

QUILTS Mystery Quilt - 2009-10 DOUBLE DELIGHT

The request was made by several members of the guild to have the mystery quilt be one that is bed size this year. I have done that. Your finished quilt will be approximately 72" x 85" with one narrow and one larger border - a nice twin bed size quilt. However, if you don't want to make that large a quilt, you can cut most of the yardage by about half and come up with a nice lap quilt or square wall hanging. I have made notes in the yardage requirements which are *best guesses* for an approximate half-sized quilt. If you are buying fabrics, buy a little more to make sure you have enough. But, if you are using fat quarters or scraps, you will possibly need a few more than what I've projected. Choose a color palette you love that works within the following guidelines. I went to my stash for all of it and found things that work well together. The lightest fabric will be scrappy, but the rest I had yardage for.

I have also chosen a pattern that allows for the use of scraps, fat quarters, and left over chunks, so you can work that stash down a bit. You can, however, select fabrics that are consistent throughout for a less scrappy look. Do what you love most!

All of these instructions are based on an exact 1/4" seam. Take care - or if you use a slightly smaller or larger seam because your foot is larger or whatever, know that you may have to fudge a little or cut slightly differently. I've tried to make them as simple as possible and most of the units are finished to squares.

There will be 7 steps - so get going! We want to see at least finished tops at the June meeting!!

Hint - This is an easy piecing pattern, but complex in the overall design. When I'm working on a complex and large project like this, I put everything in a box and mark the fabrics so I don't have to try to remember which was which - so mark your fabrics A, B, C, D, and E once you settle on them. You can also mark your units 1, 2, 3 etc to keep track of which is which. Ziploc bags are wonderful for this! It will help.

Yardage requirements:

Fabric A - Light fabric(s) with color - double pinks, peach, pale green, light blues etc - can be scraps, fat quarters, strips, or yardage, but all consistent within the color way - 3 yards

For a half size finished quilt, you will need about 2 yards (allowing for borders)

Fabric B - Light fabric(s) with little color (shirtings, pale batiks, tone-on-tone neutrals, or pastels of your darker shades) - can also be scraps - 2 1/4 yards

For half size - 1 to 1 1/2 yards

Fabric C - Dark fabric(s) - indigo, chocolate, burgundy, forest green, etc - can be scraps, but within the same color way - all dark greens or all dark browns for instance - 3/4 yard

For half size - about 1/2 yard

Fabric D - Dark fabric - needs to contrast well with the other dark, but should also be in the dark range. This fabric should be consistent throughout the quilt to help tie the rest of the quilt together, and will also be one of your border fabrics - 1 ½ yards (2 if you use it for your binding) - so buy or use a chunk from your stash that is 2 yards to begin with
For half size - about 1 yard, plus a little if this is your binding fabric

Fabric E - Bright fabric - needs to be a good “zinger” for the other fabrics in your palette and is what will really pop the pattern you will be making. Gold, bright fuchsia, lime green, strong pink, turquoise are the kind of brights to use - depending on your palette - choose something that you really love. This fabric should also be consistent throughout the quilt, so buy (or use) one cut of about 1 ½ yards (2 yards if you want to use it as your binding)
For half size - ¾ yard (or a little more if you want to use it as your binding)

PART I

Unit 1 - Square within a Square

The first units you are going to make are a square in the square starting with Fabric C as the center square and adding 3 triangles of Fabric B and 1 triangle of Fabric E. They should complete to 3 ½” squares.

Cutting Directions:

Fabric C - Cut 120 (or 64 for smaller size quilt) - 2 5/8” squares. Remember, these can be scrappy, in sets of 4 per fabric, or consistent throughout. The 2 5/8” measurement is odd, but it’s because this square is set on point. Be careful in your cutting.

Fabric E - Cut 60 (or 32) 2 7/8” squares and cut them in half to create 120 (or 64) half-square triangles.

Fabric B - 180 (or 96) 2 7/8” squares and cut them in half to create 360 (or 192) half-square triangles.

Hint: Take the center square and fold it in half, pressing along the fold with your fingers, then unfold and fold it the other way. You can then line the point of each triangle exactly on the fold, centering them perfectly. You will press out these folds when you press the units.

Attach one triangle of Fabric E and 3 triangles of Fabric B to your square of Fabric C. I always attach opposite sides first and then press before adding the second two triangles. You can do all of this “assembly line” by chain piecing your units

Once this is finished, trim each square down to 3 ½”. A little wiggle room was allowed in the cutting so that you can trim carefully and have a finished unit with all the points intact. (Judges watch out!) Put a movie in and trim away - it’s only 120 units...

Happy quilting! If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to call me (Kathie Greenwold) at 370-1667.