

HOME Sweet HOME

A Perfect Mystery Quilt Project for the Fall

BY JUDY HOPKINS

This month's mystery quilt project, Home Sweet Home, produces a pieced table runner or wall quilt, 12" x 46", that is very quick to make! Quilters can easily make two versions of this cute quilt, each in a different combination of fabrics, keeping one for themselves and using one as a gift for a family member or friend.

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We suggest the steps be distributed one at a time, on whatever timetable you choose. The supply list and cutting instructions comprise Step 1 and should be photocopied two-sided. Pages that

contain more than one step should be cut in half after the copies have been made. NOTE that for this project, Step 6 will occupy a full page.

Judy has written 18 quilting books and a multitude of mystery projects for quilters, and is widely known for her clear and accurate patterns. Her mysteries are geared toward quilters who are comfortable with basic rotary cutting and machine piecing techniques. The fabric requirements are generous, to allow for shrinkage, uneven cuts and mistakes -- and because most quilters would rather have a bit too much fabric than not enough!

Enjoy sharing this project with your customers. Keep fueling their creative side, and they will continue to return to your store, seeking inspiration and proving their loyalty.

Judy can be reached by e-mail at judy.hopkins@yahoo.com. Please use the words "SQE Professional" in the subject line, or your message may be treated as spam.

STEP 1 HOMEsweetHOME



Home Sweet Home

A Judy Hopkins Mystery

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Make a pieced two-fabric runner,
12" x 46". Six steps.

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This project is VERY quick to make! How about making one for yourself and one for a friend?

Fabric

Use 42"-wide fabric (at least 40 usable inches after preshrinking). You'll need:

7/8 yard LIGHT print, for blocks, background and binding. Use an interesting print, but avoid obviously directional designs. This fabric will be seamed to itself occasionally; so choose a design that will minimize the seams.

A 13" x 18" piece of DARK fabric, print or solid, for blocks. If you use a print, choose a small-scale tone-on-tone print that reads like a solid.

STRONG CONTRAST BETWEEN THE LIGHT AND THE DARK IS CRUCIAL! Make sure you'll be able to distinctly see the "line" when the two fabrics are joined.

The cutting instructions are on the back of this page.

Cutting—Home Sweet Home

Read through all of the instructions before you begin. All cutting dimensions include 1/4" seams.

Cutting half-square triangles from squares:   Cutting quarter-square triangles from squares:   

From the **LIGHT** fabric:

- ☐ Cut 2 selvage-to-selvage strips, 4-1/2" wide. From **EACH** of these strips:
 - Cut 1 piece, 4-1/2" x 26-1/2", for a total of 2 pieces
(cut out the letters below and pin **A**'s to these pieces.)
 - Cut 1 piece, 3-1/2" x 12-1/2", for a total of 2 pieces
(pin **E**'s to these pieces.)
- ☐ Cut 1 more selvage-to-selvage strip, 4-1/2" wide. From this strip:
 - Cut 1 piece, 4-1/2" x 24-1/2" (pin a **D** to this piece.)
 - Cut 2 rectangles, 2-1/2" x 4-1/2" (pin **B**'s to these pieces.)
 - Cut 2 squares, 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" (pin **C**'s to these pieces.)
- ☐ Cut 1 selvage-to-selvage strip, 2-7/8 wide. From this strip:
 - Cut 8 squares, 2-7/8" x 2-7/8".
Cut the squares once diagonally to make 16 half-square triangles.
 - Cut one piece, 1-1/2" x about 18".
- ☐ Reserve the remaining fabric for binding.

From the **DARK** fabric:

- ☐ Cut 2 strips, 2-1/2" x 18". From **EACH** of these strips:
 - Cut 4 rectangles, 1-1/2" x 2-1/2", for a total of 8 rectangles
 - Cut 4 squares, 2-1/2" x 2-1/2", for a total of 8 squares
- ☐ Cut 1 strip, 1-1/2" x 18".
- ☐ Cut 2 squares, 5-1/4" x 5-1/4".
Cut the squares twice diagonally to make 8 quarter-square triangles.

Always use a 1/4" seam allowance. Test your seam allowance before you start constructing your quilt, as follows:

1. From scraps, cut three strips, EXACTLY 2" wide and about 4" long.
Join the strips as shown at right, and press seams to one side.
2. Measure the center strip. If it doesn't measure EXACTLY 1-1/2" wide, adjust your needle position or seam guide and try again.

