

Round Robin Guidelines

What is a round robin quilt?

It's a medallion quilt that is composed of a center block surrounded by a series of borders or frames.

How do you end up with a completed quilt top?

Each quilter makes a center block and hands it over to another quilter to put a border around the center block. The new border might be plain, pieced, appliqued, or embellished. It might not even go around all four sides. Then the center block is passed to a third quilter to add a 2nd border and so on to each member of the group. After the final border is added, the quilt top is returned to the center square maker to finish the quilt. The challenge is each quilter will be designing and putting a border on each quilt. It may be the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. The exciting part is the maker of the center block does not see her block until the final border has been added to it.

Guidelines

To make this round robin a little easier for those who haven't done a round robin before, everyone's center block will be the same size and the coordinator will determine the number of borders to be added and the size and/or elements to be included in each round/border. The center block quilter will include some fabric with his/her center block for other group members to use on the quilt top. As you pass the quilt around to other group members, continue to pass the fabrics with the block.

- There will be a signup sheet at the September meeting or members can sign up by emailing/calling the coordinator (Janice Boutotte – jboutotte999@gmail.com; 978-257-4258)
- The round robin will begin in October
- The coordinator will set up the round robin groups based on the number of people signed up and the number of borders to be added and distribute them at the October meeting
- Everyone will have two months to complete most rounds
- Make your center block and bring it to the October meeting along with any fabric and special instructions
- **Subsequent rounds will be due in December, February, April, and June**
- **If you can't make the meeting when the next exchange takes place, make arrangements for someone to bring it to the meeting or to get it to the next person in the group to work on it**
- The originator of the center block should not see the top again until all the rounds are completed and it is returned in June
- Once you get your top back you will have the summer to complete your top (if desired to add anything else), quilt it, and bring it to the September meeting for show and tell

Finished Size: Approximately 45" – 50"

Center Block:

- Make a block 12 ½" unfinished (will be 12" finished)
- This can be a pieced block, applique, and/or a plain fabric block
- Bring it to the November meeting, along with your fabrics to accompany your block:

Fabrics: Include at least 3 yards total of fabrics you would like to see used in your quilt. Since the fabrics will be used for borders, it is recommended that at least 1.5 yards be in the form of half yard cuts (18" x 42"). Remember, you will get back any unused fabric at the end of the robin.

Round 1 – Due December 12, 2017

For the first round, you will add a 2" finished (unfinished 2 ½") border with squares and/or rectangles. Some possible suggestions are four patch squares, checkerboard squares, etc. You can combine squares with rectangles or just use either. They can just be in the corner squares or used throughout the border.

Once this is added, the block should measure 16" finished (16.5" unfinished).

Round 2 – Due February 13, 2018

For the second round, you will add a pieced 3" finished (unfinished 3 ½") border with triangles and/or diamonds. The triangles can be any shape/style triangles. Some possible suggestions are half square triangles, flying geese, 60 degree triangles, etc. Diamonds can also be any shape. Use the shapes just in the corner squares or throughout the border.

Once this is added, the block should measure 22" finished (22.5" unfinished).

Round 3 – Due April 10, 2018

For the third round, you will add a pieced 4" – 5" finished (unfinished 4 ½" – 5 ½") border with curves and/or circles. Some possible suggestions are pieced circles/arcs/drun kard paths/scallops, etc., appliques, yo-yo's, or even just round buttons Use the shapes just in the corner squares or throughout the border. Remember there is one more border to go, so try to avoid a border that would not look good with an additional border, but would be best as an outer border.

If unsure how to sew curves, consider taking the March workshop (3/11/18) on sewing curves and circle techniques.

Once this is added, the block should measure 30" – 31" finished (30.5" – 31.5" unfinished).

Round 4 (Final Round) – Due June 12, 2018

For the fourth and last round, you are to finish the quilt with asymmetrical borders, meaning that the four borders are not to be all the same. Some examples are to not add four borders 0 for example, two top borders, no side borders, only one border (most likely the top one), or three borders. You can also make different size borders, For instance the top and bottom borders are wider than the side ones. Or you can use different fabrics for different borders, or put blocks/designs on some borders and not the others. Have fun with it. There is no size requirement, so let the quilt speak to you and do whatever you want or what the quilt tells you.