

Ocean Wave Quilters Blockette of the Month – Instructions for the Teacher

Purpose:

- To learn new block patterns
- To practice piecing skills
- To potentially win all of the blockettes to make a quilt!

1. Choose a pattern. The Education Committee has a notebook with patterns in it that you can choose from – they also have researched the history or “story” of those blocks. (If you choose a blockette on your own, we do ask that you find the history – you can ask someone else to do that for you.) They also have a list of blocks that have recently been demonstrated, so you won’t duplicate.
 - a. The pattern should be relatively simple for all quilting levels. It can include a technique like paper piecing or applique as long as it is not overly complicated. Don’t choose a pattern that includes multiple techniques. The goal is to have maximum participation while still learning a new block.
 - b. The finished block should be large enough that it doesn’t require cutting a lot of tiny pieces. (Many of our quilters won’t participate if the block contains, for example, 1½” squares.)
 - c. Make a sample of the block from scrap fabric just so you make sure the instructions make sense and the block turns out the way you expect.
2. Select one focus fabric that will be part of everyone’s blockette. Purchase enough fabric to make a few extra blocks – in case someone makes an error – extra fabric will go to the raffle winner so she can make extra blocks. Complete a reimbursement form and submit it to our Treasurer. (Note: if you choose to donate the fabric, complete a reimbursement form anyway and note that it is a “donation”. We want to know how much our activities would cost.)
3. Cut the focus fabric into one piece that will allow each quilter to cut all of the needed pieces – make it a bit larger than needed, just in case.
4. Decide what the other fabric or fabrics in the block should be – for example, bright colors, or blue batiks, or black-and-white prints.
5. Put together 30 “kits” that contain the focus fabric and the instructions. Make sure the instructions include a photo or diagram of the finished block **in the colors that you have chosen**. (Sharon L or Lonna can help you with this.) Put your name on the instructions so people will know who to contact with questions. Use wax sandwich bags to contain the kits.
6. Demonstrate the blockette at the general meeting. If you are nervous about doing this, you can have a co-presenter help! Also, tell the brief history or story of the block.
7. At the next meeting, each person who completes a blockette will be entered into a raffle to win all of the blockettes. (A person can enter the raffle as many times as the number of blockettes she has made.) Before the names are drawn for the raffle, the decision about whether to have 1 or 2 names drawn will be made. A quilter does not need to be present to win. A quilter can win in consecutive months.