

Golden Oldie

A Judy Hopkins Mystery

available as a FREE download at www.MarshaMcCloskey.com

Make a pieced, crib-size quilt, 48" x 60" including borders.

All quick cut; uses 15 different fabrics.

Total yardage required: 3-3/4 yards plus borders, backing and binding. Eight steps.

Judy Hopkins is pleased to share this tried-and-true mystery quilt pattern with you. This pattern can be given away, but it cannot be sold. You can use it as a periodic handout or for a class or workshop. You can print it in your newsletter, as long as you duplicate the pattern exactly as it's given here. Just remember that Judy retains the copyright; permission must be requested to use the pattern in any way other than as stated.

Judy's mysteries are geared toward quilters who are comfortable with basic rotary cutting and machine piecing techniques. The fabric requirements are generous, to allow for shrinkage, uneven cuts and mistakes—and because most quilters would rather have a bit too much fabric than not enough!

We suggest the steps be distributed one at a time, on whatever timetable you choose. If you're doing handouts, the supply list and cutting instructions that comprise Step 1 should be photocopied two-sided. You can use the blank space in the lower left corner of the first page for any directions or other information you want to include. Naturally, pages that contain more than one step need to be cut in half after the copies have been made. Have fun!

Marsha and Judy

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Judy can be reached at j3hopkins@aol.com
Please use the words "Web Mystery" in the subject line,
or your message may be treated as spam.



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Step 1

Page 1 of 2

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Fabric

The fabric requirements are generous, to allow for uneven cuts, shrinkage and mistakes—and because most quilters would rather have a bit too much fabric than not enough!

Use 42"-wide fabric (at least 40 usable inches after preshrinking).
You'll need:

1/4 yard each of 5 different LIGHT prints

1/4 yard each of 5 different MEDIUM prints

1/4 yard each of 5 different DARK prints

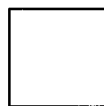
Note: The cutting instructions are written for "long" quarters (9" x about 44"), not "fat" quarters—but you can use fat quarters if you wish, adjusting the cutting instructions as noted.

This quilt is great in all color combinations--blue/beige/brown, red/black/tan, green/blue/purple, etc. The fabrics in each value group can be all the same color (for instance, 5 different beige prints for the LIGHT, 5 different brown prints for the MEDIUM and 5 different dark blue prints for the DARK)--OR, all the same value, but different colors--OR, a mix (for instance, 5 different ivory or beige prints for the LIGHT; an assortment of tan and gray prints for the MEDIUM; and a red, a navy blue, a dark green, a brown and a black for the DARK. Consider including a few plaids or stripes to add visual interest.

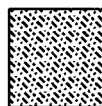
The scrappier your fabric assortment is, the more important it is to maintain distinct value contrast.

Border and binding fabric can be selected later.

The shaded boxes below are keyed to the drawings that will appear in the sewing steps. Cut a snip from each of your fabrics and tape or glue the snip near the appropriate shaded box. You'll find this reference guide helpful as you proceed through the step-by-step instructions for the quilt.



Light




Medium



Dark

Cutting—Golden Oldie

Read through all of the instructions before you begin. All cutting dimensions include 1/4" seams.

Cutting half-square triangles from squares: 

From EACH of the 5 LIGHT prints:

- Cut 2 strips, 2" x about 42".

Cut the strips in half to make 4 strips that measure 2" x about 21".
When you have cut all 5 fabrics, you will have a total of 20 light strips, 2" x about 21".

(If you use fat quarters, just cut 4 strips, 2" x about 21", from each fabric.)

- Cut 1 strip, 3-7/8" x about 42".

Cut the strip in half to make 2 strips that measure 3-7/8" x about 21".
When you have cut all 5 fabrics, you will have a total of 10 light strips, 3-7/8" x about 21".

(If you use fat quarters, just cut 2 strips, 3-7/8" x about 21", from each fabric.)

From EACH of the 5 MEDIUM prints:

- Cut 1 strip, 2" x about 42".

Cut the strip in half to make 2 strips that measure 2" x about 21".
When you have cut all 5 fabrics, you will have a total of 10 medium strips, 2" x about 21".

(If you use fat quarters, just cut 2 strips, 2" x about 21", from each fabric.)

- Cut 1 strip, 3-7/8" x about **21"**.

When you have cut all 5 fabrics, you will have a total of 5 medium strips, 3-7/8" x about 21".

From EACH of the 5 DARK prints:

- Cut 1 strip, 2" x about 42".

Cut the strip in half to make 2 strips that measure 2" x about 21".
When you have cut all 5 fabrics, you will have a total of 10 dark strips, 2" x about 21".

(If you use fat quarters, just cut 2 strips, 2" x about 21", from each fabric.)

- Cut 1 strip, 3-7/8" x about **21"**.

When you have cut all 5 fabrics, you will have a total of 5 dark strips, 3-7/8" x about 21".

TEST YOUR 1/4" SEAM ALLOWANCE BEFORE YOU START CONSTRUCTING YOUR QUILT!

1. From scraps, cut three strips, EXACTLY 2" wide and about 6" long. Join the strips as shown, and press seams to one side.



2. Measure the center strip. It should measure EXACTLY 1-1/2" wide. If it does not, adjust your needle position or seam guide and try again.

Step 2: Golden Oldie

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Make 50
Light/Medium

Make half-square triangle units (see the general instructions if you need help):

Layer any five of the 3-7/8" x 22" LIGHT strips and the five 3-7/8" x 22" MEDIUM strips, right sides together, to make 5 contrasting strip pairs (see the General Instructions at right as needed).

Cut 5 squares, 3-7/8" x 3-7/8", from each strip pair, for a total of 25 layered squares. Cut the squares once diagonally and stitch the resulting triangle pairs along the long edges to make 50 light/medium half-square triangle units, as shown. The units should measure 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn. Press seams toward the MEDIUM fabric.



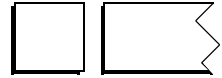
Make 50
Light/Dark

Repeat the above instructions, using the remaining 3-7/8" x 22" LIGHT strips and the five 3-7/8" x 22" DARK strips, to make 50 light/dark half-square triangle units, as shown. Press seams toward the DARK fabric.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING QUICK HALF-SQUARE TRIANGLE UNITS

1. Make "strip pairs" by layering contrasting strips or strip segments right sides together, with the long edges aligned.

2. Cut squares from each layered pair of strips, using the measurements given in the pattern instructions.



3. Cut the layered squares once diagonally, from corner to corner.

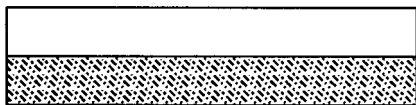


4. Pick up and chain-stitch the resulting triangle pairs along the long edges to make half-square triangle units; the pairs are already matched and ready to sew.



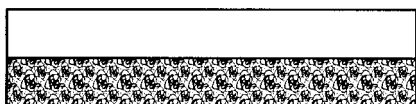
Step 3: Golden Oldie

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Make 10
LIGHT/MEDIUM

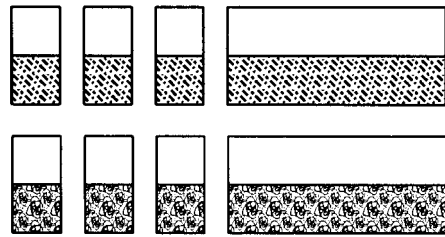
Join 10 of the 2" x 21" LIGHT strips to the 2" x 21" MEDIUM strips to make 10 strip units that look like this. Combine the fabrics at random. The strip units should measure 3-1/2" wide (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn. Press seams toward the MEDIUM fabric.



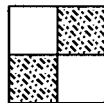
Make 10
LIGHT/DARK

Join the remaining 2" x 21" LIGHT strips to the 2" x 21" DARK strips to make 10 strip units that look like this. Combine the fabrics at random. The strip units should measure 3-1/2" wide (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn. Press seams toward the DARK fabric.

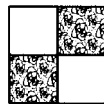
Step 4: Golden Oldie



Cut 2" segments



*Make 50
LIGHT/MEDIUM*



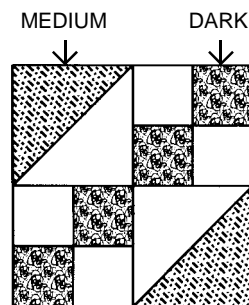
*Make 50
LIGHT/DARK*

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Cut ALL of the strip units you made in Step 3 into segments 2" wide. You will need 100 LIGHT/MEDIUM segments and 100 LIGHT/DARK segments.

Join the segments to make 50 LIGHT/MEDIUM four-patches and 50 LIGHT/DARK four-patches as shown. Combine the fabrics at random. The four-patches should measure 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn.

Step 5: Golden Oldie



*Block A
Make 25*

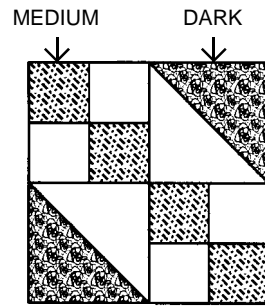
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Using the LIGHT/MEDIUM half-square triangle units and the LIGHT/DARK four-patches, make 25 Block A. Combine the fabrics at random. The blocks should measure 6-1/2" x 6-1/2" (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn. Press seams however you wish.

Note: This is one of those designs that creates an occasional pressing conundrum no matter what you do. If you press seams open, you may have more difficulty matching points and seams, and you'll have no "ditch" to stitch in when you reach the quilting stage. If you press to the side, you may have to twist some seams on the back when you assemble the blocks and/or the quilt, to make them butt together properly for easy joining. You choose!

Step 6: Golden Oldie

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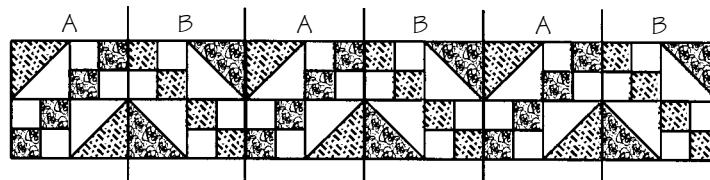
Block B
Make 25

Using the LIGHT/DARK half-square triangle units and the LIGHT/MEDIUM four-patches, make 25 Block B. Combine the fabrics at random. The blocks should measure 6-1/2" x 6-1/2" (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn. Press seams however you wish.

Step 7: Golden Oldie

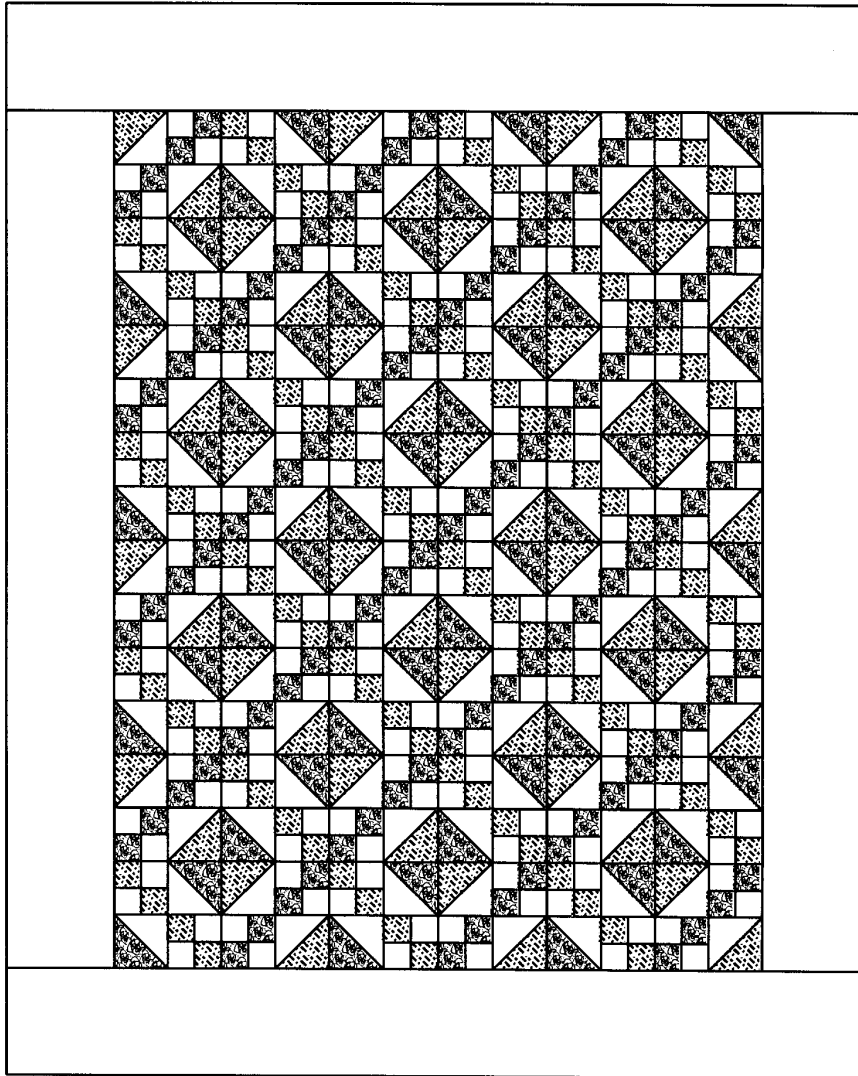
A Judy Hopkins Mystery

Join the blocks in rows of 6, alternating Block A and Block B. Start each row with Block A. Press seams all the same direction (trust me!) You will have 8 rows--and 2 blocks left over.



Make 8 rows; alternating Block A and Block B.

Maybe your group would like to pool the leftover blocks and have a drawing for them.....or, put them together for a community service quilt.



Turn every other row upside-down to form the pattern.

*Judy Hopkins' **Mystery Quilt Singles** patterns for individual quilters are available through Feathered Star Productions at www.MarshaMcCloskey.com*

Join the rows to make a BUCKEYE BEAUTY quilt, turning every other row upside-down to form the pattern.

Add 6" borders in your choice of fabric. 1-1/3 yards of fabric will yield 7 selvage-to-selvage strips, 6-1/2" wide, for seamed borders. For borders cut from the lengthwise grain, you would need 1-1/2 yards of fabric.

TO ADD BORDERS: Seam the strips as necessary to make strips long enough to border the quilt; press seams open.

Measure the length of the quilt at the center, from raw edge to raw edge. Cut two border strips to that measurement and join them to the sides of the quilt with a 1/4" seam, matching the ends and centers and easing the edges to fit. Then measure the width of the quilt at the center, including the border pieces that you just added. Cut two border strips to that measurement and join them to the top and bottom of the quilt, matching ends and centers and easing as necessary.