

**End of Year 40% off Sale
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY
BECAUSE THE RULES HAVE CHANGED**

Great News! We will still have our end of year sale, **but things will be different. There will be rules and restricted access and tickets to get in.**

Part One:

By tomorrow you must buy one item from the store to get your Wyoming Wind Express Ticket. This ticket will get you into the year end sale on your chosen date and time. I will have time slots from 10-1 and 1-4 each day, 8 customers per slot. (More about this below)

Part Two:

If you are a Toad Toter or if you have a Keep Smiling (covid) t-shirt, your sale dates are between December 20-23.

For everyone else, including Toad Toters, the sale will be between December 26-31.

General Notes:

If you are a Toad Toter, you must **either wear or bring your tote bag with you to the sale and bring your ticket.** When you pick up the ticket, if you tell me you have a tote bag or t-shirt that's all I need in order to assign you a time & date. But in order to get into the store for the 40% off sale during Dec 20-23, you **MUST** have your tote bag or wear your t-shirt and have your ticket.

If you are not a Toad Toter, your sale will start on December 26. **You must bring your ticket with you on your chosen date and time in order to get the 40% sale price.**

The only way to get the 40% sale price is to have a ticket. If you want to shop more than one day, you need additional tickets.

You must wear a mask.

Please use hand sanitizer both before you enter the shop and when you leave-carry your own supply in the car.

Please stay 6 feet from other customers in the store as much as you can. We have tight aisles so please be patient and try to stay distanced.

Please don't come to the store if you believe you have been exposed to covid-19, have been to any gatherings that are larger than they should be, or if you have traveled during the Christmas holidays.

And I will apologize for being so rigid, but this disease is spreading rapidly and easily and I don't want this sale to contribute to the escalation. I want you to feel safe in the store and I want you to have a good time. And I also want to protect my staff.

I love this year end sale because I get to see a lot of happy, creative people having fun. So I hope I still get to see all of you, but just over a longer period of time.

Thanks for being understanding.



December 18, 2020

Do you ever notice all the grumpy faces of people driving cars around town? Not a smile to be seen.

So here's a thought: We need to do something silly this week. Smile and wave at everyone you pass - well, not so much when you're driving. But there are lots of times when you are waiting to turn, stopped at a light or slowly turning a corner when you could just wave and grin at the person you are driving by.

Better yet, sing them a silly Christmas song, like Jingle Bells, Frosty the Snowman, Rudolph, Up on the Housetop. Something bouncy. And you've got to do it big-stick a hand out as you sing, make faces, exaggerate, make a spectacle of yourself. They won't know what hit them. And they'll probably think you're crazy. But maybe, just maybe, they'll grin back at you.

And while we're on the subject of Christmas songs, I found a little history on some of the more recognizable tunes-meaning I read one article. Don't blame me if this guy got his history wrong-and he did right off the bat by getting the date of Jungle Bells wrong.

Jingle Bells was written by James Lord Pierpont in 1857. It was a little risqué at the time, since the lyrics were about unchaperoned couple riding out in a sleigh and getting "upsot," a poetic respelling of the word "upset." Think of it as a 19060s version of running out of gas while taking your sweetheart home. Jingle Bells was also the first song heard from space in 1965, compliments of astronauts Wally Schirra and Thomas Stafford as they orbited Earth aboard the Gemini 6.

Here We Come A-wassailing, written sometime in the 1850s is all about going door-to-door and asking for drinks - and, well, good wishes and glad tidings. Modern day we call it Trick or Drink, a Halloween tradition for adults.

Good King Wenceslas was also written in the 1850s and it's about a good

king, of course, but he was really only a duke. He got promoted after his assassination. And he was also elevated to sainthood because of all his good deeds. I don't know why he was assassinated. Probably because of all those good deeds.

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen was written around 1760, and the comma is there for a reason. We don't rest "merry gentlemen", "we god rest you merry," meaning, more or less, rest assured or be assured and let nothing you dismay.

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, written in the 1850s, is a poem that also references topical issues of the day, including the end of Mexican-American war-I know, I had to look it up, too, and I'm not sure I found the reference:

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-[strain](#) have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring;
[O](#) hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

The Holly and the Ivy written in 1911 uses a variety of pagan symbols: holly representing men, Ivy, represented women. Entwined together, "when they are both full grown." It's kind of a pagan ritual song celebrating the upcoming spring and fertility. Kind like rabbits and Easter.

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day (1863) has, what I think, is a beautiful story behind it. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote the poem on Christmas Day. He had joined the army (remember, Civil War) against his father's wishes, and on Christmas Day he lamented not hearing the bells peeling and despaired of peace and goodwill on earth. While sad, the poem has a ray of hope within it.

And last, but not least, everyone's favorite: The Twelve Days of Christmas (1780), another drinking song. Or a "forfeit" song, where if you make a mistake in the singing, you have to forfeit something. I made up the drinking part, but it makes for a good story. Mix up 12 drummers drumming with 11 pipers piping and you have to shoot a shot.

So pick a tune, sing a song while you're driving, wear a funny hat, put reindeer antlers on your car and plug some lights into the cigarette lighter. Spread some laughter and tears (from laughter) this holiday season.

WHAT'S NEW!!

From Northcott/Figo:

The Marcel collection. The computer has been buggy all day and what normally takes 5-10 minutes, is taking way way longer, freezing up, and not responding. So I will put the pics in next week. It's

a wonderful springy collection, flowers, cats, and great blenders.

From RJR & Riley Blake:



From Windham:



wide back



fat quarter bundle of
Marsha Derse's
collection



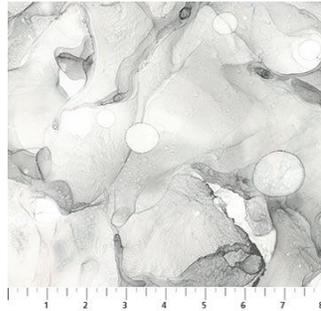
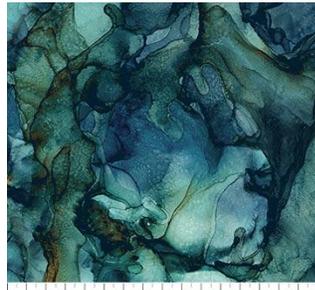
we've already put it on
a quilt as a border.
Come in & see!



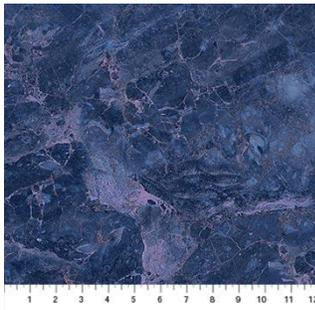
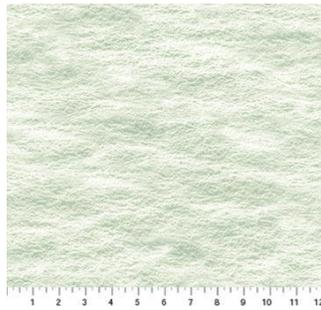
From Northcott:



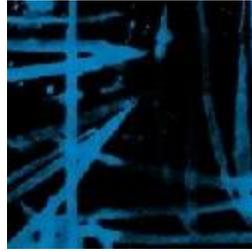
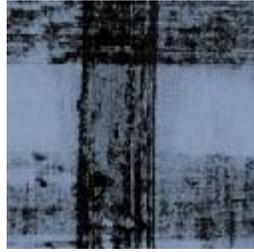
44/45" and 108"



From Northcott:



From Windham:

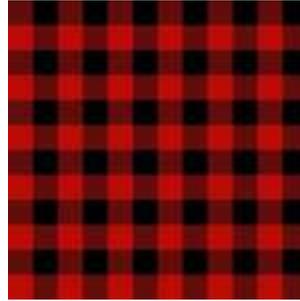


From Henry Glass:

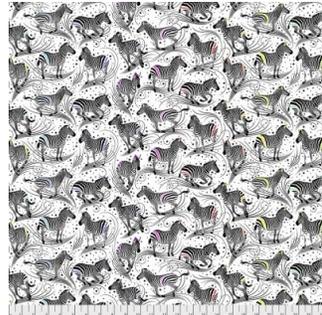
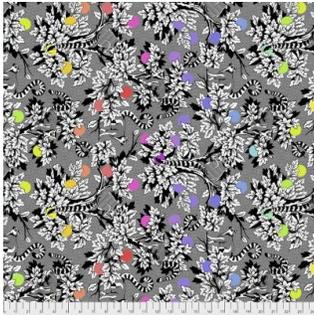


flat & flannel

flannel



From Tula Pink:



wideback

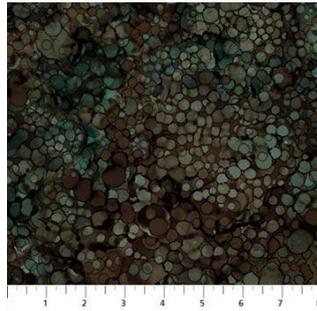
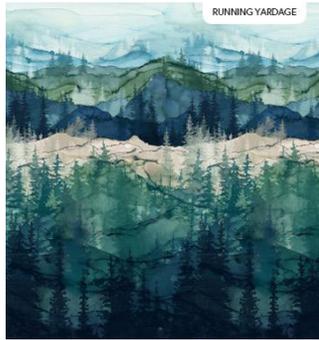


One Daybreak kit

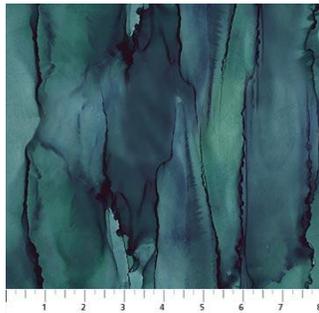
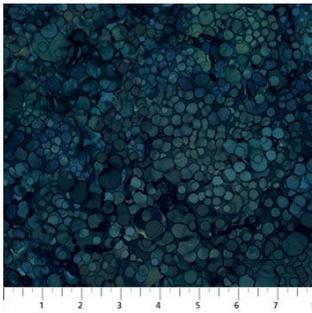


10" squares & fat quarter bundles, limited supplies

From Northcott (really cool):



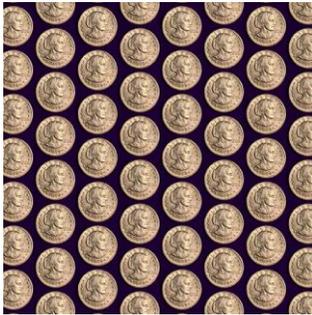
The wide back is back in.



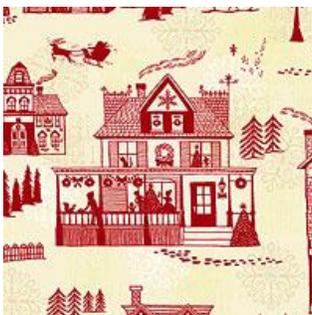
We've ordered more. But it won't be here until April.

I will be able to make a few more kits from the fabrics that arrived today. Then we have to wait until April.

From Benartex (and more from this line should be coming)



From Studio E:





From Quilting Treasures:



DECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
	Color of the month: red	Hand work Club 2-4		Long Arm Rental Day		BOM 10:30 Pillow Case Party! 1-4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Closed		Hand work Club 2-4	Knit Pickers' Club 3-5	Long Arm Rental Day		Pillow Case Party 1-4 Embroidery Club 10-noon
13	14	15	16	17	18	19

CLOSED	MLK Day Crazy 2-fer Quilt 1-4	Hand work Club 2-4		Long Arm Rental Day		Bumblebee Blossoms organization class 10-noon Lone Star 1-4
24 CLOSED	25	26 Hand work Club 2-4	27 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	28 Long Arm Rental Day Full moon	29	30 Charm organization meeting 10-12 Fractured Quilt 1-4
31 CLOSED	Color of the month: Purple					

February

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Hand work Club 2-4	3	4 Long Arm Rental Day	5	6 BOM 10:30 Circles 1-4
7 Beginning Quilt 1-4	8	9 Hand work Club 2-4	10 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	11 Long Arm Rental Day	12	13 Embroidery Club 10-noon Circles 1-4
14 Beginning Quilt 1-4	15 Presidents' Day Crazy 2-fer Quilt 1-4	16 Hand work Club 2-4	17	18 Long Arm Rental Day	19	20 Bumblebee Blossoms organization class 1-4
21	22	23	24	25	26	27

Beginning Quilt 1-4		Hand work Club 2-4	Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	Long Arm Rental Day		Charm meeting 10:30-11:30 Bumblebee Blossoms organization class 1-4 Full moon
28 Beginning Quilt 1-4	Color of the month: red					

March

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Hand work Club 2-4	3 Dinosaur with Teeth Quilt 1-4	4 Long Arm Rental Day	5	6 BOM 10:30 Bear Paw 1-4
7 Beginning Quilt 1-4	8	9 Hand work Club 2-4	10 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	11 Long Arm Rental Day	12	13 Embroidery Club 10-noon Bear Paw 1-4
14 Beginning Quilt 1-4	15	16 Hand work Club 2-4	17	18 Long Arm Rental Day	19	20 Tiger Tiger 1-4 National Quilt Day
21 Beginning Quilt 1-4	22	23 Hand work Club 2-4	24 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	25 Long Arm Rental Day	26	27 Charm meeting 10:30-11:30 Tiger Tiger 1-4
28 Beginning Quilt 1-4 Full moon	29	30 Hand work Club 2-4	31 Designing with panels 1-4	Color of the month:		

green

April

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Long Arm Rental Day	2	3 BOM 10:30 Pumpkins 1-4
4 CLOSED Easter	5	6 Hand work Club 2-4	7	8 Long Arm Rental Day	9	10 Embroidery Club 10-noon Pumpkins 1-4
11	12	13 Hand work Club 2-4	14 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	15 Long Arm Rental Day	16	17 Attic Window using a Panel 1-4
18	19	20 Hand work Club 2-4	21	22 Long Arm Rental Day	23	24 Charm meeting 10:30-11:30 Thanksgiving Quilt 1-4
25	26 Full moon	27 Hand work Club 2-4	28 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	29 Long Arm Rental Day	30	Color of the month: yellow

May

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1

						BOM 10:30 Lone Star 1-4
2 CLOSED	3	4 Hand work Club 2- 4	5	6 Long Arm Rental Day	7	8 Embroidery Club 10- noon Lone Star 1-4
9 Moms' Day	10	11 Hand work Club 2- 4	12 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	13 Long Arm Rental Day	14	15 Lone Star 1-4
16	17	18 Hand work Club 2- 4	19	20 Long Arm Rental Day	21	22
23	24	25 Hand work Club 2- 4	26 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4 Full moon	27 Long Arm Rental Day	28	29 Charm meeting 10:30-11:30
30	31 Memorial Day	Color of the month: whites				

Please look on the calendars above for times and dates. Class write ups will come soon. Most of the classes are self explanatory.

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. The 2021 challenge will be houses! Come to the first class, (second Saturday in January) to get the details or watch the newsletter for more info.

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. We are going to do Crabapple Hill's Snow Days pattern.

Knit Pickers' Club 2nd and 4th Wed of each month, 2-5 Carol Moler
We are changing up the Knit Pickers= Club. We=re going to knit 2 days a month every second and fourth Wednesday, and we=ll start earlier in the day at 2. The

Club is open to all skill levels. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and knit.

CLUBS

HAND EMBROIDERY CLUB FREE!

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.

Hand Work Club FREE!

Every Tuesday afternoon from 2-4, join us to just sit & hand stitch, crochet, bind, or knit group. Bring what you're working on, sit up at the table in front by the window and work on your projects for a while. You can get advice & suggestions from your fellow quilters and share your experiences about your projects.

Knit Pickers' Club FREE!

This is another get-together class to sit & knit, work on our projects, share information and get some help. We will share techniques, suggest patterns, but mainly we'll sit & knit (or pick).

Block of the Month Club FREE!

First Saturday of the Month, 10:30-11:15. Join at any time. You get a free fat quarter if you come to class with the previous month's completed block.

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. Until covid is kicked, anyone with a Keep Smiling T-shirt can also participate in the Toad Toter Sales.

Full Moon Days: January 28, February 27, March 28, April 26, and May 26.

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

January purple, February red, March green, April yellow, and May whites.

**Normal Shop Hours:
Monday-Saturday 10-5
Sunday 1-5
Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)**

Nolting Longarm Machines

Nolting has 5 main machines, each with different reaches: from 17" to 30" depending on the machine. They are sold with or without a frame, but after I saw & helped set up one of the steel frames this week, I recommend buying the frame. All machines, except for the Standard-- the most economical machine-- have a stitch regulator. I recommend a stitch regulator. All machines can be equipped with a computer and there are a couple of different ones to choose from. In addition, you can get an extended table base so that you can use rulers, you can get larger bobbins on some of the models and on the frames you can get hydraulic lifts to raise and lower the tables. In the coming weeks, I will print out more information on each model.

The best entry level machine is the Fun Quilter. It comes in 17", 20" & 23" reach. It comes with the Intellistitch Equalizer stitch regulator, standard speed control, needle up/down, and fixed handles in the front & rear. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.



The Pro Machine has the Intellistitch Turbo stitch regulator, single stitch option, standard speed control, needle up/down and customizable handles in the front & rear. The Pro Machine comes in 20", 24" and 30" reach with 10-12" of inside height. There are easy dials on the front to set stitch length and other options. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.



The NV Machine is the newest in the fleet of Nolting machines. This machine has a touch screen with programmable stitch regulation. You can stitch in 4 different stitch modes plus single stitch and needle up/down. It also has an adjustable brightness LED work light. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.



Nolting also has a commercial machine with the Intellistitch Equalizer stitch regulator, standard speed control, needle up/down, and fixed handles in the front & rear. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

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