Our top 5 quilt patterns from 2020
Island Four Patch

© Cindy Schellenberg
Seashell Quilts - APQS Kelowna
# Island Four Patch

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## 45” x 60” Finished Quilt

**Fabric Materials:**
- 40 – 2-1/2” strips the width of fabric (WOF) – Each strip should measure approximately 42” long.
- White Fabric - 1/4 yard (for setting triangles)
  - cut 5 – 7” squares
  - cut 2 – 3-3/4” squares

## Preparation

- Cut one 2-1/2” square from each of the 40 strips and set aside for making the four patch units.
- All seam allowances are 1/4”.

## Strip Unit “Strata” Construction

- Sew 30 – 2-1/2” strips together on the long sides to create a “strata” strip unit that measures 60”x the remaining WOF. Set aside the remaining strips for binding.
  - Alternating the sewing direction of the strips helps to keep your quilt top flat and minimizes any skewing as you make the strata.
  - The strips may not be all the same length; try to keep one end even as you sew.
- Trim the strata into a rectangle approximately 39” by 60”.
- Cut the strata into two pieces, cutting about 13” off the left side. After cutting you will have two pieces – one measuring about 13” x 60” and one measuring 26” x 60”.

### Note:
Don’t worry if your strata measurement is slightly different! In this case, close enough is good enough. Just divide it into two pieces, about 1/3 and 2/3 as shown at right. Set aside.
Four Patch Units

• Gather the 40 – 2-1/2” squares that were set aside earlier. These will be used to make four patch units.
• Sew 2 – 2-1/2” squares together, making 20 units. Press the seam allowances to one side.
• Place 2 units together with the seam allowances pressed in opposite directions. Nest the seams together; sew into four patch units.
• Make 10 four patch units.

Setting Triangles

• Cut the 7” white squares twice on the diagonal, making 1/4-square triangles.

• Cut the 3-3/4” white squares once on the diagonal, making 1/2 square triangles.

Four Patch Strip

Assemble the four-patch strip according to the diagram below, using all 10 four patch sets. Add the quarter-square triangles to the first and last four-patch units (illustrated on the left side below) to complete the strip.

• Sew the three sections together as shown, and you’re done!
• Use the remaining 10 strips to bind the quilt after quilting it with your favorite design.
Easy Layer Cake

©2008, The Quilt Crossing
Easy Layer Cake

56” x 79” Finished Quilt

Ingredients:
• 24 - 10” squares
• 2 yards fabric for lattice and borders
• 3/4 yard binding fabric
• 1/4 yard fabric for cornerstones
• 3-1/2 yards of backing fabric
• Twin-size batting

Want a simple quilt that showcases large prints? Grab a mix of 10” squares or your favorite Layer Cake (fabric packs of 10” squares) and get cookin’!

Cutting Instructions

From the cornerstone fabric, cut fifteen 2-1/2” squares.

Trim the selvages from the border fabric and, from the lengthwise grain, cut four pieces that are 6-1/2” x 72”. Set aside for the borders. From the remaining fabric, cut six 2-1/2” x 72” strips. Sub-cut these strips into thirty-eight 2-1/2” x 10” pieces.

From the binding fabric, cut seven 2-1/2” strips across the width of fabric. Set aside.

Sewing Instructions

Arrange the 10” squares of fabric in six rows of four. Sew a lattice strip between each of the squares in each row, as shown in Figure 1.

Next, sew five rows of lattice strips and cornerstones, as shown in Figure 2. Alternating rows, sew together as shown in the full quilt layout diagram above.

Measure the long sides of the quilt (it should be about 67-1/2”). Cut two borders to that measurement and attach to the sides. Measure the top and bottom of the quilt (it should be about 56-1/2”). Cut two borders to that measurement and attach.

Quilt as desired, but of course with your APQS Longarm!

Figure 1

Figure 2
Luscious Luster

By Julia Graves
©2020 www.soquilts.com
Create a quilt filled with light moving across the quilt by carefully arranging fabrics from light to dark.

This pattern can make great use of your scrap pile or a fat quarter bundle! To create luminosity, tone-on-tone fabrics, solid color fabrics, or fabrics that look solid work best.

Try a version in multiple colors (I used eight colors – magenta, violet, purple, blue, blue-green, green-blue, green and olive green). The black background fabric sets off all the colors and makes them shine.

To achieve the sense of light moving across the quilt, it is very important to have a large value range in the fabrics from very light to very dark with a smooth transition in between. I recommend using 5-7 fabrics in each color family.

**Cutting**

This quilt is made with eight strip-pieced color blocks that are paired with a black square and cut diagonally to form 16 half square triangle (HST) blocks.

Note that each strip-pieced color block yields one HST block that has more of the darker fabrics and one HST block that has more of the lighter fabrics. Because having the very light fabric is important to create luster, make the light fabric strip a little wider (2" or more) so that it still shows at least 1-1/2" after trimming and seam allowances.
Cutting (cont.)

Color Strips

- If cutting from fat quarters, cut four strips from the long side of each fat quarter (at least 18”) in a variety of widths between 1-1/2” - 2-3/4”. (If you like more regularity, cut the same width from each value.) Leave the lightest and darkest strips a little wider than the rest so that they will still be visible after trimming the block down to 9” and allowing for the seam.

- If using scraps, select strips at least 9” long. To see if you need to trim any strip widths, add up the width of the strips you plan on using for each color block, then subtract out 1/2” for each seam. If the total is more than 9”, trim width from some of the middle value strips to bring the total down to 9”. Leave the lightest and darkest strips a little wider than the rest so that they will still be visible after trimming the block down to 9” and allowing for the seam.

- Here are some sample cutting plans that will total 9” wide after sewing together:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>5 fabrics</th>
<th>7 fabrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Light</td>
<td>2-1/2”</td>
<td>2”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light-Medium</td>
<td>2”</td>
<td>1-1/2”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>2-1/4”</td>
<td>1-3/4”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium-Dark</td>
<td>1-3/4”</td>
<td>1-1/4”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Dark</td>
<td>2-1/2”</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Width</strong></td>
<td><strong>11”</strong></td>
<td><strong>9” Unfinished (8-1/2&quot; Finished)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Cut Strip Width</th>
<th>Finished Strip Width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Light</td>
<td>2”</td>
<td>1-1/2”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light-Medium</td>
<td>1-3/4”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medium-Dark</td>
<td>1-3/4”</td>
<td>1-1/4”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark</td>
<td>1-1/2”</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Dark</td>
<td>1-1/2”</td>
<td>1-1/4”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Width</strong></td>
<td><strong>11”</strong></td>
<td><strong>9” Unfinished (8-1/2” Finished)</strong></td>
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</table>

Black Fabric
Cut two strips 9” wide by the width of fabric (WOF) and sub-cut into four 9-inch squares for eight squares total.

Borders
Cut two strips 32-1/2” long and 4-1/2” wide for side borders. Cut two strips 40-1/2” long and 4-1/2” wide for top and bottom borders. Note - these are exact measurements. You may want to add additional length for insurance.

Binding
Cut five strips 2-1/2” wide by WOF
Sewing

- Sew the strip sets together, in value order from light to dark. Press seams to darker fabric. See Figure 1. If using fat quarters and long strips, sub-cut into two 9” units.
- Draw a line diagonally on the wrong side of each black square (a white marking pencil works well).
- Layer each strip square with a black 9” square, right sides together (RST) with the black square on top.
- Stitch a scant 1/4” away on both sides of the marked diagonal line (dashed lines represent sewing lines in Figure 2).
- Cut along the marked diagonal line (solid line in Figure 2). You will now have two HST squares, one with a lot of light fabric showing and one with a lot of dark fabric showing. See Figure 3.
- Press seam to the black fabric.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Fabrics must all be oriented the same way so the triangles come out correctly. When sandwiched, always have the lightest fabric of the strip set farthest away from you (darkest fabric closest to you), and have the marked diagonal line on the black fabric go from the bottom left corner to the top right corner. See Figure 2. If you are inconsistent, your triangles will not spin in the same direction.

Figure 1 - Strip set sewn together

Figure 2 - Layered squares

Figure 3 - Each set of layered squares will yield two blocks – one with more light fabrics and one with more dark fabrics.
Sewing (cont.)

Layout and Sew Top

• Arrange the squares on a design wall following the photo of the finished quilt, or in whatever way looks good to you. It’s your quilt!
• Sew blocks into rows. Sew rows together.
• Sew side borders on. Sew top and bottom borders on.

Finishing

• Layer quilt top with batting and backing. I quilted molar feathered arcs in the strip sections, loop feathers in the black section and arcs in the border using monofilament thread, but a medium gray would also work well. See Figures 4, 5 and 6.

Figure 4 – Feathered Arcs in the strip sets
Figure 5 – Loop feathers in the black section
Figure 6 – Arcs in the border

Bonus Instructions for a Sofa Throw

Make a sofa throw version (56” x 72”) by making 48 blocks (3 times as many). Borders will be cut 4-1/2” x 64-1/2” and 4-1/2” x 56-1/2”. In this version, I used dark brown instead of black for a softer look.
Daisy’s Garden
©Bonnie Botts, 2010

72” x 84” Finished Quilt

Fabric Requirements
- One Jelly Roll (42 strips each measuring 2-1/2” wide by width of fabric (WOF))
- Background Fabric: 3 yards
- Star Fabric: 2-1/2 yards

Daisy’s Garden is a quilt to commemorate my grandmother Daisy (1896-1973), who was the original quilter in our family.

Cutting Directions

Jelly Roll Fabric:
- From each 2-1/2” X 42” strip, trim off selvedge and then cut into (4) 2-1/2” x 10-1/2” units.
- Pair the units into 84 sets and set aside.

NOTE: Do not over think this...as long as they aren’t the same fabric and you don’t already have a set the same, don’t think, just do...dark to dark or light to light is not an issue.)

Background Fabric:
- Cut 23 strips, each measuring 4-1/2” x WOF (42”). Trim selvedges from each strip.
- Cut 4 of the strips into 4-1/2” x 4-1/2” squares (30 total pieces needed).
- Cut the remaining 19 strips into 4-1/2” x 8-1/2” rectangles (total pieces needed 93).

Star Fabric:
- Cut 23 strips, each measuring 2-1/2” x WOF (42”) (star corners). Sub-cut these strips into 2-1/2” x 2-1/2” squares (336 total squares needed).
- Cut 5 strips, each measuring 4-1/2” x WOF (42”) (star centers). Sub-cut into 4-1/2” x 4-1/2” squares (42 total squares needed).
Sewing Directions

**Jelly Roll Fabric:**
Stitch the 10-1/2” paired sets together using a 1/4” seam allowance. Press seams to the darker fabric in the unit.
Cut these units into (4) 2-1/2” x 4-1/2” sections as shown at right.

Choose two units with different fabrics from the above step. Stitch them together down the long edge to form a 4-patch unit.  
*NOTE: I pressed the long edge seam open.*

Stitch four 4-patch units together to form a 16-patch block that is 8-1/2” square. (16 total)  
*NOTE: Seams were pressed open when possible only in the 16 patch blocks so that they will lay flatter and your longarmer won’t have as much trouble getting over the humps...trust me—she/he will thank you!*

**Background Fabric:**
For both the half snowball blocks in the border and the full snowball blocks in the sashing, stack a 2-1/2” square in one corner with right sides together. Sew diagonally from corner to corner of the square and trim 1/4” from seam. Press the corner open.
Work around the block, adding another square in each corner and sewing/flipping and trimming as you go.

*You can do the same corner on all the units and then continue on to the next corners on each block, working your way around until each unit is complete as shown above. This speeds the process up a bit.*
Assembling the Units

Unit 1 construction:
Add a 4-1/2” Star Center square to a sashing snowball. Press towards the star center square fabric.
Sew a sashing snowball to a 16-patch block. Press toward the 16-patch fabric.
*Construct 30 of these units.*

Units 2 & 3 Construction:
Working with the shorter half snowballs, attach one to each of the 4-1/2” x 8-1/2” background pieces as shown to the left.
Working with blue star centers and sashing snowballs make 6 units as shown below.

Column Construction:
*Note: Use the full quilt drawing on the next page to help layout the quilt.*

Column 1:
Build the column using 2 white squares, 5 half snowball units, and 1 single half-snowball block.
Column Construction Continued:

Columns 2-6 will be 1 “left side” half snowball unit, five 16-patch units, 1 blue sashing unit and 1 “right side” half snowball unit.

Column 7 will be 2 half snowballs and 5 blue sashing units.

Column 8 is a repeat of column 1 (see above.)

Note: Disregard the lines between star points on borders in the diagram on the next page. (EQ7 doesn’t have an area to make these a solid block so it’s showing them as a 4-1/2” x 4-1/2” square; actually, it’s a 4-1/2” x 8-1/2” piece of fabric.)
Grandma Daisy would send quilt tops to my parents, who would in turn make them into quilts by tying with yarn. I remember crawling on the tops being prepped for tying at a very young age, and getting into the way and being yelled at...but it was so much fun crawling around the tops to find my dress or my brothers’ shirt fabric, then claiming the next new one for my own.

We got many, many “Trips Around the World” or “Postage Stamps” quilts. Only one survives today and my brother has it. In making my very first designed quilt, I wanted to make something with a “Postage Stamp” feel but to have stars to honor her history and life. I sadly say that I never really knew Grandma Daisy, just her gifts. Nor does she know that I and another sister carry on the quilting torch.
BONUS BABY QUILT

When you finish making your 16 patches you will have enough bits and pieces to make at least nine more, SO now what to do with them?

You can add them to your quilt and make it a square 84” x 84”

OR make a darling baby quilt which will be 48”x 48” square.

Additional fabric for a baby quilt:

Background Fabric:
1-1/2 yards

Star Fabric:
1 yard

Binding:
1/2 yard
Springtime Tulips

By Suzan Pons
©2020 Suzan’s Patchwork Garden
Fabrics to make four place settings:

• For the center: 1 yard of a light-colored fabric
• For the borders: 1 yard
• Tulips and leaves: fat quarters are perfect or scraps from your stash. You will need at least three greens for the leaves and stems and four or five colors for your tulips
• Binding: I made a flange binding with the border and a tulip fabric; the border color strips were 1-1/4 inch and tulip fabric strips were 1-1/2 inch
• Backing fabric and batting

Additional Supplies:

• 3/4 yard of Fusible web such as: Steam-A-Seam, Pellon Wonder-Under Fusible Web, or Heat N’ Bond Lite
• Blue water-soluble pen
• Silicone baking sheet OR Teflon pressing sheet
• Thread to match your fabrics

NOTE: Though this pattern is written to create four placemats, I actually ended up making six by purchasing two yards of border and center fabric. My border fabric was a directional fabric, so I cut two strips down the whole 2-yard length for the side borders and used the width of the fabric for the top and bottom borders. I also used the border fabric and the flower fabric for a decorative flange in the binding. (Instructions not provided.)

Cutting Instructions:

NOTE: WOF = width of fabric

Center Panels
Cut two strips of center fabric, each 10” wide by WOF
Sub cut each strip into 2 rectangles 10” x 15” (makes 4 center panels)

Borders
Cut 8 strips of fabric 3” x WOF
Sub cut into: 8 rectangles 3” x 15” for the top and bottom borders 8 rectangles 3” x 14-3/4” for the side borders

Assembly Instructions

Sew a top border strip to all the center rectangles (3” x 15”).
Press toward the border fabric.

Set up your pattern. You have two pattern pieces, one for the placemat’s left side and one for the right. They are marked with the border top. This will give you the placement for the tulips.

Before marking the tulip placement on the center panels, draw the 1/4-inch seam allowance along the left and right sides of each placemat as shown by the arrows to the right.
When transferring the design to the center panel in the next step, be sure to align the left and right patterns so that the vertical lines on the side of each pattern are in line with that drawn seam allowance on the left and right sides of the center panel. The top reference line on each pattern piece should align with the sewn seam between the center panel and top border as shown above.

**Transfer the pattern to the center panels**

Place the pattern pieces under the center panel using the placement guidelines outlined above. Tape the pieces to a window or use a light box and trace the placement of the leaves, tulips and stems on your center fabric with the blue soluble pen.

**Prepare the appliqué pieces**

**Important:** You must “mirror image” the pattern designs or they will be going in the wrong direction. To do that, after you’ve drawn the patterns on to each of your center panels, remove the fabric from your window or light box. Then flip the two pattern pieces over and tape them back on the window or light box. Trace the patterns on the back side of the paper. Mark this side as the mirrored image side to avoid confusion.

Trace the mirrored leaves and tulip petals onto the paper side of the fusible web. Cut out each shape, leaving space around each piece.

Iron your fusible pieces onto the wrong side of your fabric according to the manufacturer’s instructions and then cut them out on the drawn line. I marked them 1, 2 and 3 to put them down in the right order.

I use a silicone baking sheet to place my pattern pieces on and iron them down. I can peel them off and pick them up and place them on the fabric using a light box, window, or just by using the lines that I drew on the fabric.
Place the right side of your paper patterns under the silicone baking sheet. Remove the paper backing on the pattern pieces and place your fabric pieces on top, aligning them with the pattern underneath the sheet. Once you’re happy with the placement, iron them in place for 2-4 seconds. Let cool; carefully peel them off and then place them on your fabric (they will stick lightly on the fabric) but DO NOT iron them down on your fabric yet since the stems have to go underneath some of the pieces.
**Make the Stems**

Using one of your green fabrics, cut bias strips that are 1-1/4 inch wide by placing your ruler on the fabric using the 45° line as a guide. Cut off one corner, then continue cutting three or four strips, each 1-1/4 inch wide.

Fold one strip in half lengthwise with the right side of the fabric showing. Sew it together using a 1/4-inch seam allowance. Trim down the seam to about 1/8 of an inch and iron the strip, folding the seam under to the folded edge.

The photo below shows the bias strip progression—strip cut to 1-1/4”, then folded over to be sewn down the long edge with a 1/4-inch seam allowance. Next the seam allowance is cut 1/8-inch; then press the seam near the fold and there you have a 1/4-inch bias for the stems.
Position the appliqué pieces on the center panel

Place your stems under the tulips and iron them down to just hold them in place. There is one stem that goes from the tulip to a leaf, pin in place and iron it down under the leaf and the tulip flower. Once that is done you can iron down all the pieces on your fabric now except for the stem lengths that go into the seam allowance.

Stitch the appliqué raw edges and stems

I used a button hole stitch to sew around all the pieces except for the stems, which I sewed with a straight stitch. I used a thread that closely matches the fabric.
I start with the leaves and continue on to the stems; the flowers are sewn down last.
Once all applique pieces are sewn you can trim the sides and bottom where the applique pieces extend over the fabric.

Sew on the remaining border pieces

Sew the bottom border, set the seam with your iron, and then press the seam allowance toward the border. Sew on the two side borders; set seams, and press toward the border fabric.
Square up the place settings before putting your binding on. If you are going to put on a flange binding, remember to leave at least 1/2 inch at the edges of the borders so that the designs do not get covered by the binding.