

OFF THE RAIL CLASS

Charla Viehe

Friday afternoon

Join in on a really fun class making the “Off The Rail” quilt! You can use anything from scraps to fat quarters to a very limited palette in any color way you would like to sew! The pattern is so cute and appears simple, but you will also learn the technique of “partial piecing”. If you have never done this technique you will find it applicable in many different situations, from blocks to borders, in many different quilts! Come learn something new that is very “do-able”! All levels of quilters are welcome! In class, you will not only see the sample quilt, but also other sizes that enable this pattern to be made from miniature to huge! Those variations are not included in the pattern, but will be given to each student in class. We will touch on Fibonacci’s Sequence in determining different sizes! If you do some cutting of strips ahead of time, this is certainly a quilt you can finish during retreat. Everyone will need their own copy of the pattern (since it is copyrighted!) and is included in the cost of the class at registration. The pattern will just be our starting point! Join a class where you will not only make a quilt, but you will learn a technique to become a more accomplished quilter!

Supply list

Basic supplies from list in retreat packet
1 spool and 2 full bobbins of a neutral thread
rotary cutter with fresh blade & mat
large square rotary ruler, if possible
rectangular rotary ruler, ex. 6 1/2 x 22”
small rectangular rotary ruler, ex. 3 x 18”
(do not buy rulers, but bring some useful ones)
small iron and ironing surface

Fabrics –

This can be a true scrap quilt or a controlled quilt. The more fabrics used the “scrapier” the quilt, but you might want to select certain colors or designs to pull from.

(Ex. All fabrics in blue, green and red – just many different prints; OR all fabrics in 1950s prints – lots of colors, but the theme of the prints work together).

It also works to pull in a few solids or use all solids!

Fat quarters work perfectly, but having the same amount of all the fabrics is not necessary. (At least 3 strips from any one fabric, except if you are making a true scrap quilt.)

I used 31 different fabrics (fat quarters), but the quilt can be made with as few as 13 fabrics. Just more yardage of each fabric will be needed. I planned on 8 yards total for the lap size quilt. (That included enough for the scrap border).

****Decide on size and cut some strips before class.**

I made my quilt the size the pattern calls for. (2” strips because you can get more strips out of a fat quarter using this size.) However, you can use any size you want to. It will just change the size of your block.

Using 2 1/2 “ strips, the blocks will be 18” finished.

Very nice for a larger quilt. (Twin, queen or king)

Great if you have bought strips precut that size.

At least 2 jelly rolls for a twin. (40 strips each will be needed)

A king size quilt would take about 4 jelly rolls.



Using 2" strips, the blocks will be 13 1/2" finished
Nice for all size quilts.

Using 1 1/2" strips, the blocks will be 9" finished.
Nice for all size quilts, but more sewing.

Using 1 1/4" strips, the blocks will be 6 3/4" finished.
Not the easiest choice, but could work if you were cutting 2 1/2" strips in half.

Using 1" strips, the blocks will be 4 1/2" finished.
Very nice for small quilts, such as baby or miniature quilts.

**Cut strips from fat quarters from selvage to center (NOT parallel to selvage). You will get more useable strips selvage to center.

** Come to class with at least one strip cut from all your fabrics. If you have 35-40 strips cut you will start sewing quicker.

For centers of blocks, select 1-5 additional fabrics. I used 3 fabrics. We will cut them in class.
If you are using 2 1/2" strips and making a large quilt, bring 1 yard total for the centers.
Narrower strips making smaller quilts can bring 1/2 yard.

The borders are not listed because in class you will be making some choices. The pattern does not call for a border, but you can add one. You can certainly add a strip border or two, possibly 1-2 fabrics you just love OR you might want to make the partial piecing border from leftover pieces that is on my sample quilt. In class you will receive instructions on how to construct that border.

This sounds confusing, but it is easier than expected – just decide strip size and your fabrics. It is a really fun and quick quilt to sew.

If you have questions call or email me - Charla Viehe,
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