

Everything I need to know, I learned in quilt guild.

Heber Valley Quilters 5th Annual Design Challenge January to March 2006

Introduction: We are starting our 8th year together as the Heber Valley Quilters. And this is the 5th anniversary of our annual design challenge. We need to celebrate what the Heber Valley Quilters means to each of us. This year our theme is a time to reflect. No matter how long you have been a Heber Valley Quilter, you have learned much and taught others many things. So let's start thinking about what we have learned and begin listing them.

A Note from the Editor: This is going to be a fun challenge. I really look forward to reading your contributions and seeing your quilts. Work hard, be creative and most of all, have a great time!

The Beginning: Using the attached page, list at least five things you have learned as a Heber Valley Quilter. It can be quilting-related or non-quilting, or a more personal item. It can be anything. As you reflect on what the guild has taught you, you will be surprised at how many items you can come up with. Keep your list handy and add to it as items occur to you while you are doing other things.

The Next Chapter: Select one item you listed and write a paragraph about it. What have you learned and what does it mean to you? Write a few sentences, or more. Write from your heart. Make a copy of this page and give it to Shantelle at our February meeting. Your list, along with your paragraph will be compiled into a small book. Your paragraph will be used to make a quilt label for your quilt. You will receive a copy of the book at our March meeting. Only those who participate in the challenge will receive a copy of the book.

The Middle: Take the paragraph you have written and design a quilt that illustrates it. Your quilt should speak for you, telling what you have learned in quilt guild. Your quilt can be any size, any shape, any color, any technique, any block. It is entirely up to you.

The Conclusion: Bring your quilt to our March meeting for our Challenge Quilt Show. We are writing our guild book and you are a contributing author.

The Appendix: If you have questions, or need help of any kind, call Shantelle at 657-0581.

Do Not
USE A
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PATTERN

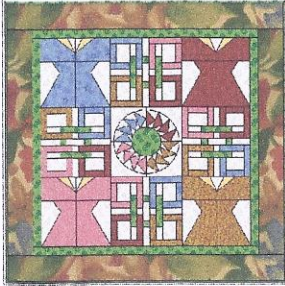
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5th Annual Design Challenge
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Everything I Need to Know,
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We are celebrating our 8th year together as the Heber Valley Quilters. And this is the 5th anniversary of our annual design challenge. We are celebrating what the Heber Valley Quilters and quilting mean to each of us. This year our theme is: *A Time to Reflect*. No matter how long you have been a Heber Valley Quilter, you have learned much and taught others many things.

We started by thinking about what we have learned and then by listing them. Then we designed and quilted what we have learned. This is our book of what we have learned in quilt guild.



When we first gathered together we brought with us our differences. As we became closer these differences blended together to create a wonderfully warm circle of friends.

On the outside corners of my quilt I have template pieced dresses of different colors. These colors represent all of you. The blocks between these I have adapted and named friendship chains. The chains intertwine throughout the quilt representing the roots we have spread and the things we have shared.

The dresses and chains come together to surround the center block, a circle of friends. In choosing the colors for this block I started with green; a favorite color mine, to represent myself. I surrounded the green with colors I pulled from the dresses and chains.

I wanted to relate in the language of quilt how each of you has inspired me. The diversity of creativity has influenced me to try old things in new ways, and venture outside my traditional methods. Thank you, your example has brought forth a quilt I will cherish.

Cat Beckstead



✂ How to use a rotary cutter and ruler. (Yes—I used to cut out quilts using cardboard templates and scissors.)

✂ Paper piecing is wonderful for some patterns!

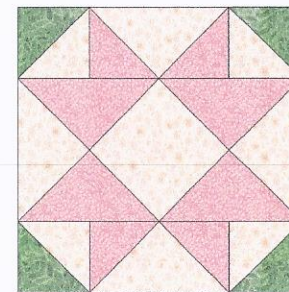
✂ How to use ¼" tape on your machine instead of drawing pencil lines when sewing half square triangles. (Thanks Shantelle.)

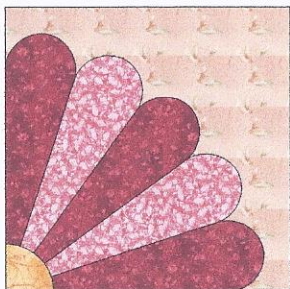
✂ All of your fabric doesn't have to "match" when making a quilt.

✂ Quilting is most fun when doing it with friends.

The most valuable thing I've learned in quilt guild is how much I can learn from others. Most everything that has helped me grow as a quilter has come from all of you. I've made wonderful friends and am looking forward to making even more.

Michelle Blair



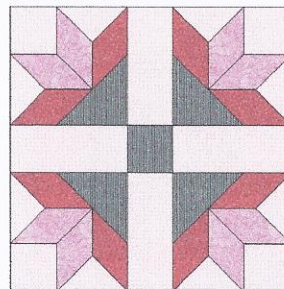


corners too carefully.

- ✂ Always cut carefully.
- ✂ Make sure your kids are asleep before you try to sew something tricky.
- ✂ Take others' help and advice when they offer it.
- ✂ Once a quilt is finished, don't look back at the

My first quilt was started with help from my mother-in-law. She is a great quilter and brought me a rotary cutter and ruler to use. I stayed up late cutting all the squares over a few nights. My husband, who is a builder with an eye for accurate measurements, kept warning me that I wasn't cutting straight. I told him that it didn't matter because I would fix it when I sewed the pieces together. Ha! I learned from that quilt that if you want something to end up nice, then you should be careful from the beginning. But I also learned that once it was finished and all put together, I didn't look back too much at the corners that didn't quite match up. I just felt a sense of accomplishment.

Michelle Bradshaw

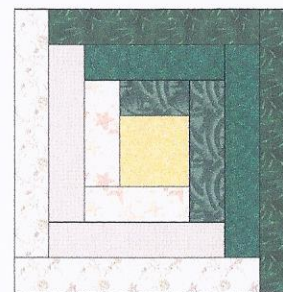


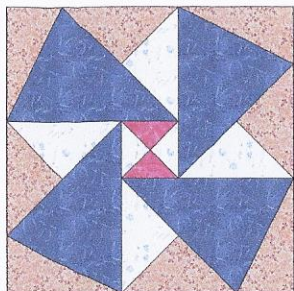
learn something from each project.

- ✂ Don't be afraid to try new ideas!
- ✂ Crooked piecing is so fun!
- ✂ There is something special about Quilting in the woods!
- ✂ Yes, that 1/8 of an inch really does matter!
- ✂ Be proud of your efforts and

Quilt guild has taught me that you will never learn more and become better if you don't try new ideas and get out of your comfort zone. Situations aren't as intimidating as you first think they may be. Take on a challenge, try something new and you will be happily surprised at the results. The thought of 15 ladies sewing in a cabin still gives me the same result, that of giggling!

Rachel Crane





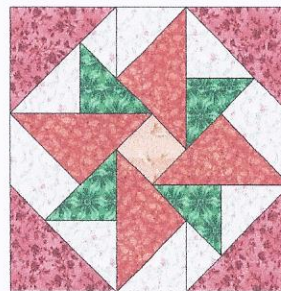
- ✂ Friendship.
- ✂ Everyone has a different quilting personality.
- ✂ Don't be afraid to try something new and then share it.
- ✂ Quilters are very accepting of who you are and what

you do.

- ✂ It doesn't matter how many of the people you know, you can still get very nervous speaking at quilt guild. But it is ok. No one will laugh or intentionally embarrass you.
- ✂ There is a world of knowledge at quilt guild. If you need help with something, you have a room full of people to ask.

I've been in the Heber Valley Quilters almost from the start. I was invited to join them about 4 months after they got started. I've seen the group grow in size and talents. And I've meet many wonderful women. I'm grateful for my association with each one. We all have a different quilting personality but we come together as one beautiful quilt each month. We all love different fabrics and different patterns. Seeing all the differences each month at Sew-n-Tell motivates me to try new things and try using fabrics I don't usually pick. I leave our meeting each month inspired. Our guild has provided me a safe place to grow in my quilting and for that I will be forever grateful.

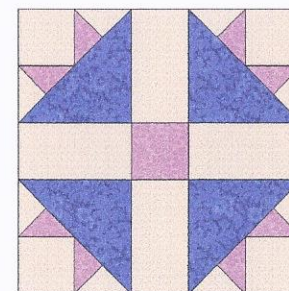
Shantelle Cox

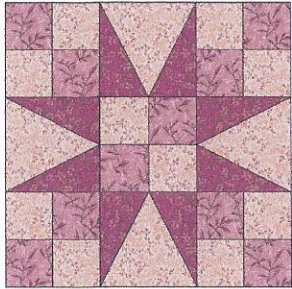


- ✂ Confidence to piece-ability
- ✂ Confidence that what I like is ok.
- ✂ Friendship.
- ✂ Acceptance.
- ✂ There are so many projects I want to do.
- ✂ Confidence to design.

The Heber Valley Quilters have given me wings
To make all kinds of quilts and a lot of other things.
Step by step with encouragement, patience and time
The Guild has instructed me to reach for the sublime.
Shantelle's Annual Design Challenge is made for your mind
To expand your talents and learn to be kind.
To yourself and to others you are an apprentice
But your final design is worth more than a sentence.
Have fun, be creative, move out of the box
And display your 2006 design to the Guild and to
Shantelle Cox.

Joan DeFriez

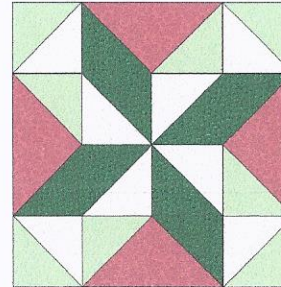




- ✂ Try.
- ✂ Hidden machine appliqué.
- ✂ Paper piecing.

Try—I'm new to quilting.
Everything is so fun to try.

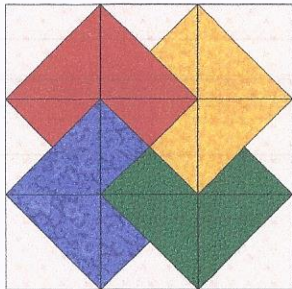
Jill Gehring



- ✂ To think more openly—ideas start flowing when I am inspired.
- ✂ There really is no wrong way—there are many ways to achieve the same result.
- ✂ Crooked piecing.
- ✂ Machine quilting.
- ✂ Filler blocks.

Quilt guild has taught me to be more creative and to think more openly. When I go to quilt guild, I get rejuvenated about quilting. My quilting improves as I listen to demos, watch sew and tell and hear other quilters pointers and advice. I always walk away wanting to quilt more.

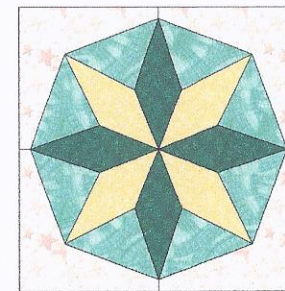
Tricia Mathis

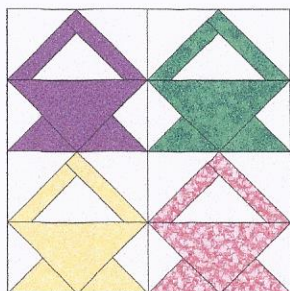


- ✂ Patience and perfection.
- ✂ Pride.
- ✂ Relaxation.
- ✂ Love.
- ✂ Giving.

I haven't been sewing long and I have very little training, but I have very many memories of my Grandmother who always had a quilt set up in her living room. After playing underneath the quilt, my Grandmother would let me help. I learned from her many things, but most importantly I learned patience. She would quilt for hours and when finished with her project, she would donate it to someone in need. When she died, they estimated that she made over 3000 quilts. I hope to someday have half of the patience she has.

Heidi Iordachescu





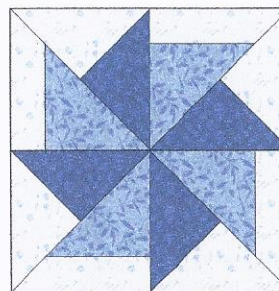
- ✂ Some people have a lot of time to quilt.
- ✂ We have many talented quilters.
- ✂ Finish something that you start.
- ✂ There are a few quilters who have made me feel good

about myself and that maybe I can do something.

- ✂ Some useful quilting tips and some challenging commitments.

I have been inspired by many others to actually finish a quilt. So, I made a commitment to myself to take part in the Heber Valley Quilt Guild "Challenge 2006" and present this, my first, real pieced and completely finished quilt.

Barbara Murdock

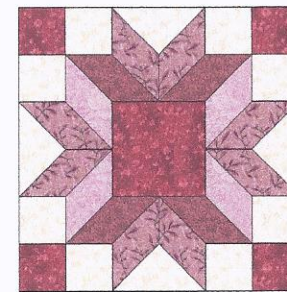
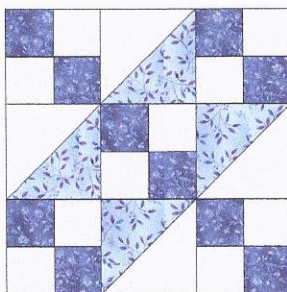


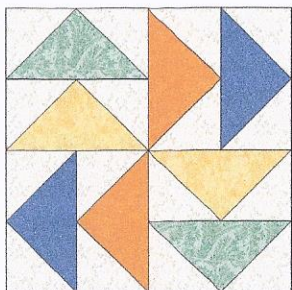
- ✂ How to paper piece.
- ✂ How to do proper bindings.
- ✂ How to get a quilt ready to be quilted.
- ✂ How to gain the confidence to try new techniques and do things that seem beyond my ability.

- ✂ How to love the whole process of quilting.

Quilting has been such a wonderful creative outlet for me. Through the quilt guild, I've learned to love the whole process of quilting. I enjoy choosing the fabric, cutting it, sewing it, binding it, etc. I'm almost sad when I finish binding a quilt, because it's been like a good friend to me, while I've been working on it. I feel almost let down when it is over with. Of course that feeling never lasts long because I have a new "friend" I'm soon working on!

Michele Murdock





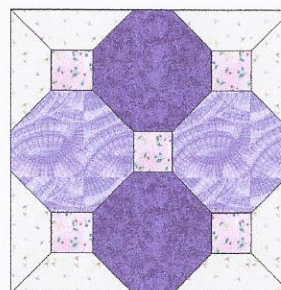
- ✂ I am still capable of learning new “tricks!”
- ✂ There are creative juices within me!
- ✂ What appears to be difficult isn’t always true—be brave and try that new pattern!
- ✂ “Coloring outside the lines”

often produces the best results—use a variety of colors and fabric prints.

- ✂ The encouragement and warm friendships in the quilt guild surround you with the support you need to try and make it all worth while!

Not fully understanding what I was doing I signed up to be a part of the Friendship Block. My quilting experience, knowledge and ability were a big zero but I quickly learned “I can do this!” The experience allowed and at times forced me to try new techniques, by creative and sometimes just learn to follow the directions given! Mistakes were plentiful (I now have a great pot holder collection!), but the rewarding feelings of accomplishment far out-weigh the mistakes.

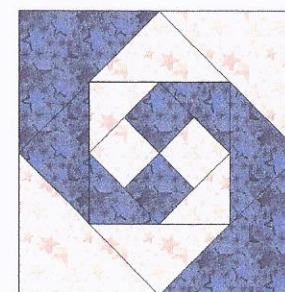
Jeannine Pratt

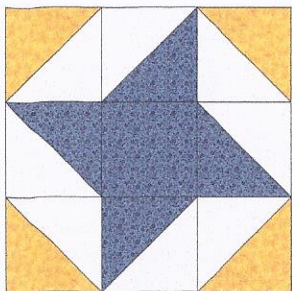


- ✂ Have fun.
- ✂ Try something new.
- ✂ Share what you’ve made.
- ✂ Use a scant ¼” seam.
- ✂ Make it your own.

I have learned new techniques in quilt guild. I have also learned that everyone can start out with the same pattern, and after we are through we have made it our own. Everyone’s personalities come through in their quilts. It is fun to share with each other and get new ideas for the next project.

Debra Proctor





✂ Quilters are incredible women! The characteristics and creativity required to make a quilt from beginning to end are countless: creative vision, determination, patience...

✂ Quilters have happier

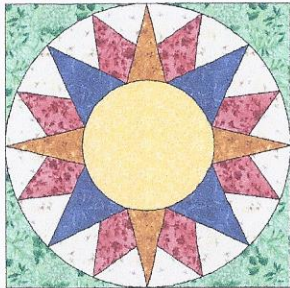
marriages. Nothing beats stress like an hour in the sewing room.

- ✂ Quilt making is a way to connect with the women in my life who have gone before: mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and to pass along the skill to my own daughters.
- ✂ I have discovered a happy place for my obsessive-compulsive disorder!
- ✂ The edge of my presser foot is not exactly $\frac{1}{4}$ " as I had thought for the previous 35 years of sewing!
- ✂ Quilt making is a statement of my creativity. I am an artist, and fabric and thread is my palette.
- ✂ Quilt guild is a place for me to "Sew and Tell" – to show and share the evolution and progress of my creative abilities.
- ✂ A person can never have too many sewing machines... (I have seven so far...)
- ✂ I am not alone in my passion to record my life in cloth. Every quilter has a story to tell and a journey to celebrate.
- ✂ One can never collect too many fat quarters.

Quilt making is a way to connect with the women in my life who have gone before. Quilting has always been a part of my life. I still have the quilt I helped tie when I was seven years old. I remember playing underneath the quilt frames as my mother Donna Erickson, Grandmother LaVerne Hacking, and other relatives and friends spent countless hours hand-quilting tricot quilts for weddings and other important family events. I became interested in quilting shortly following my mother's funeral, when I found a bag of unfinished log cabin blocks for a quilt my mother had been making. I brought it home, and was able to finish it for my father for Christmas a couple of years later. It is a treasure.

My father's grandmother Hulda Hoopes was an avid quilter. I remember seeing her sewing machine out on her back porch, and all of her quilting supplies neatly arranged and ready to sew in any spare moment. Her daughter, my grandmother, Vera Erickson, died in a car accident long before great-grandma Hoopes, and she willed all of her personal items to my grandma's sister, Marla. I don't know what has become of all her quilts, and I am on a quilt quest to try to discover what type of quilts she made and where they may be. My daughters, Lauren, Nicole, Chelsea and I will be making our design challenge quilt blocks based on the discoveries we find on our quilt quest.

Deonn Stott



✂ The $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance around the "finished" block is supposed to be there. I remember the first Ohio Star block I made, I got done and thought, "Hey, I did a great job...it would be perfect if it didn't have all this excess on

the outside", so I promptly cut it off. (Not realizing that I need that seam allowance to attach it to another block).

- ✂ Quilts should be square at the end. My "bug jar" quilt is about 6" wider at the top than at the bottom. Go figure how I did that?!
- ✂ Friends and neighbors count for a lot. I've watched with joy and a little envy of Kristy and Kris' next door quilting and borrowing each other's sewing machines and ideas. Rachel and Debbie are always watching each other's sewing room lights still on in the middle of the night. That is so fun and I treasure times like that.
- ✂ We all need each other. I love coming to quilt guild and hearing other's experiences, tips and advice. We laugh at our mistakes and relish in each accomplishment. I love quilt guild and my quilting friends.
- ✂ Quilting is a great heritage that "binds" us together and "ties" us tighter as friends and families.

- ✂ Homespun cloth does not work for borders of a quilt. It stretches out of shape and creates "waves".
- ✂ Scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " is a very small seam. It is not necessarily the edge of every presser foot, like I thought previously.
- ✂ Having the right equipment really does make a difference.
- ✂ Pressing is important.
- ✂ Good fabric and thread is vital to success even though it is more expensive. It's worth it.
- ✂ Paper piecing is fun.
- ✂ Quilting projects are more fun with a friend.
- ✂ A little starch goes a long way. It really is helpful in making your block look crisp and finished. Magic Sizing is a light starch, cheap at Wal-Mart (\$.96) and works wonderfully. Too much starch will distort the size of the block.
- ✂ Rotary blades can be changed! What a difference it will make. Cody (the Queen) Mazuran says one cannot really cut accurately if your blade is not sharp.
- ✂ A new needle in your sewing machine is worth the trouble.
- ✂ Shortcuts are really not shortcuts at all.

Brenda Wilcox