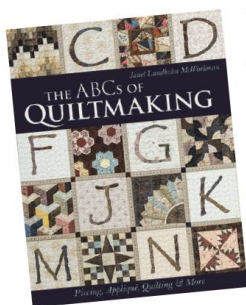


On the bookshelf

We bring you another selection of great reading and inspiration – just in time for the holiday season!



The ABCs of Quiltmaking – Piecing, Appliqué, Quilting and More

By Janet Lundholm McWorkman

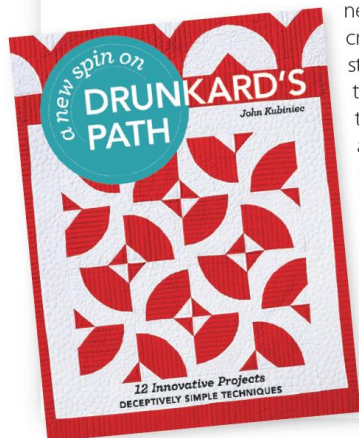
Just as a schoolchild would have a primer to learn the basics, this book has been written to provide a solid grounding for anyone learning to quilt. The more basic pointers are at the beginning, and skills build as you go, and if you make each block as given, you will end up with a wall hanging to showcase the skills learned. Every element is covered, with helpful tips and photographs.

The book works as a beginner's reference, as a refresher, and as a substitute classroom for anyone who cannot attend lessons in person. As well as instructions for the wall hanging blocks, there are other projects interspersed so that you can gain a sense of achievement in creating a finished product without having to read the whole book first. At just over 80 pages, this is not a large book, but it is jam packed with information, guidance and technical detail. Published by C&T Publishing

A New Spin on Drunkard's Path – 12 Innovative Projects

John Kubinieć

John Kubinieć's aim is to take the fear and mystery out of creating with curves, and has put together enough intriguing designs to tempt any quilter. Although it may not seem obvious at first glance, all of the quilts are built on variations of the Drunkard's Path block. Some are not new, while others were created more recently by students in his class. In the introductory section there is information about using templates and creating your own, and there are a few pages of illustrated tutorials to show how to piece the regular block as well as variations. Published by C&T Publishing



The Quilt Block Bible – 200+ traditionally inspired quilt blocks

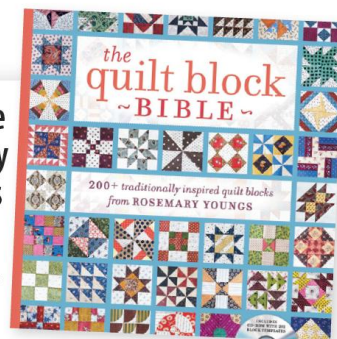
By Rosemary Youngs

Making sampler quilts is very popular these days, so here is an option to build your own unique quilt by picking out your favourite blocks! The collection has been sorted into eight categories – star blocks, pinwheels and windmills, four-patch blocks, nine-patch blocks, blocks with curves, blocks on point and square-in-a-square blocks, X blocks, and leftover favourites. Each block has been designed to finish at 6in, and finding the templates and patterns on the included CD-ROM is very easy. There is a short introduction to piecing at the beginning of the book, but the real learning takes place once you cut and piece your chosen blocks. If coming up with your own quilt design is not your cup of tea, the final chapter has inspiring examples, with instructions for 11 quilts and smaller projects so you can see at a glance how the finished items will look. Published by KP Craft



Quilted Purses and Totes – 10 classy bags for all your needs!

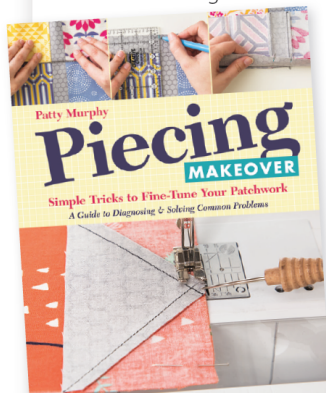
Few quilters can resist a bag, especially when it's a chance to show off a fabric collection. Creating something on this smaller scale is also a good opportunity to test out a new technique, try different colour combinations or experiment with quilting designs. A variety of contributors mean that there is a nice mix of styles and difficulty levels, with plenty of advice and instructions for anyone new to bag making. Of the 10 timeless bags featured, half are totes and the others are smaller handbag-sized bags. The bags are mainly pieced, with the occasional appliqué design. Most use cotton fabrics, with one made from wool and the templates are full size, so just trace or photocopy them and off you go. Published by Leisure Arts



Piecing Makeover – Simple Tricks to Fine-Tune Your Patchwork

By *Patty Murphy*

Most quilters are looking for ways to improve their piecing, and this book offers suggestions, shortcuts and innovative options for gaining more skills in this area. With this repertoire of methods, you can see which works best for you. It is always worth trying something new in case it is quicker, easier or more fun to do – after all quilting is meant to be a pleasant hobby, not a chore! Patty Murphy looks at how to cut accurately, press properly, and construct common blocks. She then works through specific blocks such as Dutchman's Puzzle, Ocean Waves and Bears Paw. In each case Patty identifies the potential problems that can occur when making these blocks and presents solutions to



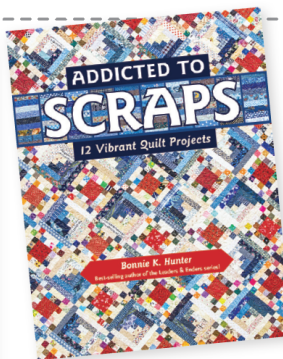
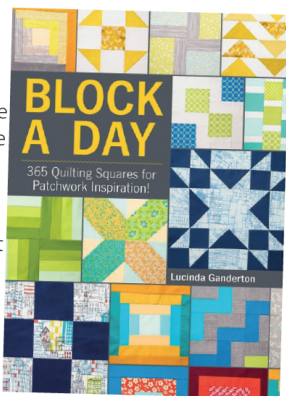
correct them. Once you are at the assembly stage, turn to the last section of the book, which looks at how all the components go together, and how to maintain accuracy even at this final stage. Clear photos help guide you every step of the way and show you what the finished article should look like.

Published by C&T Publishing

Block a Day – 365 Quilting Squares for Patchwork Inspiration!

By *Lucinda Ganderton*

At almost 300 pages, this is a tome, but, thanks to the ring binding, each page lies flat for easy reference as you sew. Unlike other books of this type, this one actively encourages the reader to use the blocks as inspiration. There are directions for recreating the blocks in different sizes, guidance concerning colour, and good detail as to cutting and construction techniques. The book is divided into seven sections – one for each colour of the rainbow and little coloured tabs next to the coloured drawing of each block show the range of fabrics used. So, for example, if you are looking to make a block with only three fabrics, you can simply flick through the pages until you find the ones showing three colours. Lucinda Ganderton explains many different construction methods, helping to expand the skills of the reader. Use this as an inspiring reference book, or take up the challenge and stitch a new block every day for a year! Published by Interweave



Addicted to Scraps – 12 vibrant quilt projects

By *Bonnie K Hunter*

Bonnie Hunter and her website www.quiltville.com are very well known for scrappy quilts – the more fabrics the better! Bonnie is also renowned for creating her 'scrap user system', which enables her to

access her stash easily and make the most of even the tiniest precious piece. From the generous sharing of information in the beginning to help you get the best results, through to the eye-boggling scrappiness of each project, this book (her seventh) is classic Bonnie. Each quilt is big, designed to go on a bed and be used and loved. Some of the designs are more muted, some are very bright, and there is even a Christmas one. The overall look is traditional, but by adding in the many fabrics and colours, the patterns gain a new vibrancy and interest. You will find yourself re-thinking the fabric you have not been brave enough to use before. While the thought of cutting and piecing so many components may seem daunting, the instructions are laid out in a logical order, there are many diagrams and lots of written instructions, plus a quick visual overview of how the blocks go together. Published by Kansas Star Quilts, an imprint of C&T Publishing

Sister Sampler Quilts – 3 modern sampler quilts with paired sister blocks

By *AnneMarie Chany*

This is the book to pick up if you like a bit of a story with your sampler quilt, and some new ideas for colours and layouts. The first quilt contains blocks relating to traditional women's roles such as 'Grandmother's Frame', 'Susannah', and 'Lady of the Lake' (let's not mention 'Contrary Wife'!). The idea is



to make two of each of the 10 block designs supplied, and use half on one side of the quilt and half on the other with white space in between. This gives the finished quilt a light, fresh look. In a similar way, the two remaining samplers offer something a bit different from the usual: the Vice Versa Sampler uses solid fabrics, with each block having a regular and a reversed layout, and the Bonfire Sampler adds curves and string piecing to the mix. Templates are shown full size with a 1 in line on every page so you can check the accuracy of photocopies and there are diagrams and large colourful photos to illustrate each design.

Published by Fons and Porter