

A Patchwork Puzzle

A Judy Hopkins Mystery

available as a FREE download at www.MarshaMcCloskey.com

Make a pieced, crib-size quilt, 45-1/2" x 59-1/2" including borders.

All quick cut; uses 3 different fabrics.

Total yardage required: 4 yards plus backing. Six 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

Make a pieced, crib-size quilt,
45-1/2" x 59-1/2" including borders.
All quick cut; uses 3 different fabrics.

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4 yards plus backing.

Six steps.

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rotary cutting and machine piecing
techniques.

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 44"-wide fabric (at least 42 usable inches after preshrinking).

You'll need:

1-1/4 yards DARK fabric. This fabric is for the primary design element in the quilt. Choose a solid in a color that you love, or a beautiful, dark, non-directional print.

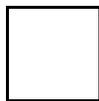
3/4 yard MEDIUM (or dark-medium) fabric. This fabric is for the secondary design element in the quilt. Choose a solid or a small-to medium-scale tone-on-tone print. A directional print—even a low-key plaid or stripe—would work fine here.

2 yards LIGHT fabric, for background and borders. This fabric will be joined to itself occasionally; if you use a print, try something in a soft, swirly all-over pattern that will help disguise the seams. Consider a subtle multicolored print that picks up the other colors in the quilt.

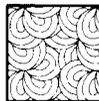
Both the DARK and MEDIUM fabrics must contrast well with the LIGHT background fabric. Make sure you'll be able to see a "line" where the DARK and LIGHT and the MEDIUM and LIGHT fabrics join.

Fabric requirements include fabric for borders for for 3/8" (finished) double-fold binding.

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—A Patchwork Puzzle

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

Cutting half-square triangles from squares:  Cutting quarter-square triangles from squares: 

From the DARK fabric:

- Cut 2 selvage-to-selvage strips, 4" wide.
From these strips, cut a total of 17 squares, 4" x 4".
- Cut 5 selvage-to-selvage strips, 2-5/8" wide.
From these strips, cut a total of 68 squares, 2-5/8" x 2-5/8".
Cut the squares once diagonally to make 136 half-square triangles.
- Reserve the remaining fabric for binding.

From the MEDIUM fabric:

- Cut 1 selvage-to-selvage strip, 5-3/4" wide.
From this strip, cut 4 squares, 5-3/4" x 5-3/4".
- Cut 2 selvage-to-selvage strips, 4" wide.
- Cut 4 selvage-to-selvage strips, 2-1/4" wide.

From the LIGHT fabric:

- Cut 2 selvage-to-selvage strips, 4" wide.
- Cut 4 selvage-to-selvage strips, 2-1/4" wide.

From the LENGTH of the remaining LIGHT fabric:

- Cut 4 strips, 5-3/4" wide x about 55" long, for borders.

From the WIDTH of the remaining piece of LIGHT fabric, which will be about 19" x 55":

- Cut 6 strips, 4-3/4" wide x about 19" long.
From these strips, cut a total of 17 squares, 4-3/4" x 4-3/4".
Cut the squares TWICE diagonally to make 68 quarter-square triangles.
- Cut 10 strips, 2-1/4" wide x about 19" long.
From these strips, cut a total of 68 squares, 2-1/4" x 2-1/4".

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

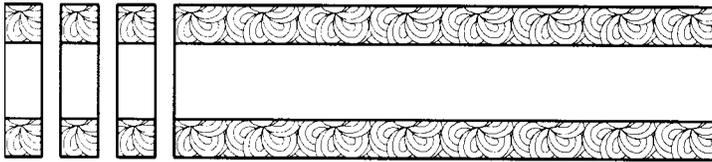
1. From scraps, cut three strips, EXACTLY 2" wide and about 6" long. Join the strips as shown, and press seams to one side.



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—A Patchwork Puzzle

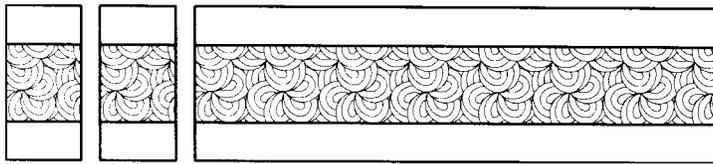
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Make 2 strip units. Cut 36 segments 2-1/4" wide.

1. Join the 2-1/4" MEDIUM strips and the 4" LIGHT strips to make two strip units as shown. Press the seams toward the MEDIUM strips. The strip units should measure 7-1/2" wide (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn.

From these strip units, cut 36 segments 2-1/4" wide.



Make 2 strip units. Cut 18 segments 4" wide.

2. Join the 2-1/4" LIGHT strips and the 4" MEDIUM strips to make two strip units as shown. Press the seams toward the MEDIUM strips. The strip units should measure 7-1/2" wide (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn.

From these strip units, cut 18 segments 4" wide.

Step 3—A Patchwork Puzzle

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Join the 2-5/8" DARK half-square triangles and the 4-3/4" LIGHT quarter-square triangles to make 68 Flying Geese units as shown.



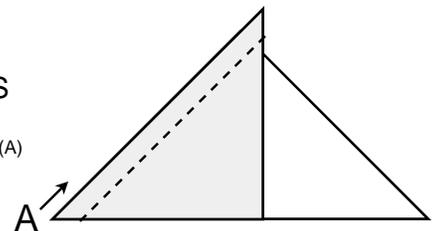
Make 68.

Press the seams toward the DARK triangles.

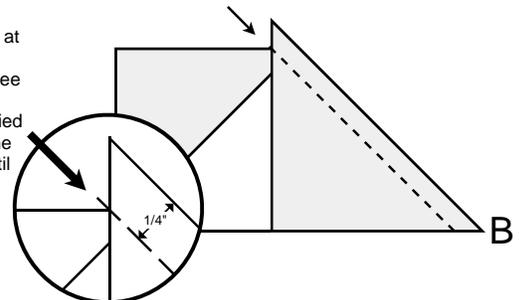
The units should measure 2-1/4" x 4" (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn.

STITCHING TIPS FOR "FLYING GEESE" UNITS

1. Join left-hand triangle: Match points (A) and bottom edges; sew in direction of arrow. Press seam toward smaller triangle.



2. Join right-hand triangle. Start at arrow. Your 1/4" seam should EXACTLY intersect the 90-degree angle where the two smaller triangles meet, as in the magnified portion of the drawing. Adjust the position of the loose triangle until the seam lines up correctly. Take a few stitches, then match points (B) and finish stitching the seam. Press seam toward smaller triangle.



Step 4—A Patchwork Puzzle

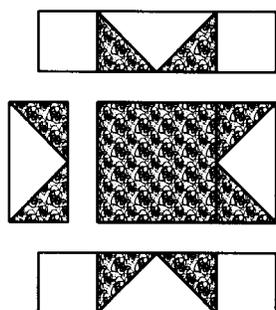
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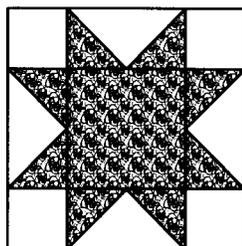
Make 34.

1. Join the 2-1/4" LIGHT squares to 34 of the "Flying Geese" units from Step 3 to make 34 units as shown.

Press the seams toward the Flying Geese units. The units should measure 2-1/4" x 7-1/2" (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn.



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Make 17.

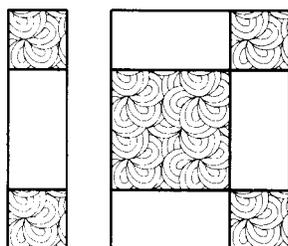
2. Join the units you made above, the remaining Flying Geese units and the 4" DARK squares to make 17 Sawtooth Star blocks as shown.

Press the seams toward the centers of the blocks.

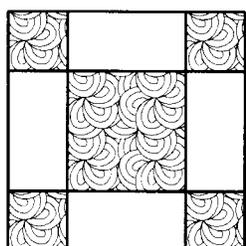
The blocks should measure 7-1/2" x 7-1/2" (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn.

Step 5—A Patchwork Puzzle

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Make 18.

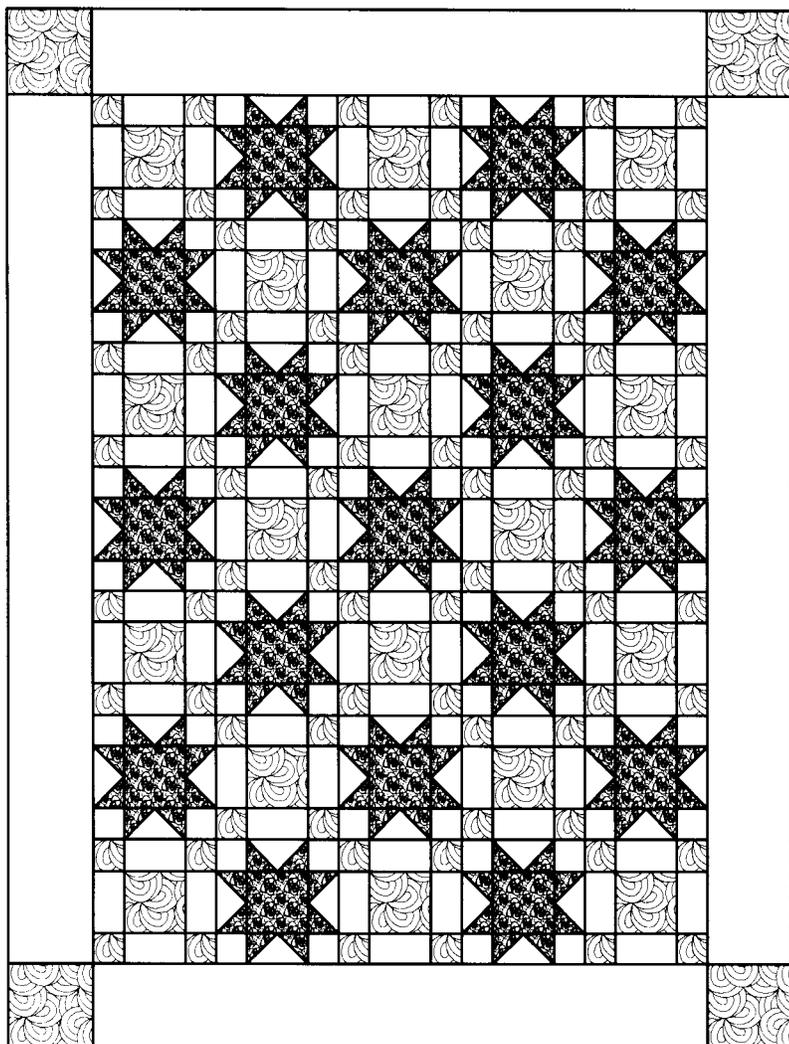
Join the segments you cut in Step 2 to make 18 Puss in the Corner blocks as shown.

Press the seams toward the outside edges of the blocks.

The blocks should measure 7-1/2" x 7-1/2" (raw edge to raw edge) when sewn.

Step 6—A Patchwork Puzzle

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Set the blocks together 5 across and 7 down, alternating the Puss in the Corner and the Sawtooth Star blocks as shown.

BORDERS: Measure the length and the width of the quilt at the center, from raw edge to raw edge. Make a note of these two measurements.

Cut two of the 5-3/4" x about 55" LIGHT strips to the LENGTHWISE 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.

Cut the remaining two strips to the original CROSSWISE measurement. Join 5-3/4" MEDIUM squares to each end of these strips. Join these pieces to the top and bottom of the quilt, matching ends, seams and centers, and easing as necessary.

You'll need 3 yards of fabric for backing (crosswise seam).

Bind with straight-grain or bias strips cut from the remaining DARK fabric. For 3/8" wide (finished) double-fold binding, cut 2-1/2" strips.

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