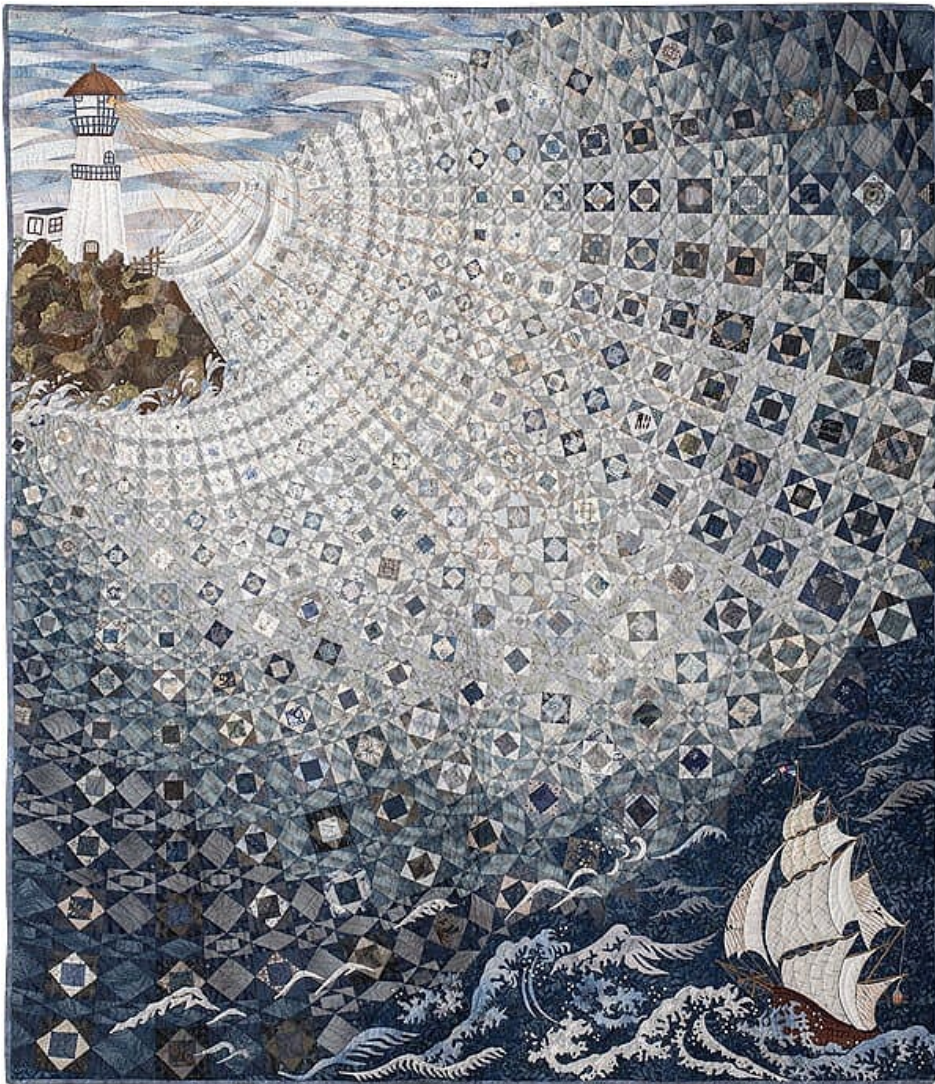
Please remember to:

- put "Show & Share" in the email subject
- include the name of the person submitting the quilt since we can't always tell from the email address
- send as many pictures as you like, but if there are a lot provided, we will limit displaying photos to two shares per person
- indicate your favorites if submitting more than two pictures
- provide a short blurb about the quilt(s) OR
- specify if you will talk about the quilt(s) at the meeting (note that stories will be limited to one minute per quilt)

Multiple entries welcome, but please use a separate email for each entry. Each submission qualifies for the monthly draw of a \$10 gift certificate from a local quilt shop. In June 2021, there will be a draw that includes all entries for the year. So remember - the more you participate, the greater your chance of winning a prize!



Click on the picture above to link to an article by Jodi Butler that outlines some ways to improve your quilting skills. As an author of a few quilting books, Linda generously shares some advice on various techniques to implement when building your quilt to achieve a more polished, professional finish.



Inconceivable! Remarkable!! Unbelievable!!!

Just looking at the half-square triangles in the above quilt makes me dizzy. I can't imagine how long it took to get the correct shades to line up correctly.

While these quilts were made and posted a while ago, the showcased talent will have you in awe of the time, patience, persistence, and vision it took to create these astounding art pieces. The workmanship will take your breath away.

Be sure to click on the picture above for the link, You should be able to scroll through the remarkable entries for the AQS QuiltWeek. You can also watch some of the quilters as they are interviewed via YouTube.

A finished quilt is a perfect quilt.

Sew Days - Jacqueline H

Our Sew Days continue to be bundles of fun! We have changed the time to 1:00 – 4:00 PM so people can enjoy their lunches before sewing.

Please feel free to drop in at any time during the Sew Day afternoons. It is just great to see familiar faces, share stories, and keep each other motivated.

Our "Sew Day Socials" have between 20 and 30 members usually. Please remember to pre-register with Jacqueline so your name can go in for the pre-registered draw. Our winners thus far have been:

- Sew Day #13 winner was Maureen E
- Sew Day #14 winner was Joanne P
- Sew Day #15 winner was Kate H

Hexies Are Fun

The quilt tutorial comes with downloadable templates at the bottom of the page.

There's a lot here besides hexies, so if you want something to browse through while you have that second cup of coffee, here's your chance.

Free Applique Patterns

There's a bunch of downloadable patterns here if applique is your thing. A perfect library of ideas to embellish your next project.



Morale Officer - Jacqueline H

With the weather getting nicer, we can open windows, feel the breeze, or walk out into our yards and get grounded in our gardens.

The nicer weather brings good, warm sunshine. We are just finishing the April showers that will bring those May flowers. I know a few of you have already been digging around in your gardens and planning for some new flower beds.

You may be dreaming of the days you can begin to plant your vegetable gardens or summer flowers. With each seed planted, you are taking the time to plant hope. Hope for a better tomorrow.

To all of you that open your windows to the sunshine, or spend time outdoors, "Thank you!!" And, if you are out and about, please pass a long a smile to a stranger today. Even if it is from behind a mask, they can tell you are smiling. You might want to add a wave for a happier effect!

So... keep calm and quilt on!

Mug Rug Tutorial

Of course, I'm giving you an overload of ideas to keep you busy. You don't have anywhere else to go, so why not throw in something quick and easy to do? Use as a potential birthday, Christmas, "I love you" or "I'm thinking about you" gift.

Planning Layouts

Here's a great starter article if you have never ventured out into planning and designing your own quilt.

Gift Ideas 4 Mom

I don't think you can have too many suggestions when it comes to planning a special gift for Mom. Here are some more ideas, some of which are pretty quick to pull together and are as special as her.

Tutorial

Never mind giving this to Mom. I could use this to keep myself organized. Here's a handy tutorial for an "out-the-door" organizer. I don't know how many times I've left the house, had to circle the block and grab my forgotten item. And that's a good day - before I get to the store and realize, I left my phone at home. Oh ya, those were the good 'ole days. Now, I'm just home and still forgetting stuff.

Fat Quarter Projects

You know you're a quilter when you just can't resist those cute little fat quarters that magically pull you to them in the store, playing wonderful visions of all the things you can do with them. Well, here's some ideas to repoke yourself to get a project done instead of letting them sit on your shelf. Actually, they look so cute there, too. Don't they?

Nancy Zieman

I wish I knew about Nancy sooner on my sewing journey. I really love her style of showing you how to achieve great results by really breaking down technique steps into micro-bits sometimes. She also explains "why" in a lot of her presentations, and that's something I always want to know. Why?

In this blog post, Nancy goes into quilting with machine embroidery. It's not as intimidating when Nancy breaks it all down.

Int'l Quilt Museum

I had no idea there is an International Quilt Museum. Somehow, I think I saw a post on Facebook about it, and I decided to check it out. I think you will enjoy visiting the site, too.



The moment you realize you ran out of bobbin thread and have been sewing nothing.



Mystery 2021 - Kate H

We are past the halfway mark of the program! The block units are starting to take shape. Isn't it amazing how they all fit nicely together? It's coming along, and when it grows up, it will be a quilt!

Congratulations to Brenda L for her back-to-back win for March's submission.

Our mystery group is 51 strong now and everyone should have received their emails by the end of the night of the guild meeting.

Sherri Hisey from Border Creek Station designed a lovely quilt pattern just for our guild. Clue #4 was sent out the night of the last meeting. Hope everyone is moving along nicely. The Facebook group (DTQG 2021 Mystery) has been active and it's been fun to see everyone working diligently! The group is a safe space where people can share our progress, fabric selections, questions and good-natured

camaraderie. Remember, quilting is all about the journey, and it is not a race!

Don't forget to submit your photo to be eligible for a prize. Send your progress photo (jpeg format size small, please) with your name and which clue # you are submitting in the subject line to my email address. Photos must be submitted a week before the guild meeting to be eligible for that month's draw and to make it into the slideshow for the guild meeting. Do not send them to the guild email or post them on Facebook only, they won't count! Why? Well, not everyone is on Facebook, and that would be an unfair advantage for those not on FB. You must send it to me in an email, as I will not collect them from social media.

The next deadline for submission is May 2, 2021.

Looking forward to seeing your progress!! Happy sewing.



ME AT THE CRAFT STORE:
SHOULD I BUY THIS FABRIC?
HEAD: NO
WALLET: NO
CRAFT ROOM: PLEASE NO.
HUSBAND: CRAP NO
ME: I'LL TAKE 3 YARDS.

Fabric Basket - Jacqueline H & Retta H

OH MY GOODNESS... We can hardly imagine how much fabric you have set aside for the fabric basket! Remember: a good "Leaders and Enders" project with 2.5 inch squares of assorted fabric comes together really quickly. I personally have constructed three such quilts this way, and Retta and I created three Cancer quilts this way this year, as well.

Please continue to save your "hand sized" scraps of fabric for our exchange when we can gather again safely. Please put scraps smaller than your hand into a doggie pillow case

**My friend writes songs about sewing machines.
He's a Singer songwriter. Or sew it seams.**



Pandemic Quilters

You don't have to be an Instagram user to enjoy this post. However, since it's been over a year since this plague has troubled the globe, there's some great advice here on how to cope by challenging yourself to grow your skills. If you are an Instagram fan, this article makes it easy to connect to some very talented quilters.

More Mom Gift Ideas

I really want to give this project a go. The final outcome is soooo cute, I may have a hard time giving them away, though. Sorry, Mom.

All-in-One Post

Here's a post that covers everything you need to think about for these Covid times. Even includes some great recipes.



Never Have I Ever

Give yourself a point for every item on this list that you've done:

1. Ripped out the same seam. Twice.
2. Taught someone else to sew.
3. Given up on a project that was too difficult.
4. Bought fabric without a specific purpose.
5. Sewed something as a gift.
6. Returned to the fabric store for something I forgot the first time.
7. Surprised myself with my sewing prowess.
8. Altered a pattern on my own.
9. Been asked to make alterations or repairs for someone else.
10. Sewed a quilt for a special occasion.
11. Taken a vacation specifically to visit a fabric store.
12. Sewn a block into a quilt sideways.
13. Broken a needle twice on the same sewing project.
14. Run out of thread before finishing a project.
15. Found a thread hanging long after finishing a quilt.
16. Left a scorch mark from the iron.
17. Forgotten to pre-wash my fabric.
18. Gone more than a year without getting my machine serviced or cleaned.
19. Sewn through my finger, clothing, or something I shouldn't have sewn through.
20. (Tried to) sew a zigzag stitch with a straight stitch foot on.

Surprise! The more points you have, the more experienced a sewist you are! How many points did you get?

Scant 1/4 inch Tip

This is one of those weird phrases I just didn't understand until I read this article. Now, I get it. It's a great refresher to review why a scant 1/4 inch can help improve your blocks.

13 Scrappy Patterns

I'm coming to the realization that scraps can build up faster than dust bunnies. Especially if you make a goof or two on your current project. So here's yet another post on ways to use up those scraps effectively.

Wheelchair Quilt

While the pattern is not free, this is a super cool idea. The quilt pattern is designed for and caters to an individual seated in a wheelchair. It has a handwarmer pocket which helps the person keep the quilt in place very securely. Love it!



Guild Meeting Dates

Our guild meets every second Monday of the month. If you are interested in following our newsletters, they are posted on the first Monday of every month on our website under "Newsletters."

In-person meetings are currently suspended due to COVID-19's physical distancing requirements.

Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for June 14 and is for Guild members only. Guest tickets will not be available.

No Binding?

Not every quilt project finishes with binding. Here's a neat technique that I would never have thought of on my own.

Quilting Paths

If you ever wondered how to get from point A to point B in your quilting, this article has some great suggestions on how to plot and plan your quilt design.

Spoil Mom Some More

Here are 50+ ideas on things you can sew or create to really show Mom how much she means to you.

There's a little bit of everything here, so if you don't have time to sit at the machine to create her gift, you can get some other ideas that are just as adorable to let Mom know she's super special.

Mark Your Calendar - Jacqueline H

Pre-register for Zoom with Jacqueline H and drop in whenever for the following Sew Days:

May 9 - Mother's Day Sewcial | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

May 22 - Long Weekend Sew Day | 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

June 12 - Sew Day | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Trading Cards Workshop

June 27 - Sew Day | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

July 4 - Sew Day Sewcial | 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM | HST Workshop

July 14 - Sew Day | 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

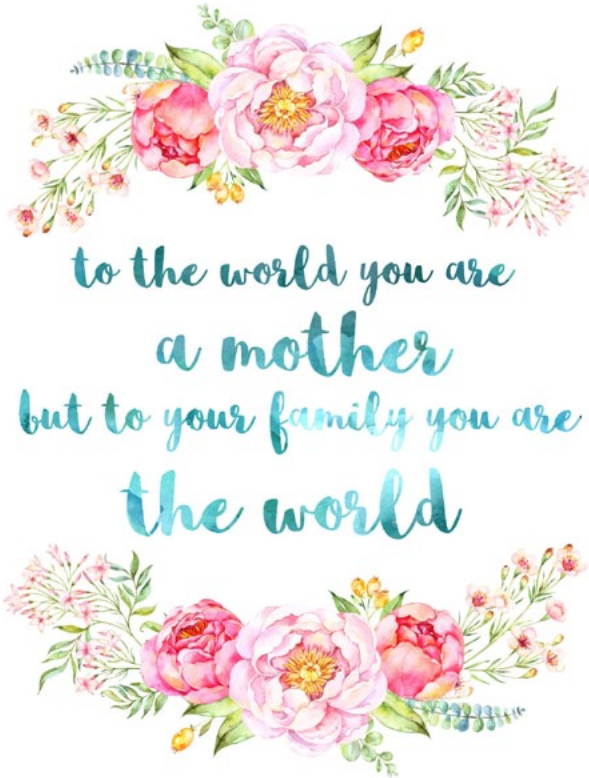
July 31 - Drop-in Sewcial | 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Aug 11 - Sew Day | 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Aug 22 - Sew Day Sewcial | 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM | Rulers Workshop



Save these Dates & Join the FUN!



Quilting Hand Positions

This is a great article on various ways to work with your quilt when adding the quilting dimension. How your hands are positioned plays a crucial part of your design success. The author also shares some tips to make the process smoother as you sew.

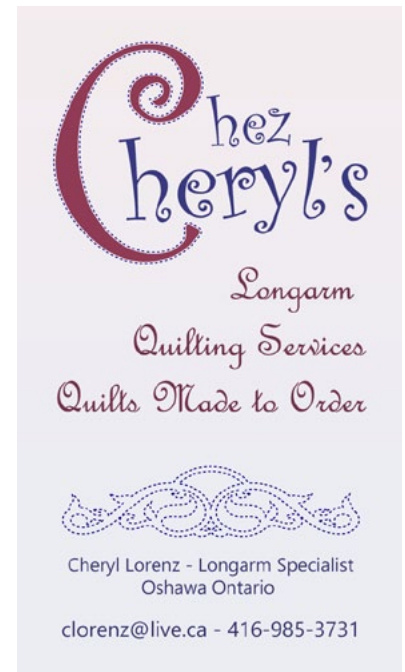
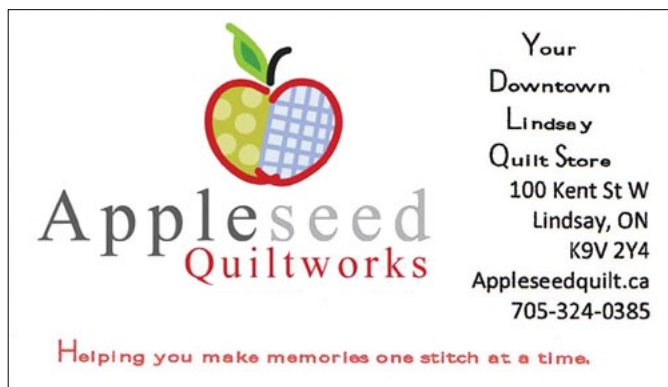


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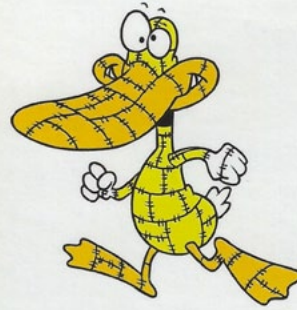


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Find me on YouTube @ whirlsnswirlsquilting



10



DIFFERENT WAYS TO CUT A FAT QUARTER

6 6.5 INCH
SQUARES

9 6 INCH
SQUARES

12 5.5 INCH
SQUARES

12 5 INCH
SQUARES

16 4.5 INCH
SQUARES

20 4 INCH
SQUARES

INFO

30 3.5 INCH
SQUARES

42 3 INCH
SQUARES

56 2.5 INCH
SQUARES

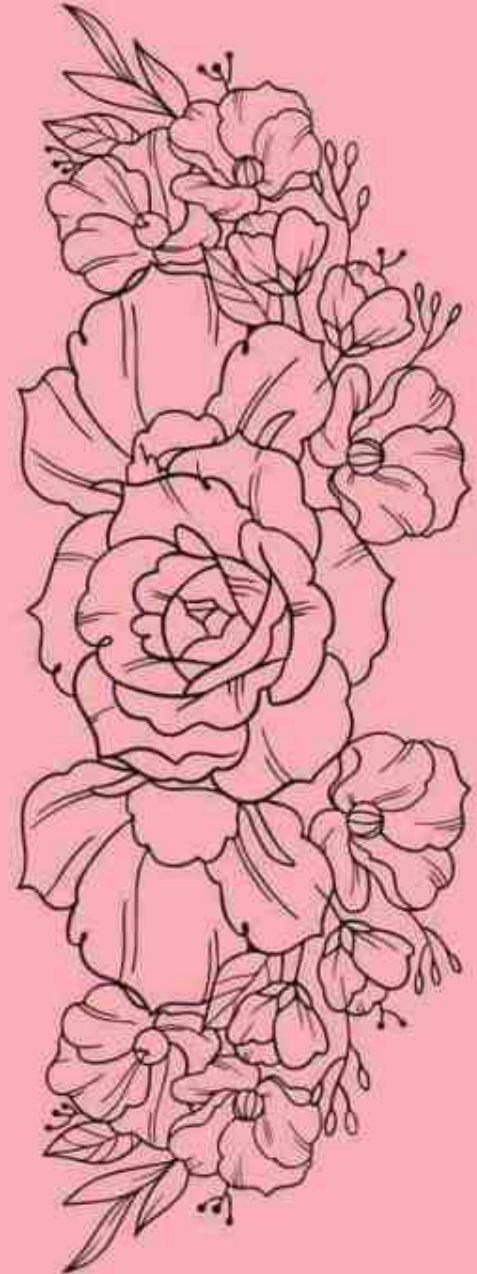
99 2 INCH
SQUARES

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FABRIC YARDAGE

YARD = INCHES

1/8	4.5"
1/4	9"
1/3	12"
3/8	13.5"
1/2	18"
5/8	22.5"
2/3	24"
3/4	27"
7/8	31.5"
1	36"



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Not Everything Is Cancelled

Sunshine is not cancelled
Spring is not cancelled
Love is not cancelled
Relationships are not cancelled
Reading is not cancelled
Naps are not cancelled
Devotion is not cancelled
Music is not cancelled
Dancing is not cancelled
Imagination is not cancelled
Kindness is not cancelled
Conversations are not cancelled
HOPE is not cancelled

