



The 2024 Marvelous Mystery Quilt



Hooray!!! It is time to get ready for the 2024 My Quilting Beehive / Colchester Mill Marvelous Mystery Quilt!!!

Details:

- The quilt will be 88" x 88" (You could add a border if you wanted it a little larger).
- This quilt is made with all traditional piecing—no applique' or foundation piecing.
- There are 6 fabrics in this quilt; see details and quantities below.
- Patterns will be released on the first Friday of each month from February to November.
- I strongly recommend the Creative Grids Ultimate Flying Geese Tool. You can use other flying geese trimming tools—there will be some 2" x 4" finished sized geese and some 4" x 8" flying geese units (trim to 2 ½" x 4 ½" and 4 ½" x 8 ½"). The pattern will be written for the Creative Grids ruler.
- The pattern is written with beginners in mind—including full step by step detailed directions and some video tutorials throughout the year.

What you need:

- Sewing machine in good working order.
- Basic quilting supplies: rotary cutter and mat, 6 x 24" ruler, 4.5 or 6" square ruler, pins, thread snips, seam ripper, iron, and ironing board general sewing supplies.
- Piecing thread (40 or 50 wt. neutral thread)
- Storage bin or bags to keep your pieces in order

Tips for picking FABRIC:

Contrast is ESSENTIAL!!! Do not select fabrics that are similar or blend together. When you place any fabric next to any other one, they should have a clear contrast. Consider a four patch—if you use any two fabrics from your selection together in a four-patch—would you see the four-patch clearly or would they blend and look like a single square? If they blend, don't use them.

Quilt pieces range from 2" to 6" squares. Avoid large, multi-colored print fabrics. If you are cutting the fabric up into squares, you want the squares to look like they are all the same fabric/color. You can include a multi-colored fabric that you can pull other fabric colors from... but a smaller print will work better than a large print. You could use a larger print if it still reads as one fabric when cut into squares (if it is mostly one color for example). Also avoid directional fabrics since you won't know the direction each unit will be in the final quilt.

Fabric amounts are based on fabric with 40" of usable Width of Fabric.



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Fabric 1: You need 4 ½ yards. This will be the background. All other fabrics should have strong contrast with this one. Quilts look great with a light/neutral background, or a deep dark background—whichever you choose, make sure all other fabric pop off the background so you can see the design. You do not want any fabrics to blend in with the background.

Fabrics 2: You need 2 ½ yards. Select a medium-light fabric. This could be your pop of a different color that will be found throughout the quilt. It should have contrast with the other fabric.

Fabric 3: You need 1 ½ yards. Select a medium-dark fabric. It should have contrast with the other fabrics. Use your favorite or most interesting fabric for #3

Fabric 4: You need 2 ½ yards. Select a darker fabric. It should contrast with the other fabrics. This includes the fabric for binding.

Fabric 5: You need 2 ¼ yards (lighter)

Fabric 6: You need 1 ¾ yards (darker)

These should be the same color. They should have contrast with the other fabrics.

Select a darker and lighter version of one-color fabric for these.

Fabric 5 should be a lighter shade of fabric 6. Fabric 6 is a darker shade of fabric 5.