

# HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

MYSTERY MEDALLION QUILT SERIES BY MICHELLE RENEE HIATT

## IMPORTANT ITEMS:

- Please read the Blog each week.
  - Each week I will provide additional tips for each week's clue. It is important that you read it to get those extra tips.
  - During *Sunset on the Sound* and *Timeless with a Twist* series I received an average of 20 emails/instant messages/text, each week, with questions that were answered in the blog. A lot of time goes into putting this together for you, for free, therefore I request that you read the blog, prior to contacting me, to see if your question is answered on the Blog post.
  - I always welcome emails from all of you, however it is frustrating to take the time to give you the information, only to receive emails asking for the same information.
- The Clues will only be available from Friday's newsletter/blog post through to the following Thursday night at midnight.
  - It is your responsibility to download the Clues. If you miss downloading a Clue, misplace a Clue, etc., you will need to purchase missed clues. There will be no exceptions.
  - You will have the option to purchase missed clues at the middle of the series and at the end of the series for a nominal fee.
- The Clues are for your purposes only.
  - Clues are not to be shared; this includes Clues being emailed, copied, scanned, or mailed for others. My Mystery series is copyright protected.
  - If it comes to my attention that you have shared a Clue, without my permission, or that you have requested or received a Clue, you will be blocked from downloading the rest of the series and all future series.
  - Apologies, unfortunately, my ill usage of my prior works has caused this for me to take this stance. It is sad to think, especially in the quilting world, that someone takes advantage of my weeks of hard work, but it happens. Unfortunately, too much for my liking. I know there are other quilt instructors/authors that leave their downloads up for longer and that is their business. I know that I spend 6-8 hours a week putting together a quality mystery series, with first-rate instructions, and therefore I do not want my hard work being used to provide someone else income. I hope that makes sense.
- If you join or have joined the Facebook group, please note that it is a friendly environment meant for positivity only. It is not a place to pass judgement nor solicit other groups, shops, etc. I've set up the group to share this quilting journey. It is meant for Holiday Extravaganza activities, or any of my other designs, classes, or events.
- Please keep in mind that if you keep up with the Clue downloads and the series, that I'm doing this for free. I ask in return that you consider my classes, retreats, services and products when possible. However, more importantly, I asked that you consider this when you go to pen a negative note. I try my best, I'm only human, life does happen and I try and deal with it the best I can. So far, in each series, there has been at least one email that makes me wonder why I keep offering these free series. So far, I've been able to get myself back off the ground, shake it off and go on, but it does hurt that people would be so negative. That being said, for the most part I get wonderful supportive emails and thanks, which is why I keep doing the series.

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## What is a Medallion quilt?

A Medallion quilt, by definition, is a quilt that has a central motif and is surrounded by multiple borders or multiple blocks forming borders. The central part of a Medallion quilt is a quilt block, which can be traditionally pieced, an appliquéd piece, or a whole cloth piece of printed fabric.

Regardless of what the center is comprised of, a Medallion quilt is “built” by adding multiple borders or multiple blocks forming borders, around the center portion of the design. Given the multiple blocks, it is almost a Sampler quilt. However, the difference is in the number of each of the blocks. A Sampler quilt often has one of every block. Whereas in a Medallion quilt, with the exception of the center block, there are traditionally four, eight, or sixteen of each block in a Medallion quilt. That is due to the fact that they are often arranged equally in all four border surrounding the center.

Stunning Medallion quilts often utilize many different quilting techniques. Some borders are simply solid pieces of fabric that allow a “resting” place for the eyes in a quilt with so many different design elements.

Quilt historian Barbara Brackman explains “Early quilts often have a central design focus, a setting style Americans tend to call a Medallion quilt and the British call framed quilt or frame quilt. The terms seem to date only as early as the twentieth-century, possibly established in 1929 by quilt historian Ruth Finley who described a quilt with a tree-of-life center as a ‘framed Medallion’ in her book *Old Patchwork Quilts: And the Women Who Made Them.*”

For Holiday Extravaganza, my Medallion Mystery Quilt Series, we have one center block and then we will create multiple borders using multiple blocks. Each week you will get instructions for one 12” block or four 6” Blocks. The blocks will not necessarily be in the order to complete borders, as I’ve needed to take skill and schedule into account. However, whenever we are able to construct or add borders, I will provide border instructions in addition to that week’s block(s) instructions.

Therefore, it will be important for you to stay organized and label each block upon completion, as we will have many different blocks. The Blocks and Borders will create a secondary element when completed, so it is important that you construct the Borders following my instructions. The quilt will finish at 64” x 64” without a domain traditional border. With a traditional border, it will finish at 76” x 76”.

- If you want to make the quilt larger, I would purchase extra fabric, but wait to the end when the mystery is revealed to determine the additional blocks you may want to add or duplicate.
- If you want to make the quilt smaller, I would wait until the mystery is revealed, and determine if you want to leave off the border and possibly the finishing blocks/border. I would not make the blocks smaller. Many of these blocks have different segments which will make it difficult to generic change the size of the blocks.
- I hope this makes sense.

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