



January 14, 2022

Never take a nap after dinner while watching a football game. I fell asleep toward the end of the 2nd quarter of the National Championship game. When I woke up, I knew that North Carolina had won. I wasn't into the game, so I didn't care. Fortunately, when I glanced at the tv before channel surfing away, I realized the game was in the third quarter and North Carolina wasn't even playing. It was kind of a rude awakening. But it turned out to be a good game.

But that's not what I want to talk about. I want to talk about the teaser on the computer that I fell for: Can a goldfish drive a car on land?

Such an absurd question. The question wasn't, "Can a goldfish drive a car?" I mean, that's the obvious question, right? It doesn't matter where the goldfish is driving. You first have to get past the premise of a driving goldfish.

So based on wording of the question, it is clear that goldfish can drive cars. Somehow I must have missed that memo.

Now we have to worry about where that goldfish is going. And, again, the question is absurd: Where else would the goldfish be driving that car except on land. I mean, think about it. Cars only work on land. They don't work in the air or underwater, at least not yet, although the original question appears to make allowances for other places that goldfish can drive. Can it drive it on land? How about underwater? Which, presumably, is where that goldfish lives. It all begins to sound like a Dr. Seuss book one fish two fish red fish blue fish.

Which is why I didn't click on it the first, second, third, etc., time I saw it.

But the little headline wasn't going away. So I clicked it on, curious as to whether I would just encounter more poorly worded sentences or whether I would see a goldfish drive a car. On land.

And yup, it drives, all right. The goldfish swims in its little pool and every time it bumps against the glass, the platform on wheels that holds the goldfish bowl moves in that

direction. It's all mechanized, of course, and the fish is rewarded when it gets to the end of the maze – more like crossing the room, heading for the reward center.

And before you ask, no I don't know how long it took for the goldfish to figure out that if it kept bumping the glass bowl with its nose that it would "swim" on wheels over to the food. But it figured it out.

Then the scientists, or whoever was doing the experiment (I only saw a video, folks, not a detailed scientific article on this), took the whole contraption outside, wheels, camera, fishbowl and fish. And the fish proceeded to drive down the road, albeit over by the shoulder of the road, and not in a particularly straight line, which is not unusual given how fish swim by swishing their tails back & forth. And, fortunately, never over the speed limit of about 1 mph.

So I guess the answer to the question is yes: Can a fish drive a car (or something on wheels) on land. Check it out. www.motorbiscuit.com/scientists-teach-goldfish-drive-car-think-can-drive-better/

I can see Becca now, paws on the steering wheel, nose pressed up against the windshield leaving all sorts of snotty marks, barking at the joggers running away from her. Maybe if I take a nap, when I wake up this will all be a dream.

Christmas Mystery Part 3

Christmas Mystery Step 3

Sewing Step Three

Take the one 1 ½" strip of color and two strips of background from bag 3. Sew a panel of background + color + background.

Cut apart into 3½" squares. You need four identically colored 3 ½" squares; pin together and place back into the bag. Place any extra 3 ½" squares into the remainder bag.

Then take the three 1 ½" strips of color and three strips of background from bag 3. Sew a panel of color + background + color. And sew a panel of background + color + background. Cut apart into 1 ½" segments. Sew back together to make a nine patch:

You need four 3 ½" squares for each block. Place any extra 3 ½" squares into the remainder bag.

Next week, I'll give you the block. Can you guess yet? There were lots of parts to make, so I want to give you plenty of time to get the bits done.

Christmas Mystery Step 3

Sewing Step Three

Take the one $1\frac{1}{2}$ " strip of color and two strips of background from bag 3. Sew a panel of background + color + background.



Cut apart into $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares. You need four identically colored $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares; pin together and place back into the bag. Place any extra $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares into the remainder bag.

Then take the three $1\frac{1}{2}$ " strips of color and three strips of background from bag 3. Sew a panel of color + background + color. And sew a panel of background + color + background. Cut apart into $1\frac{1}{2}$ " segments. Sew back together to make a nine patch:



You need four $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares for each block. Place any extra $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares into the remainder bag.

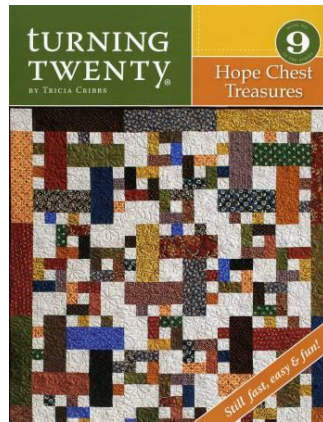
What's New



From Riley Blake



From Checker

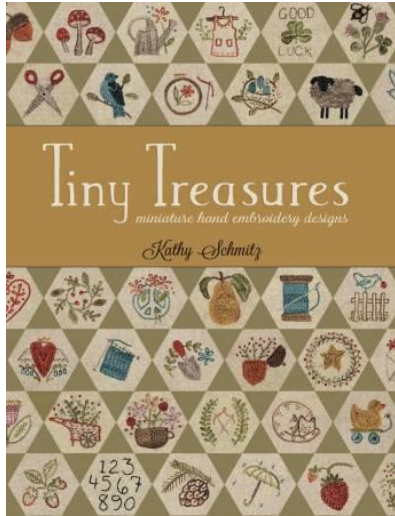


CDH-302

"Snowed In, Lovin' It"



www.chickadeehollowdesigns.com



CDH308

"I'd Rather Be Quilting"



www.chickadeehollowdesigns.com

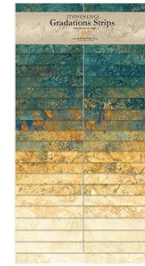
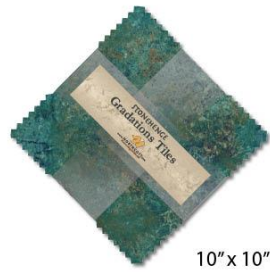
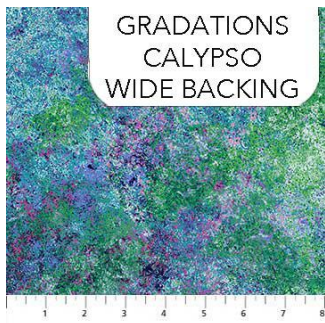
CDH-301

"It's Sewing Season"



www.chickadeehollowdesigns.com





Northcott

There are a couple more that I just couldn't get copied from the web site



BLUE PLANET
OMBRE
WIDE BACKING

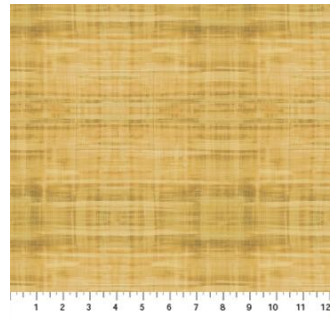


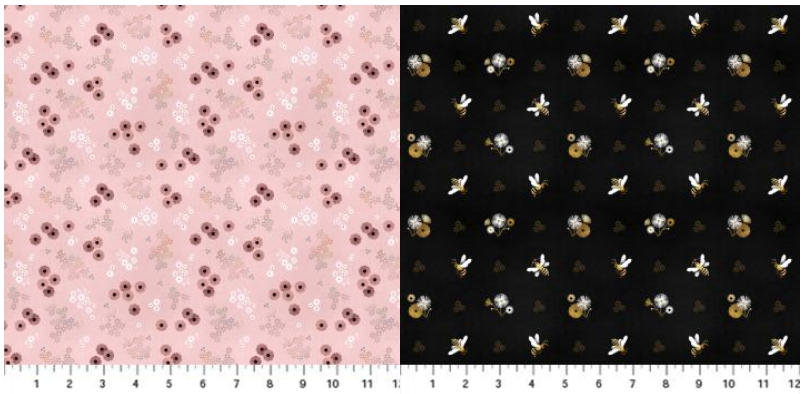
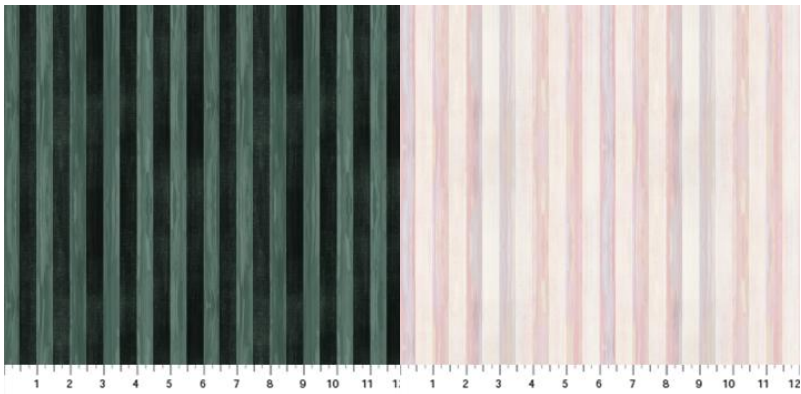
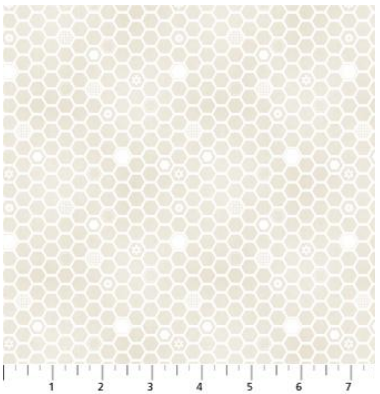
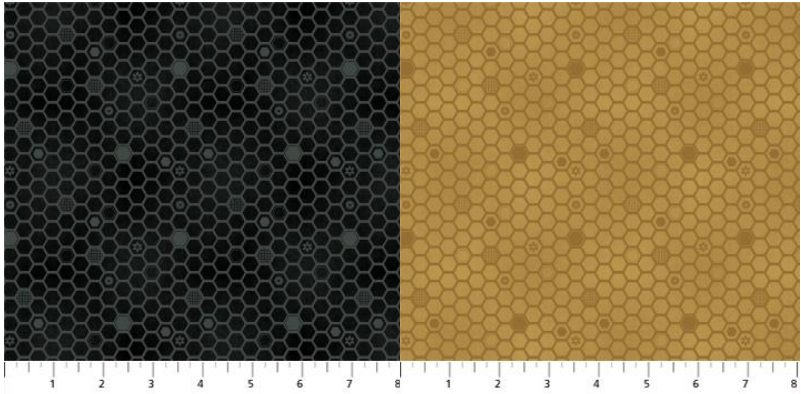
MIDNIGHT
OMBRE
WIDE BACKING



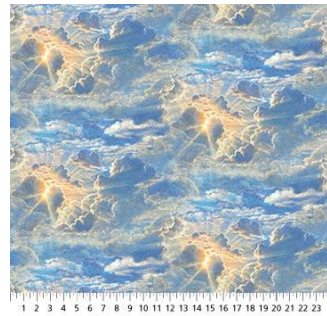


Northcott



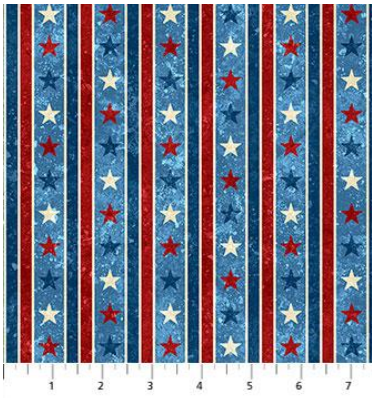


Northcott/Figo



From Northcott: Stars & Stripes





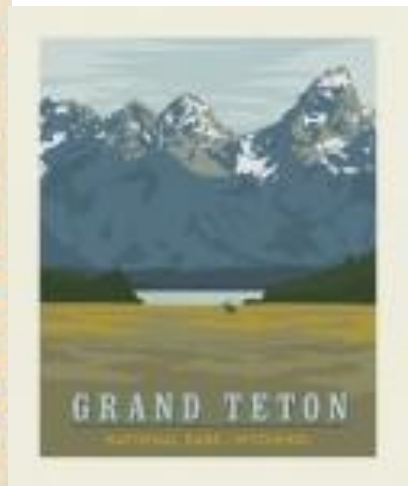
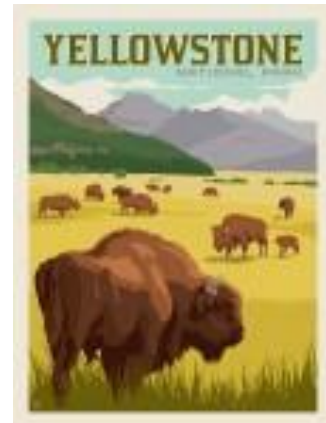


From Hoffman and Maywood





Riley Blake (the 3 juvenile prints are flannel)





January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 CLOSED New Year's Day
2 CLOSED	3	4 Hand work Club 2-4	5	6 Long Arm Rental Day	7	8 BOM 10:30 Northcott BOM tips and tricks 1-3
9 CLOSED	10	11 Hand work Club 2-4	12 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	13 T-Shirt Class 1- 4 Long Arm Rental Day	14	15 Embroidery Club 10-noon Paper <u>pieced</u> <u>gift bag</u> 1-5
16 CLOSED	17 MLWD Day Full moon Machine Applied	18 Hand work Club 2-4	19 Long Arm class 10:30	20 Long Arm Rental Day	21	22 <u>Plaid Pigs</u> <u>10:30-4</u>
23 CLOSED	24	25 Hand work Club 2-4	26 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	27 T-shirt Class 10:30-4	28	29 <u>Plaid Pigs</u> <u>10:30-4</u>
30 CLOSED	31	Color of the month: Purple				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Hand work Club 2-4	2 Long Arm class 10:30	3 Long Arm Rental Day	4	5 BOM 10:30 Wonton/Hex n More ruler quilt
6 Beginning Quilt 1-4	7	8 Hand work Club 2-4	9 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	10 Long Arm Rental Day	11	12 Embroidery Club 10-noon Crazy Quilt Day 1-4
13 Beginning Quilt 1-4	14	15 Hand work Club 2-4	16 Long Arm class 10:30 Full moon	17 Long Arm Rental Day	18	19 Buggy Barn/One Sister 10:30-4
20 Beginning Quilt 1-4	21 Presidents' Day Elizabeth Hartman choose your favorite pattern	22 Hand work Club 2-4	23 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	24 Long Arm Rental Day	25	26 Buggy Barn/One Sister 10:30-4
27 Beginning Quilt 1-4	28	Color of the month: red				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Long Arm class 10:30	3 Long Arm Rental Day	4	5 BOM 10:30 Northcott BOM tips and tricks 1-3
6 Beginning Quilt 1-4	7	8 Hand work Club 2-4	9 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	10 Panel Workshop 1-4 Long Arm Rental Day	11	12 Embroidery Club 10-noon Crazy Quilt Day 1-4
13 Beginning Quilt 1-4	14	15 Hand work Club 2-4	16 Long Arm class 10:30	17 Long Arm Rental Day	18 Full moon	19 National Quilt Day Demos TBA Crazy Quilt Day
20 Beginning Quilt 1-4	21	22 Hand work Club 2-4	23 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	24 Long Arm Rental Day	25	26 Laura Heine collages & working with <u>fusibles</u>
27 Beginning Quilt 1-4	28	29 Hand work Club 2-4	30	31 Long Arm Rental Day	Color of the month: green	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color of the month: yellow					1	2
						BOM 10:30 Nova/Sidekick ruler quilt 1-5
CLOSED 3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Hand work Club 2-4	Beginning Machine Quilting 1-4	Long Arm Rental Day		Embroidery Club 10-noon Spider web 1-5
CLOSED 10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Hand work Club 2-4	Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	Long Arm Rental Day		Deb Tucker's Tumbling Triangle w/V Block Ruler
CLOSED Easter 17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Hand work Club 2-4	Beginning Machine Applique 1-4	Long Arm Rental Day		Spider web 10:30-4
CLOSED 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Hand work Club 2-4	Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	Long Arm Rental Day		Sewing Apron with lots of pockets 10:30-4

January classes

Machine Applied Binding Mon Jan 17 1-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

I will teach you how to cut and sew your binding, and then you will practice on your own project. Homework before class: Make sure you have a small project (30 X 30, but no smaller than 20 X 20) that is quilted and ready for binding. Also bring your chosen binding (you don't have to cut it prior to class). In class you will prepare your binding, then stitch it on. You will learn how to cut & press your binding, how to stitch it on the first side, how to miter the corners, and then how to choose a decorative stitch (or just a straight stitch) to stitch the binding down on the other side. Several different methods of machine applied binding will be discussed and shown.

Northcott BOM Tips & Tricks Jan 8 1-3 Barb Boyer

I will walk you through the first 6? Blocks, offering suggestions on cutting and piecing. I have a couple of different ways to do some of the parts on the blocks and some suggestions on cutting and sewing. If you have bought the kit and want some guidance, please feel free to attend. If you have not bought the kit, but are still interested, you can also come. Class is free.

Paper Pieced Gift Bag (hold over from fall) Sat January 15 from 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

This is a basic paper pieced penguin that goes on the front of a basic bag pattern. But if you've never done paper piecing this is a perfect way to get started. The book has other patterns that you can choose, so if you don't like penguins, you could substitute Santa. This is the cutest gift bag for the holidays and the greatest part! It's reusable!

Plaid Pigs Sat Jan 22 & 29 10:30-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

Plaid Pigs is a charming quilt that uses small, medium and large appliques pigs. I will teach several different methods for applique, including hand (basic stitches), machine (turned under edge), and raw edge (especially for the smaller pigs). You don't have to make your pigs plaid – they could be polka dot, stripes, flowers – anything you want. Putting the whole quilt together also requires a partial seam sewing, so if you have never sew a block together using partial seam, this is the class for you!

T-Shirt Quilt Thursday Jan 13 from 1-4 & 27 from 10:30-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

You will learn how to cut, stabilize and trim your t-shirts (first day). The second class will be all about designing and sewing your t-shirts together. Homework before the first class: Choose all your t-shirts and make sure they are washed. If you are confident, you can separate the front from the back at the shoulder seams. If you aren't, there is plenty of time in the first class. In the second class, I will help you design your quilt based upon your t-shirts – which means I'll help with all the math, provide options for getting both small & large t-shirts into the same quilt, and help you choose all the other fabrics (borders and sashings) to make your quilt special.

February Classes

Beginning Quilting 8 weeks \$65 Barb Boyer Starting Sun Feb 6.

This comprehensive 8-week course will introduce to you almost everything you need to know about piecing a quilt top. Along the way you will learn about color, batting, thread, machines and various techniques to give you the skills to make almost any quilt.

Buggy Barn/One Sister quilt Sat February 19 & 26 \$35 Jean Korber

This cute quilt is made using the "Buggy Barn" technique, now called the One Sister technique. Fabrics are stacked, slashed, & re sewn, mixing the fabric so that each block uses the same fabric but in different positions.

Crazy Quilt Day Saturday Feb 12, 1-4, and March 12 (1-4) & 19 (2-5) \$40 Barb Boyer

It's time to cut up and use all those old prom dresses, wedding dresses, brocade jackets, silk blouses, and velvet skirts that you are collecting in your closets and not wearing – you've grown out of them, you have no where to wear them, you're never going to get married again or go to the prom and no one in your family wants them. So why are they still hanging in your closet? Day one, we will cut up those dresses into usable parts, to get them ready for piecing in crazy quilt blocks. We will also share out bounty with everyone in class. Don't have anything in your closet to cut up? I bet Good Will has racks of interesting items. The next class, we will discuss (and start sewing) the crazy quilt blocks. You will need a foundation (of muslin, light weight cotton, sew in interfacing) for your piecing. The last class we will discuss (and start stitching) all the embellishments that crazy quilts are known for. You can make a small wall hanging, just one block (for framing & putting on the wall), or a larger quilt for the couch or bed.

Elizabeth Hartman Quilts (your choice) Mon Feb 21 10:30-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

EH quilts are all pieced, not paper pieced. They use the 45 degree/flip & sew method to create all sorts of fun animals: llamas, bees & beehive, swans, African animals, desert animals, forest creatures,

dinosaurs. You can use any pattern you like and I'll teach you how to organize, cut and stitch the blocks. You won't finish during class, but you will get some or all of the quilt cut and some of it pieced.

Wonton/Hex N More Saturday February 5 1-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

Jaybird Quilts has many fun projects using the Hex N More ruler. The Wonton quilt is a perfect introduction. It uses only 8 different fabrics and can be made in any size you like. I'll show you how to cut the blocks using the ruler, how to sew the blocks together, and then, most importantly, how to sew the rows together – which can be a little tricky keeping things lined up. It's a perfect class for learning a new skill and a good introduction to the ruler. Coming this summer, look for additional quilts using the Hex N More ruler!

March Classes

Laura Heine Quilts (your choice) Sat March 26 10:30-4 \$35 Jean Korber

LH quilts are collage quilts, built from a foundation by adding colorful prints in various shapes to create the quilt. Jean will walk you through the essentials, help you decide fabrics and placement, teach you about using the fusibles, and show you finishing techniques – from no sew to machine quilting. Then fun part of these quilts is choosing the fabrics to create your design, whether it's a sloth, a cat, an owl, a horse or a day of the dead skeleton. You get to decide, plan, design and build your unique wall hanging.

Northcott BOM Tips & Tricks Mar 5 1-3 Barb Boyer

I will walk you through the last 6? Blocks, offering suggestions on cutting and piecing. I have a couple of different ways to do some of the parts on the blocks and some suggestions on cutting and sewing. If you have bought the kit and want some guidance, please feel free to attend. If you have not bought the kit, but are still interested, you can also come. Class is free.

Panel Workshop Thursday March 10 1-4 (discussion, no sewing) \$30 Barb Boyer

We all have panels, but we don't know what to do with them. I will show you how to turn your panel into a wall hanging or full sized quilt. We will discuss how to add blocks to "border" out the quilt, add lights to a Christmas or Halloween quilt, change patterns to fit your panel, chop up your panel into attic windows or other designs----so bring some of your panels to class and go home with a plan!

April Classes

Beginning Machine Applique Wed April 20 1-4 \$40 Barb Boyer

Learn the basics of machine applique. I will teach you how to do the satin stitch and button hole (blanket stitch) around the edges of you applique, including doing points or tips (like on Christmas trees and stars), corners and curves. I will provide the samples for your practice. All you need is a foot that will allow wide (zig zag) stitching.

Beginning Machine Quilting Wed April 6 1-4 \$40 Barb Boyer

Learn the basics of machine quilting from start to finish: Getting the top pieced properly, pinning the quilt sandwich, choosing the pattern and thread, and quilting. You will practice on samples provide in class. You will need a hopping/darning foot as most of the class will focus on free motion quilting.

Deb Tucker's Tumbling Blocks Saturday April 16 10:30-4 \$35 Jean Korber

By Combining two contrasting fabrics you will create triangles tumbling down the quilt. Using your V Block tool, this quilt is fun and quick. Just jump right in and give it a whirl! It's fun to work with new

rulers to create new and interesting blocks!

Nova/SideKick Ruler Saturday April 2 1-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

The SideKick ruler is another of the Jaybird Quilt rulers (Hex N More). The Nova pattern is for a table topper and you will learn how to cut a piece using the SideKick ruler. And just like the Wonton class it's a perfect class for learning a new skill and a good introduction to the ruler. I know it's really early to start thinking about it: But this table topper would be great in Christmas colors. I'm just saying..... Coming this summer, look for additional quilts using both the SideKick and Hex N More rulers!

Sewing Apron with lots of pockets Sat April 30 10:30-4 \$30 Jean Korber

You've seen Jean and her sewing apron that she wears during classes? One with all sorts of pockets for all the things you need to keep handy when you're sewing? Well, she's not teaching that apron (she'll show you how she does it, though, in class). But she is teaching a similar apron pattern, with lots of pockets. You may even get the entire apron made in class! And think what fun gifts aprons would be for Christmas! It's not too early to get started!

Spiderweb Quilt April 9 (1-4) and 23 10:30-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

This quilt incorporates strip piecing/panel sewing and 60 degree triangles. You will need a 60 degree triangle ruler (8 or 10 inch is the most useful size, but if you have the 12" which is used in Triangle Frenzy quilts, it will work just fine). You will also need lots of 2" scraps. I suggest cutting all your strips (or a bunch of them) prior to class. Most useful is 2" X 42", but shorter strips can also be used. Best colors are medium and dark—scrappy is fun! The first class is sewing & cutting the blocks. The second class is sewing the rows together: new skill learned is how to make the seams all meet properly!

Sew Steady Products

I am a dealer in the Sew Steady Products. The Sew Steady tables offer an expanded work area around your machine, flush to the machine arm. Advantages of this table include a large surface that is flush to your machine, giving you plenty of space to lay your blocks flat before stitching.

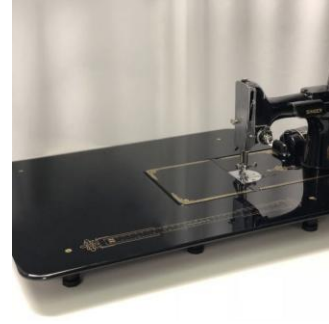
If your only "prep" surface is the tiny arm that only gives you about 1-2 inches before your fabric hits the needle, the Sew Steady Table is for you! Do I sound like an advertisement? What I can tell you is that when I teach classes and students are sewing long strips together, it is often hard for them to manage those strips when the only flat surface is the 1-2" surface right in front of the needle. The Sew Steady table (and it's portable!) offers up to 8 inches of a flat surface.

Also, the Sew Steady products can include a "grid glider" which is a slick (it's both slick and slick, if you get my meaning) surface that you adhere to the table and it helps your fabrics glide smoothly toward the needle. It also provides a "grid" with 1/4" lines and a center line (for flying geese constructions) and other measuring lines. So helpful.

In addition, the Sew Steady Products include quilting rulers that can be used for machine quilting. With the large flat table, ruler use becomes easy (with a little practice).

Each table is built according to the specs of your machine, which means the tables are custom ordered. You decide which table (size, extras) you want, you let me know your specs (I will work with you to get the right measurements), I'll place your order and in app. 3 weeks (it's custom made remember) you will have your table!

If you've never seen a Sew Steady table, come to the shop and see the table I have attached to my Bernina. It's wonderful!



Nolting Quilting Machines



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.

**Normal Shop Hours:
Monday-Saturday 10-6
Sunday 1-5
Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)
New Hours for Standard Time (starting Nov 7-March 13)
Monday-Saturday 10-5, closed Sundays unless a class is scheduled. Then we're open 1-5.
Check the schedule.**

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

