



May 6, 2022

I am dismayed by a current ad on tv that urges people who are in debt to the IRS to use their services to become undebt. Out of debt? Fine, I thought, as I continued to snooze. And then the narrator said, “We know what it’s like. We’ve been there. So we can help.” Or something to that effect. And I thought to myself, “Great, why not use a tax service that hires accountants who can’t pay their own taxes on time.” Great idea. Yup. This may not be the time for the “been there, done that” kind of expert.

But that’s not what I wanted to talk about. Although, while we’re on the topic of television (that’s kind of a segue) we need to talk about real reality tv. The Weather Channel. Have you been watching the storms cross the midsection of the country this week? I’ve got to say it’s compelling tv. You flip channels for maybe 30 seconds, and the tornado headed south of a town is now barreling right through it. The weather guys are good, but they are only as good as what radar is telling them and radar can only tell you what is happenig now. It can’t predict wind shifts.

I remember my aunt decades ago having the Weather channel on her tv all the time. I think she used that channel for the music that played behind the maps. I always thought that was a little odd – probably something that only old people did. And now I watch. (Please, no comments) But I will say that the story lines have picked up since Aunt Geri’s Weather Channel watching, thanks to technology. Did you see the tornado in Kansas this week captured on drones? They’re not playing George Benson soft jazz music behind these scenes. It’s compelling tv.

But that’s not what I wanted to talk about either. This falls under the category of, “Gee, I wish I got that cute little cuckoo clock in Germany. I regret not getting it.” Have you ever done that on vacation? I have and now when I travel if there is something that I like, I get it. I don’t want regrets. I’ll mail it home if I have to. But this souvenir was a bad idea all around. Here’s the beginning of the story by Ryan Grenoble writing for HuffPost.

“Bad idea: picking up an old, unexploded bomb.

“Worse idea: deciding to keep an old, unexploded bomb as a souvenir.

“The absolute worst idea: transporting an old, unexploded bomb to the airport in your luggage and attempting to bring it on a plane.”

So these tourists in Israel are out wandering around the Golan Heights, which is a strip of land that Israel took from Syria in 1967, annexed it in 1981, and occupied it ever since, illegally according to the United Nations. Regardless of the politics involved, the area is littered with unexploded bombs, including the one picked up by the tourists. Their discussion probably went a little like this:

“What do you think, hon? Can we mount it on a board and hang it on the wall when we get home? It’s a lot more interesting than just a rock.” Aside: My mom, for those of you who don’t know, used to collect rocks, bark, stuff off the ground, and cart it home, glue it to a bigger piece of wood and mount the arrangement on the wall as a souvenir of a trip to Seattle, for instance. I grew up with interesting wall art.

“Hmm, I don’t know, dear. It’s a little big. Think it will fit in our suitcase? It might be too heavy. I don’t want to pay an overcharge on the baggage.”

“Well, we could put it in our carry on bags.”

“No, I don’t want to haul it through airports. Let’s just check it.”

And that’s what they did. Now don’t panic. These tourists weren’t entirely stupid. When they got to security at the airport, they told the agents what they had done which sparked “a panicked effort to evacuate the departure hall,” reported Mr. Grenoble. “Video shared on social media captured the frantic scene, with some passengers fleeing the area while others sought shelter wherever they could find it. At least one man was injured while fleeing and later taken to a hospital,” he reported. The injured man was so scared that he climbed onto the luggage conveyor belt and ran on top of it before he fell. And of course, this was all captured on video. More compelling reality tv.

Now my brother always said that the chances of someone bringing a bomb onto a plane was a million to one, trying to suggest that flying was safe. He said this around the time of the Unabomber, a guy called Theodore Kaczynski, who started his terror campaign, which included bombs on planes, in 1978. Don’t worry, in case you don’t remember, they found him 17 years later in a primitive cabin in Montana and he now resides in an isolated cell in a supermax prison in Colorado. Ah, yes, he’s still there. He’s 79.

Back to my brother. His theory was you should always carry your own bomb on a plane, because that doubles the odds to like 1 in a trillion that someone will have a bomb on a plane, let alone two people with bombs. Please, don’t send letters. It’s a joke.

But maybe that’s what these tourists in Israel were thinking. Okay, you’re right. They weren’t thinking. WHY WOULD YOU PICK UP A BOMB IN THE FIRST PLACE!

But the story has a happy ending. The security guys took away the unexploded bomb and the tourists were allowed to board the plane, minus one souvenir.

On that bright note, Happy Mother’s Day. I think the day calls for flowers. Lots of bright, beautiful, colorful flowers.

Star Crossed Mystery Quilt

79" X 97"

Step One

Fabric Requirements

1 10" precut package or 36 9 ½" squares of various colors

1 ½ yds. Choose a dominant dark color (red, for example) that will contrast well with the 36 squares

1 ½ yds background or light. Choose a light color (tan for example) that will contrast well with the 36 squares and the dark fabric.
¾ yard for inner border Color can be chosen after quilt is made.
2 ½ yds for outer border Color can be chosen after quilt is made.
¾ yard for binding
Backing: Vertically pieced 5 ¾ yards (only gives 5" extra). Horizontal piecing (3 pieces) 7 yards
Batting: 85" X 103"

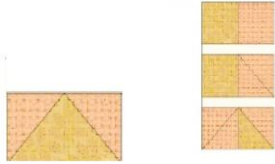
Cutting Instructions:

1. Cut 36 9½" squares of various colors. If working with a 10" precut, you will need to trim each square to 9 ½".
2. Cut 6 red squares and 6 tan squares at 10" X 10"
3. Cut 60 tan squares at 2 ¾" X 2 ¾"
4. Cut 60 tan rectangles at 2 ¾" X 5"
5. Cut 120 red squares at 2 ¾" X 2 ¾"
6. Cut 15 red squares at 5" X 5"

Step Two

1. Using the red and tan 10" squares, draw a line from corner to corner. Stitch ¼ inch from each side of the line. Press and trim these half square triangle units to 9 ½" X 9 ½". Make 12 half square triangle units. (no pics for this part. You know how to do it.

2. Using the 60 tan rectangles and 120 red squares, make 60 flying geese units. Square to 5" X 2 ¾". See pics below. Sorry, it's hard to manipulate these things.



Step Two

1. Using the red and tan 10" squares, draw a line from corner to corner. Stitch ¼ inch from each side of the line. Press and trim these half square triangle units to 9 ½" X 9 ½". Make 12 half square triangle units. (no pics for this part. You know how to do it.

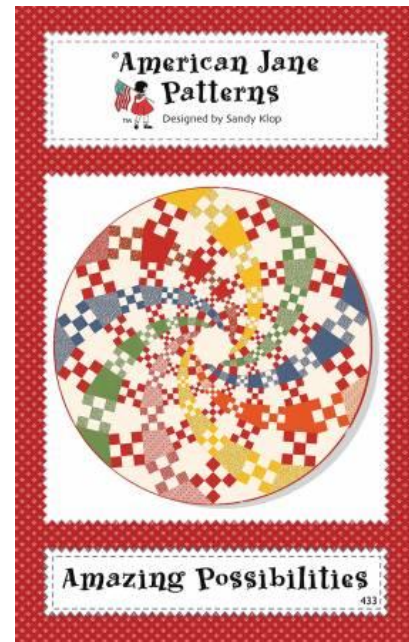
2. Using the 60 tan rectangles and 120 red squares, make 60 flying geese units. Square to 5" X 2 ¾".

RETREAT WITH SUE FRERICH! \$50

Sue Frerich is coming for a visit and she wants to teach a class! And it's a great way for all of her friends and students to see her and say hi.

The retreat will be June 3-5 (Fri-Sun). She is teaching an American Jane pattern, a fun round quilt perfect for a table topper or fun wall hanging. Come into the shop to see Sue's sample.

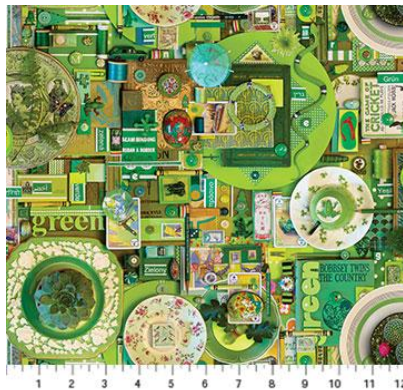
Sign up early to reserve your space. You know the shop, so space will be limited but we're hoping to accommodate 15 sewers! More info will be coming.

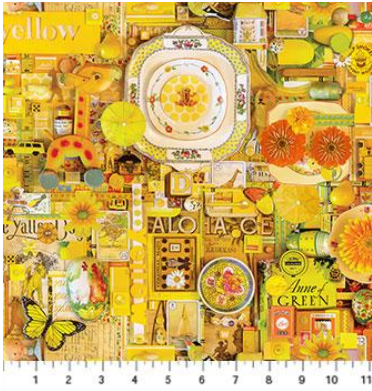


What's New

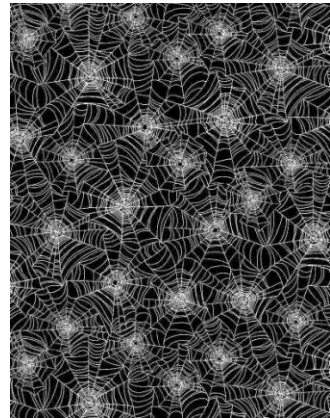


From Northcott

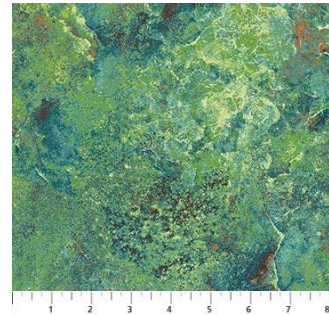
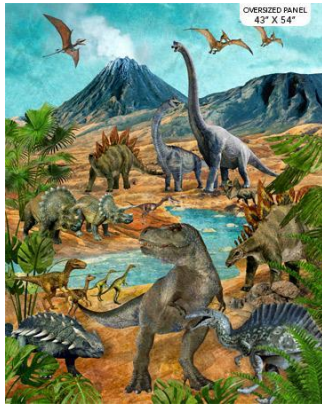
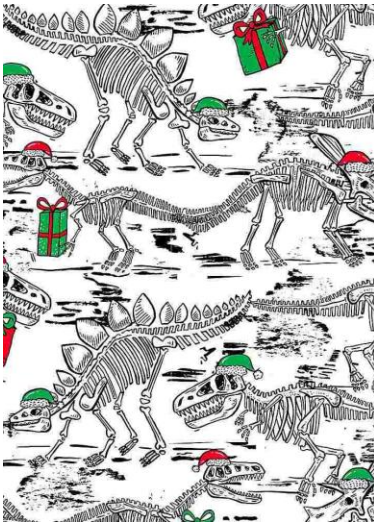




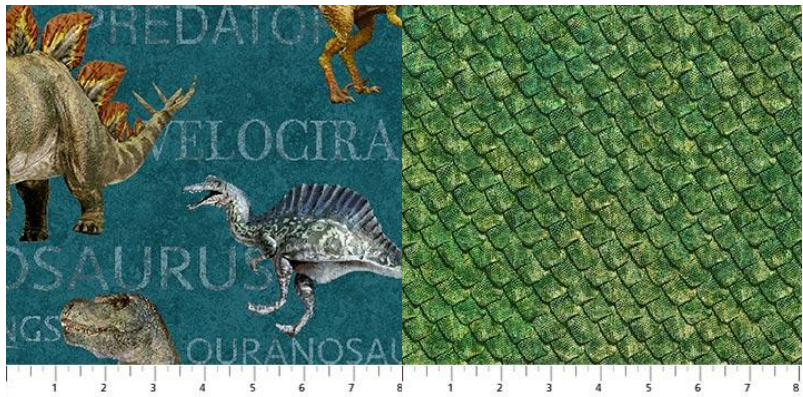
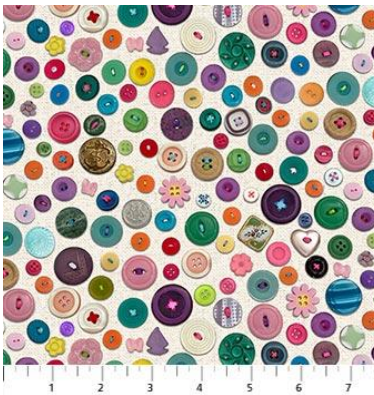
From Michael Miller

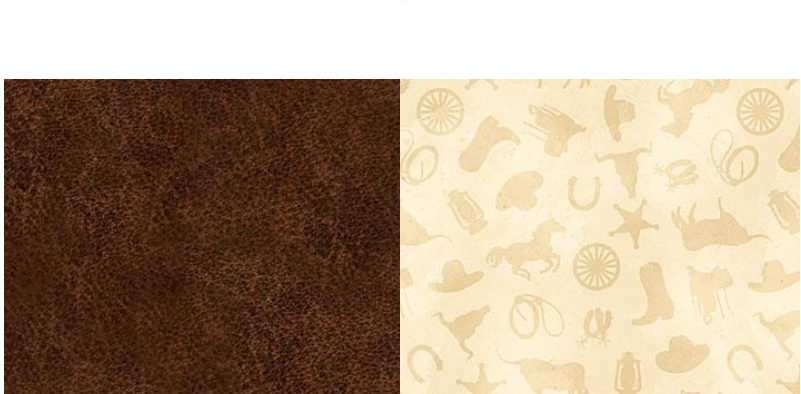
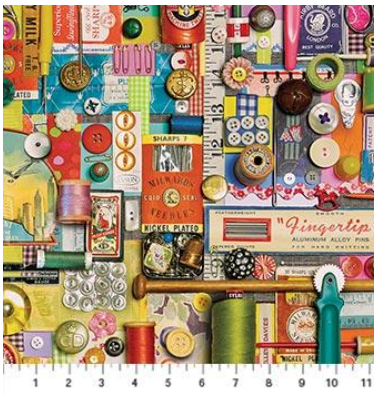
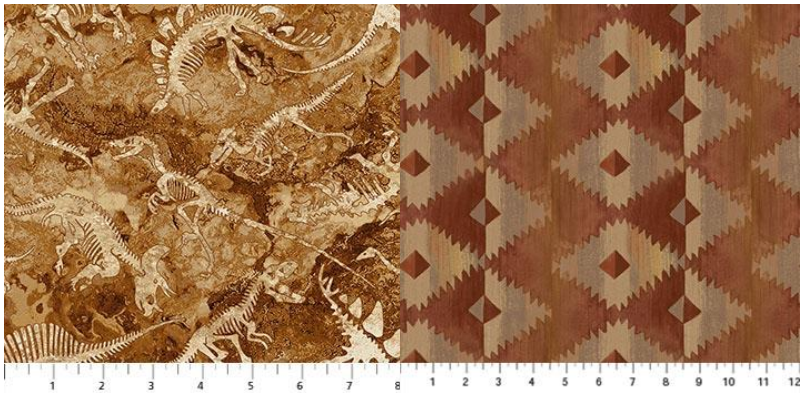


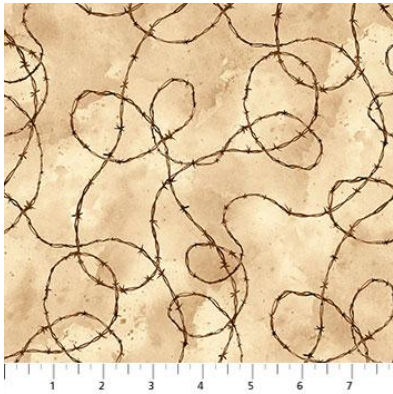
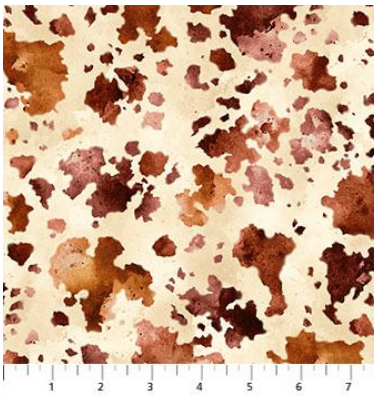
From Timeless Treasures



From Northcott





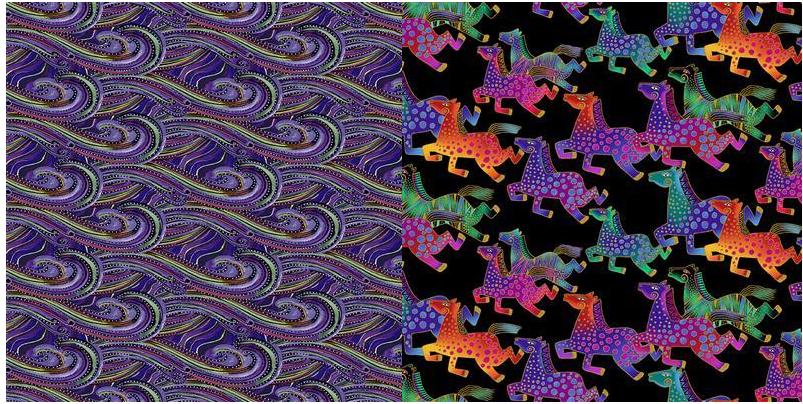
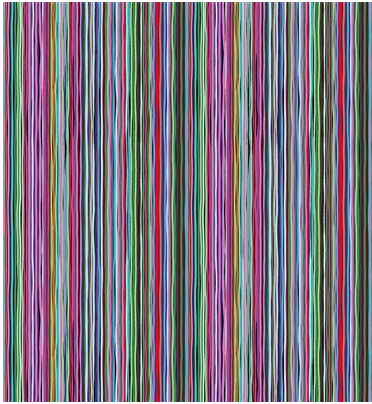


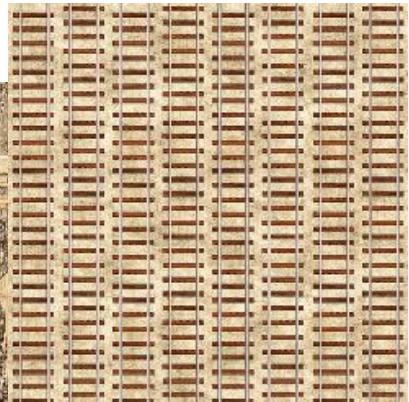
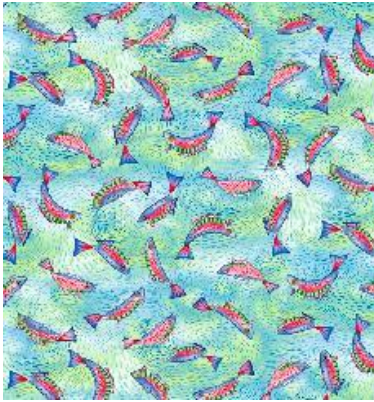


From Michael Miller

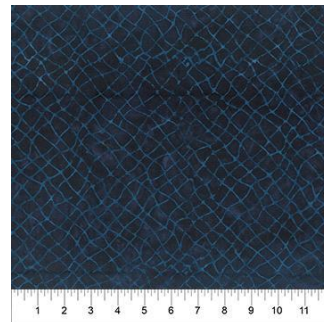
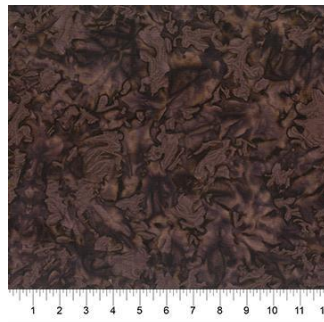
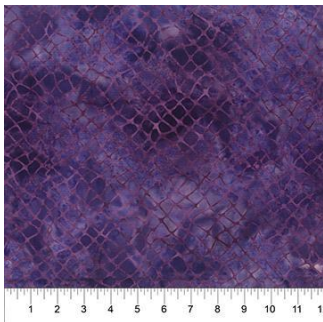


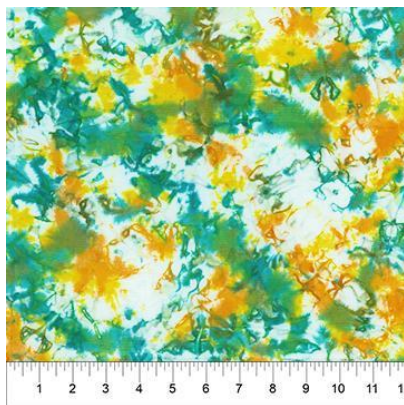
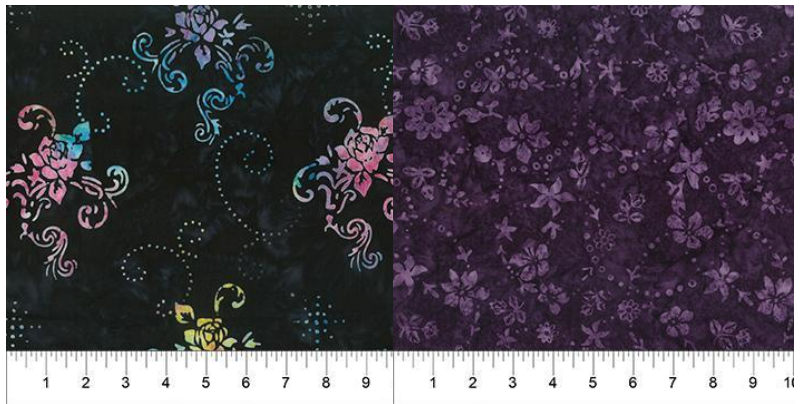
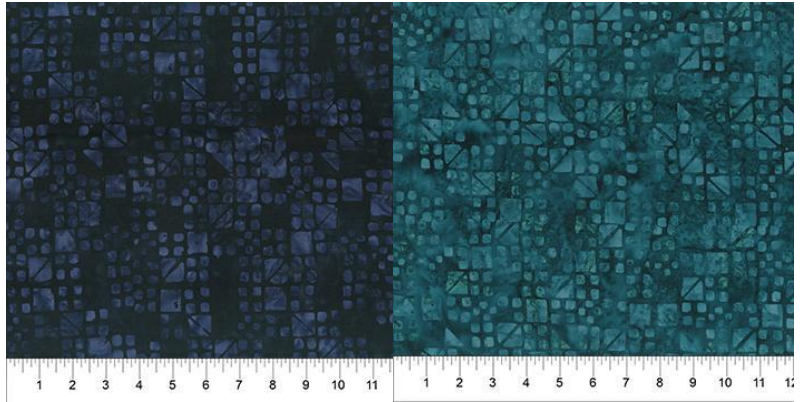
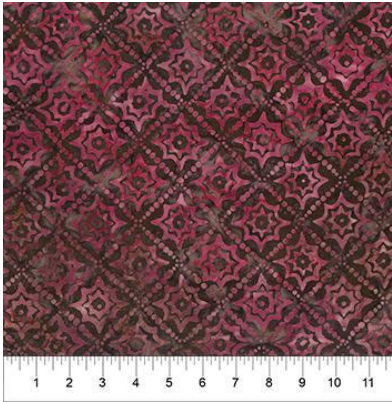
From Clothworks





From QT





From Northcott



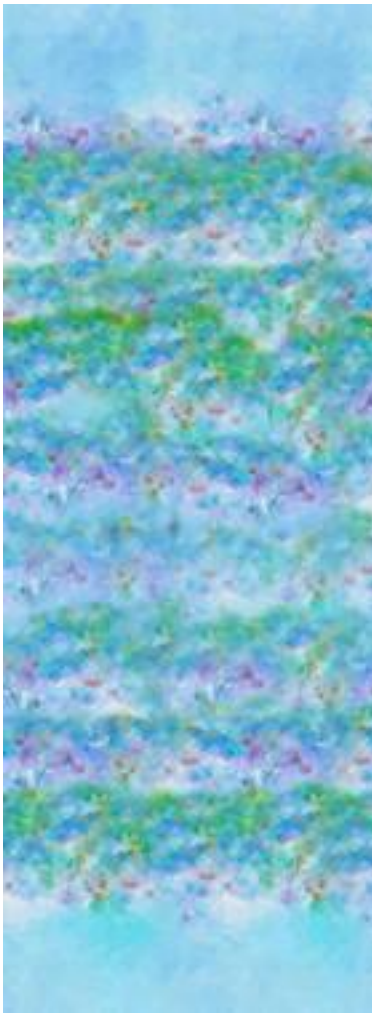
Michael Miller



These are "Save the Planet" fabrics

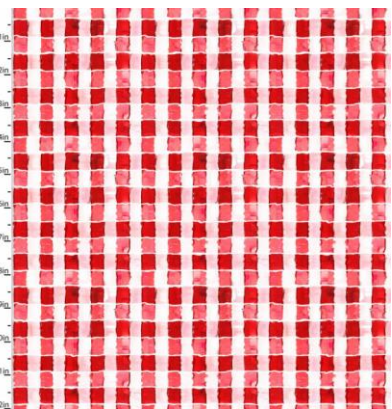


From Hoffman





From 3 Wishes

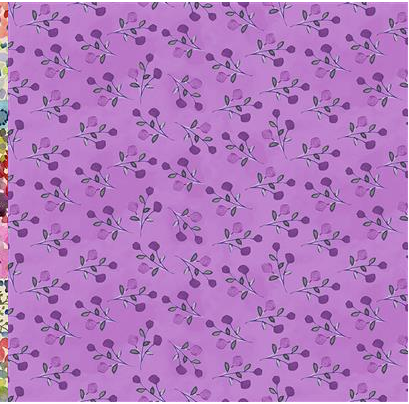
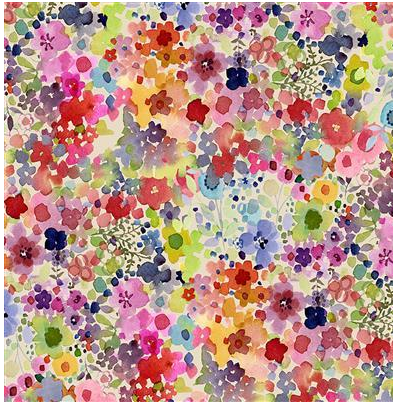
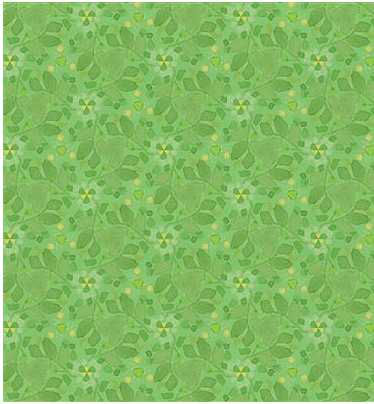




From Clothworks



From Clothworks





Northcott

April

2022

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 Hand work Club 2-4	6 Beginning Machine Quilting 1-4	7 Long Arm Rental Day	8	9 Embroidery Club 10-noon Spider web 1-5
CLOSED 10	11	12 Hand work Club 2-4	13 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	14 Long Arm Rental Day	15	16 Deb Tucker's Tumbling Triangle w/V Block Ruler
CLOSED Easter 17	18	19 Hand work Club 2-4	20 Beginning Machine Applique 1-4	21 Long Arm Rental Day	22	23 Spider web 10:30-4
CLOSED 24	25	26 Hand work Club 2-4	27 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	28 Long Arm Rental Day	29	30 Sewing Apron with lots of pockets 10:30-4

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 CLOSED	2	3 Hand work Club 2-4	4 Long Arm class 10:30	5 Long Arm Rental Day	6	7 BOM 10:30 Zig Zag Quilt 1-5
8 CLOSED	9	10 Hand work Club 2-4	11 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	12 Long Arm Rental Day	13	14 Embroidery Club 10-noon Beginning Paper Piecing 1-5
15 Moms' Day CLOSED	16 Full moon	17 Hand work Club 2-4	18 Long Arm class 10:30	19 Long Arm Rental Day	20 Potluck Long Weekend	21 Potluck Long Weekend
22 Potluck Long Weekend Shop Is now open 1-5!	23 Potluck Long Weekend	24 Hand work Club 2-4	25 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	26 Long Arm Rental Day	27	28 One Block Wonder Panel, getting started, choosing panels, first cuts 10:30-4
29 Shop Is now open 1-5!	30	31 Hand work Club 2-4	Color of the month: whites			

April Classes

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!

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 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!

May Classes

Beginning Paper Piecing Saturday May 14 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

This small wall hanging will teach you all the basics of paper piecing! Paper piecing is a skill to be learned in person, but it is also a skill that is perfect for beginners. You sew directly on the

lines on the paper and your points come out perfect everytime!

Pot Luck Retreat Friday-Monday May 20-22 \$50 Barb Boyer

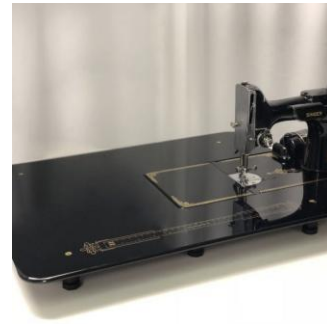
Pot Luck is just the name of the quilt, but it is also a good description of the quilt. Freddy Moran and Gwen Marsden are the creators of Liberated Quilts, that are made from left overs (often called the parts department). Black fabrics can feature prominently in their quilts and red is often used as a neutral. Blocks tend to be “liberated” or free form, kinda made up as you go. It is a liberating way to make a quilt. The retreat will focus on choosing various blocks to put into your quilt, finding your “neutral” color, sharing ideas and fabrics, and incorporating orphan blocks into the mix. These quilts are fun, and it’s on the schedule because I want to finish my quilt that I started 2 years ago. Which means a second quilt, with all the left over parts, will be soon coming.

One Block Wonder Panel 1st class Saturday May 28 10:30-4 \$50 Jean Korber

Back by popular demand! This quilt uses 7 identical panels, 6 of which are cut up into equilateral triangles and pieced around the panel, which is worked into the center, the top, the bottom, the side—you choose! First class is getting your panels cut. Subsequent classes (2 more) in June will follow for designing and sewing. If you haven’t made one of these quilts, now is the time to learn. And an in person class, especially for this quilt, is the way to do it.

Zig Zag Quilt Saturday May 7 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

A change up from the traditional Jelly Roll Quilt. Zig Zag uses one bundle of 2 ½” Strips plus additional fabric. The cascading colors make a stunning, simple to piece quilt. Perfect for that last minute gift: graduation, wedding, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, etc.



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 Winter Time (starting Nov 7-May 22)

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

