Another Friday, Another Part!

And one step closer to seeing just what this quilt is all about!

I hope everyone has had a great week. It’s been crazy busy here – and I don’t think it shows any signs of slowing down, but I’ve kept my eye on Friday knowing how fun it would be to throw a bit of something different into the mix.

We’ve been doing these mysteries for quite a few years now – more than 12! And sometimes I need to up the game for myself, just to keep things interesting for me.

So, for THIS part – we will be cutting things in sets – sewing some and saving some to sew later. This is where pins, wonder clips, or baggies may help keep you organized.

Just remember – it’s a mystery! So just go with it.

“Curiouser and curiouser!” Cried Alice (she was so much surprised, that for the moment she quite forgot how to speak good English).”

— Lewis Carroll, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland & Through the Looking-Glass

You are finally going to pull out your aqua – and pair it with your blues. When I say blue – I mean EITHER of your blue families as long as there is contrast. Make sure your blues are darker than your aqua – and go with it.

How many strips will you need? As many as it takes to cut 4 pairs of half-square triangles, and 4 pairs of quarter square triangles from the same two fabrics.

You are going to make 41 SETS of the above – and keep each set as a unit. (Baggies, Pins, and Wonder Clips, Oh My!)

Each set can be different. You can use fabrics as many times as you want, mixing and matching to create different sets. (Pair this blue with a different aqua next time, etc.) Just keep the sets to TWO FABRICS ONLY. One blue, one aqua.

Take a CLOSE LOOK!

Place a 2 1/2” strip of aqua, and a 2 1/2” strip of blue with right sides together. I have the aqua on top (It’s light on the back side) so I can see the lines on the Essential Triangle Tool plainly.

You will use the 2” finished RED LINE for half-square triangles to first cut 3 pairs of half-square triangles from the strip set – and then rotate the ruler and use the green 2 1/2” marking for 4” finished quarter-square triangles.
to cut 4 pairs – and then rotate the ruler one more time to finish off the strip set on the straight of grain by cutting one more pair of half-square triangles with that first 2” finished red line.

It’s not as hard as it looks – and it’s a little game I play to start and finish the strip with a straight cut instead of an angled one creating more waste. (Yes, these are the things that keep me entertained!)

Just repeat to yourself as you start with the 2” finished red marking: THREE (rotate ruler to the green markings) FOUR (rotate back to the red markings) ONE!

2 1/2” strips of blue and aqua with right sides together.

Put the lightest fabric on top to help you see the ruler lines.

Square off the end of the strip set and place the 2” finished size red line at the top of the strip set (On the fabric! Don’t leave the line above the fabric on the mat. For units to turn out correctly, the line needs to be ON the fabric.) Make your first angled cut.

The second cut will always put the end of the strip set back on the straight.

Rotate the ruler – Make the second cut!

See the 2” finished size red line on TOP of the fabric?

Third cut – 2” red line at the top!

Pardon the weird angle of the photo – I was trying to eliminate glare from the overhead light on the ruler! With this 3rd half-square triangle cut made, you are ready to rotate the ruler to cut four pairs of quarter-square triangles – all accomplished from the same size of strip, same ruler -

Cut one and rotate!

The finished size of the quarter-square triangle is marked at the left of the green line – the number 4. The numbers down the center of the
ruler correspond with the strip width you need to cut that desired quarter-square triangle size.

Make 3 more cuts by rotating the ruler, finish the strip set with one more half-square triangle following the “Take a Close Look!” photo toward the top of this part.

Cut 41 sets of four half-square pairs, and four quarter-square pairs. One aqua and one blue per set.

What you see above is ONE SET.

Stitch the four half-square triangle pairs together.

Press to the blue fabric. REMOVE ALL DOG EARS!!

Units will measure 2 1/2” and finish at 2” in the quilt.

Pin, Wonder Clip, or Baggie your 41 sets including the un-sewn matched pairs of quarter-square triangles to keep pieces together.

What if you are not using the Essential Triangle Tool?

You can use any half-square triangle method that gives you sets of four matching half-square triangles that finish at 2”.

If you were using traditional rotary cutting measurements, you would pair an aqua 2 7/8” square and a blue 2 7/8” square with right sides together and slice them once on the diagonal for pairs of half-square triangles.

You can cut the matching quarter-square triangle pairs by placing an aqua 5 1/4” square and a blue 5 1/4” square with right sides together and cutting them from corner to corner with an X to give you the quarter-square triangle pairs that you need. It’s up to you.

You will have a total of 164 half-square triangles sewn in matching sets of 4, and 164 pairs of quarter-square triangles also in matched sets of 4: Un-sewn and waiting for the next step.

And that’s all you need to do for this week. Christmas Eve is right around the corner. Christmas morning is only FIVE. DAYS. AWAY - (Sung to the tune of FIVE GOLDEN RINGS!)

I have made the executive decision to carry our mystery a bit further into January since our November was short-sheeted by a week due to where Thanksgiving and Black Friday fell, and I kind of let you off the hook while I was in Germany for a very easy Part 2.
We’ll get through Christmas with smooth sailing, and enjoy our time together while we finish this up without a lot of rush and panic, okay? That also means that there is time for more folks to dive in and catch up!

Because of this extension, all of the parts linked under the Frolic Mystery tab at the top of the blog will be available until February 14th. But save/print your clues by then because once that date arrives, it will all be gone, and the pattern will become a digital download booklet in the Quiltville Store.

I hope everyone has had a chance to visit our Instagram hash tags of #quiltvillemystery and #frolicquilt! There have been wonderful shares happening, and I love the quilting community we are building in the process!

Remember to tag your photos and include me as well @quiltville_bonnie. I love to see what you are doing!

December specials to remember:

Our Hunter’s String Star PDF pattern is 1/2 price through the month of December at only $4.00! No code needed.

My newly released Bavaria/Austria project, Warm Hands, Warm Heart is available for download, in the digital pattern section of the Quiltville Store.

And don’t forget my Quiltville Quilter’s Perpetual Date Keepers!

on sale for $9.99 – regularly priced at $16.95! Sale good through December 2019 only.

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