



It's Mystery Season, Quiltvillians!

This year gets its inspiration from somewhere I've been in the past year or so- POLAND!

This post contains the back story, colors, yardage requirements, and recommended tools.

Our yearly Quiltville Winter Mystery begins in earnest with Part One going live on - PLEASE READ - NOVEMBER 22, 2024!

Yes, I know that is a week early - but I leave for England on Black Friday - and we are getting an early start.

I will post Part Two on Black Friday before heading to the airport. I will also post Part Three while I am in England.

All of the posts for our Old Town mystery will be linked under the Old Town tab at the top of the blog for easy reference.

If you've followed along with our many past Quiltville Mysteries, you'll already have a good handle of what happens. I'm glad to have you back sewing with me again!

If you are one of the many, many new ones who are joining in from the land

of Instagram, Facebook and beyond, I want to welcome you.

The most important thing I can mention is to PRINT YOUR PDF COPIES (or save them to your device, cloud, whatever) as they are released. I can't recommend a site like Dropbox highly enough especially after my own computer crash last month.

When the mystery retires, likely some time in February - all of these mystery posts will go away, and I will not be providing missing parts. You'll be directed to the Quiltville Store to purchase the pattern. SAVE YOUR CLUES.

Why do we do a mystery quilt during the holidays? It's simple.

No matter how busy you may be during the holidays, there are people who are not. They could be alone, or caring for aging parents, their children may be across country or on the other side of the world.

We have folks dealing with devastating illnesses - newly widowed or divorced. Maybe there was a loss of a job, or a move across country and away from family and friends.

The holidays are NOT joyful for everyone - so we do this during this time to bring a little joy into their lives. Sewing in community can heal. It's a gift I can give.

If you are too busy to participate because your holidays are bustling and joyful - that's wonderful. Just save the clues so you can jump in later as your own schedule allows.

Okay! Now that all of that is out of the way - let's get on with it!



Old Town Krakow, Poland

I was traveling with a fabulous group of quilters, spouses and friends to Poland in September 2023. It was my first time, and I was enchanted by the beauty as well as haunted by the history. I think we need to see and understand BOTH to really appreciate this marvelous country.

Everywhere I turned was artistry, color, creativity, culture and history. You can't separate any of these things as they are part of the whole.



Our colors for this mystery are found in the beautiful paper art from the workshop we attended.



Check out the beautiful embroidery on this traditional Polish dress.

All of these things and more - the buildings we saw, the people we met, from handcrafts to cooking - it all comes together in the quilt I have named Old Town.

If you want to pronounce the Polish word, just remember that W is a V or F sound.

Starówka = Starufka. Or just call it Old Town.

I'll be sharing more photos from things we saw and did in Poland as we work our way through the mystery.

Our Old Town quilt finishes at 78" X 78". You can make it bigger by adding more blocks.

You can make it smaller by making fewer blocks.

Colors & Yardage Requirements:



These yardage amounts are estimates and may change depending on the method YOU choose for your units.

Some methods take more fabric, as in copious amounts of sewing big and sliver trimming down, or as in paper piecing. Plan accordingly.



Neutrals: 6 1/2 yards total. White to cream, but not too dark.



My paint chips are from the Valspar line at Lowe's. You do NOT need to go get paint chips to choose your fabrics.

You may choose ANY THREE COLORS that you like together, plus a background. Mine are neutrals (no big surprise there!) but you can choose black, grey, navy – whatever – as long as it plays well with your 3 color choices.

Reds: 2 3/4 Yards.

Notice these are not all the same shade - feel free to go for a variety.

My reds and neutrals are representative of the Polish flag.



Aqua to Turquoise: 1 3/4 yard

Needs to contrast next to all of the fabrics, including the neutrals so don't go too light.



Coral to Melon: 2 1/8 yard

NONE of my fabrics match the paint chips exactly. That's just a starting point to pull color families together. Variety is the spark of the quilt!

Our friends at Cotton to Quilts have pulled together special color rolls to enhance your own stash for this mystery.

Each color roll has 20 different pieces measuring 8 1/2" X 22".

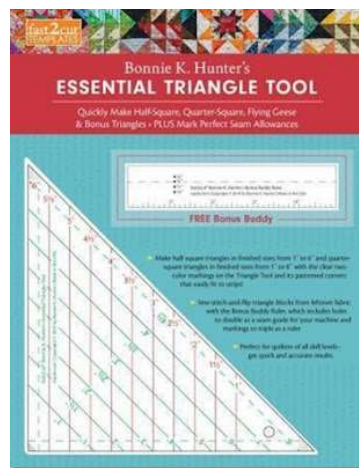


While these are not a *kit* to match the yardage requirements of Old Town, they are a great help in adding variety to fabrics you may already have on hand.

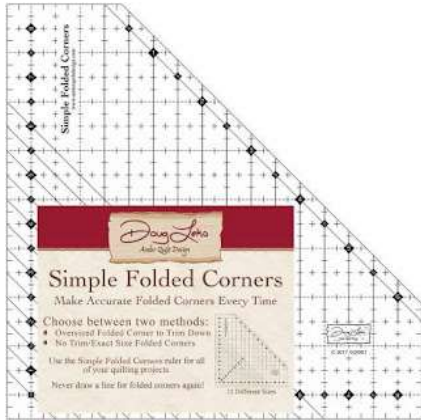
Please note - I do not endorse nor am I working with shops providing *KITS.* They do not know what this quilt looks like. They may not have included enough variety, nor would they be fabrics that I would choose to use myself.

I just want to be sure everyone understands that if you find a shop selling *KITS* that the shops are in no way in the know as far as this mystery goes.

Other optional things that may be helpful to you:



My Essential Triangle Tool.



Simple Folded Corners ruler – either large
Or the Simple Folded Corners mini.



Ultimate 3-in-1 Color tool.

I love this tool for helping with color recipes that WORK! If you don't want to sew with my 3 colors – this tool will help you choose what goes with what in a very simple way.

You don't need to be a color wizard to choose a knock-out color plan.

Use coupon code NOTIONS to save 15% on all items in the Rulers, Notions & Tools category of the Quiltville Store. Code must be used for discount to apply.

<https://quiltville.com/shop> (shipping only available to USA addresses.)

I will not be giving Accuquilt die information as it reveals too much too soon. As each clue comes out with each given finished unit size,

you can easily find the corresponding die you need.

I will also provide traditional rotary cutting measurements for those who wish to work that way.

So there you have it. You have roughly 3 weeks to pull your fabrics together.

We start with PART ONE on Friday, November 22nd - the Friday BEFORE Thanksgiving here in the USA.

Oh, and one last thing:



What's my number 1 rule?

No whining!

This will be a learning experience for many, but I know you can do this.

I will present alternate methods for you to do the units. Try them all and choose the one that works for you.

This is a time to slow down, find out where your problems may be coming from, make a change, develop new habits with better results. You've got this!

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It is a reader appreciation mystery, something I give back to my readers for their support over the years.

Please help me continue to design and show your support by sending your friends to my blog to print their own copy.

Please check out my other designs found in the Quiltville Store where my books (paperback) notions, tools, and other goodies along with my digital patterns are found right at your fingertips.

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Teapot
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NV701A

Seafarer
5007-10A

NV138D

Classic Red
1009-2

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Balance
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