



PaperPiecedQuilting.com



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Greetings everyone. Well here it is October already. The leaves are starting to change and fall; the pumpkins are ripe and starting to show up on doorsteps everywhere. I love this time of the year.

It has been a very busy month for us here. Lots of new products have been added to our web-store and we will start a Holiday Sale in November. When you get time take a look at the great Seasonal Paper Piecing Patterns. They are really fun and easy to do.

<http://paperpiecedquilting.com/brands/Seasonal-Foundation-Paper-Piecing-Patterns.html>

Yes, the holidays are fast approaching and I know we are all scrambling to get ready. Boy, has it come up fast or not? It just seemed like we were enjoying summer and now it is the middle of October. Where does all the time go?

Not only have I been thinking of the holidays but also next year's tax season. That nasty word! With my business growing and all of the other things going on I finally broke down and got a business accounting software package. Now I am getting it up and running, slowly, very slowly. It seems that I needed to add my inventory prior to entering sales and boy what a job that is. But, I am making progress and hope next tax season will be an easier job than last year!

In addition to everything else that has been going on I lost my little companion, Gracie. She was a 12 year old Schipperke and the joy of my life. Their lives just seem so short compared to ours, what a shame. But to fill the void, and to keep me up with my walking routine, I went down to our local animal shelter and got a new companion; Mila. She is a 5 year old Schipperke/Chihuahua mix and boy what energy! Loads of fun and does fill that void in my heart.

I am excited to introduce a new designer: Helene Knott. You must see her website and the extraordinary works of art that she has designed. You will be amazed!

I am also excited to tell you all about a NEW Ruler that I have invented and am now selling. It was designed with us Foundation Paper Piecers in mind. See it below!

Happy Piecing!

Jim

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Butter Cookies

We highly recommend this basic butter cookie recipe for flavor and consistency. Chill before rolling, molding or putting through press.

2 cups butter, softened
2 cups sugar
1 egg
1 tsp. vanilla
¼ tsp. salt
1 tsp. baking powder
4 ¼ cups flour

Cream butter, sugar, egg, and vanilla until fluffy. Combine dry ingredients; stir into creamed mixture just until blended. Refrigerate, covered until set; about 2 hours. Roll dough into logs, 2" in diameter. Refrigerate a few hours. Cut logs into 1/8" slices. Place on no-greased cookie sheet. With a heart cookie cutter, press cutter into dough pressing almost completely through to make heart impression. Sprinkle with sugar and bake at 375° for 6-8 minutes.

These are much easier than cut-out cookies yet they still are very festive. Enjoy!

NEW Product!

Jim's EasyGuide Piecing Ruler

For those of you that have not seen or heard of my NEW Ruler for Foundation paper Piecing, here it is! I am very proud to introduce this NEW Ruler to the market.

It is made of high-quality acrylic and is tinted yellow so you can easily find it on your quilting mat or table. On one long side it has a 1/4" lip and on the other long side it has a 1/8" lip. Now you can trim your foundation work with a 1/4" seam allowance or a 1/8" seam allowance. ALL IN ONE RULER!

The NEW Ruler comes in either a 12" length or a 6" length. Please see it at:

<http://paperpiecedquilting.com/new-ruler-for-paper-piecing-jims-easyguide-foundation-paper-piecing-rulers/>

Recipe Corner!



Choosing Different Types of Fabrics for Paper Piecing

One item I get asked a lot about in my classes and clubs is the choice of fabrics for Foundation Paper Piecing. That is, are we only confined to using cottons, especially for landscape quilts? Your choice of fabrics can make as much of an impression as the workmanship that goes into your quilts.

Since you are *building* your blocks/quilt on a *foundation* (paper or the like), you are not confined with using only cotton fabrics. This opens up your choice of fabric *types* to anything that will enhance your work. The choice of fabric *types* in your work can make just as an important statement as color does. This is why I encourage my students to look beyond just cotton fabrics and look for fabrics that can enhance their work even more. Different fabric *types* can do this!

Not only can the use of different fabric *types* add a new dimensional quality, but they can also add interest where using all cottons may not. Take for example, the use of silks. Silks have a sheen to them that can add a dimensional quality besides just color. You can use this sheen (and in some instances texture) to enhance how the eye views your work once completed. That is, the combination of how different types of fabrics interact together, such as sheen or texture, to add depth, shading and interest that our eyes pick up when we view a work that has employed the use of different fabric *types*.

The example below uses a silk fabric for the flower that the hummingbird is in front of. The use of the silk enhances the flower with sheen, when seen by the viewer. You may not be able to pick up this sheen but in person it is striking.



When choosing fabrics for your piece, don't only think about color but fabric texture (achieved by different fabric *types*) and how that choice will work with your colors to make an even greater statement.

I have also added several layers of fabrics together to achieve the look I am after. That is, in one of my pieces I had a blue fabric that I wanted to give a deeper feel to but could not find the exact fabric to make this statement. So, I placed a piece of silk bridal veil over the blue fabric, when piecing, which gave a depth to the section that I wanted. Here too, you can play with multiple layers of fabrics to give your work even greater perspective.

You are no longer confined to just cotton. Try silks, rayon, home spun, or any variety of fabrics that you find at your local fabrics store. Most large fabric stores now sell what they refer to as 'remnants'. This is an excellent way to build a stash of fabric types without spending a great deal of money. If your fabric store doesn't seem to have a 'remnant' section, ask what they do with their miss cuts or end of bolts. I have gotten some very expensive, and beautiful, fabrics for very little of what it originally cost.

Experiment! Have fun too! Nothing is written in stone and you will be amazed at what you will come up with by looking beyond just cottons in your masterpieces.

Additionally, you can also achieve a dimensional look by how you use these fabric types. Or should I say, how you place them into your work. That is, by using them in a directional way. If you note, some fabric types have a directional nature to their weave. You can clearly see this directional weave when looking at the fabric. Dupioni silk is one example. By taking advantage of this directional nature of the fabric you can even enhance your work further.

For an example: if the fabric has a clear directional nature to it and you want that directional nature to go in a very specific direction, you need to piece it as such. Say you are piecing a flower and you want the direction of the fabric to run in one specific direction to show off the petals of the flower, radiates outward from the center. You can see how this would enhance your work better than to have the fabric go in many directions with no conformity. But, there can be a problem with getting the piece in the direction we want it to go since we use the sew and flip method of paper piecing.

This can be done and it is very easy! It is another way of taking advantage of different fabric types and their weave.

Interested? In our November Newsletter I will demonstrate how you can take advantage of directional fabric and have it come out in the direction you want it to, even across different sections, in easy to follow steps.

I hope the above has interested and challenged you to try different fabric types and to now incorporate these different fabric types into your future work. I think you will find it opens up a whole new world of Foundation Paper Piecing!

I have also attached, as a separate document, a piece on Landscape fabric by Helene Knott. She has done an extraordinary job of choosing fabrics and what to look for.

Helene Knott



Designer Of the Month

I was born and raised on the Monterey Peninsula in central California, a beautiful area that served as an inspiration to set me onto a creative path for life. From a very early age I showed a keen interest in art, starting with drawing and painting and exploring different mediums for my self-expression as I matured in years and experience. Fortunately, my parents recognized my interest and encouraged me in my pursuits. As a young adult I studied art in college though life, a child and an extensive home remodel interfered and I did not complete my education with a degree.

I am blessed with proficient drawing and illustration skills and have explored a number of artistic mediums including painting, stained glass, metalsmithing and embroidery. In the early 70's, I turned my attention to fiber and fabrics with a focus on quilting. Quilting was experiencing a renaissance in popularity and making a gradual transition from utilitarian craft to an art form. I found myself intrigued by the medium; its challenges and possibilities. There were very few classes or workshops available to someone of my age in that area so I struggled to teach myself the craft with the help of books and hands-on experimentation.

For the last 42 years or so, fiber and quilting has been my primary medium. After so many years, I still find working with fabrics challenging and satisfying. At every turn I find new inspiration and opportunities to explore new techniques. I love exhibiting my work and have expanded my interest to include teaching my skills and knowledge to others to inspire a new generation of quilters and fiber artists, along with designing commercial quilt patterns.

In 1991, my family moved to Portland and I took a hiatus from regular employment to explore fiber arts and manage the two acres of property that we now live on. In 1999, my husband was laid off from his job and it became apparent that I would once again need to find gainful employment and so began teaching fiber and quilting classes. Over the years, I had won many awards at local, regional and national quilt shows and the recognition served me well in promoting myself as a teacher. I have expanded into designing commercial quilting patterns and currently have a line of patterns that are published by Story Quilts and continue working for them part time as an in-house designer.

I currently design patterns, teach quilting/fiber classes and take commissions for art quilts as well as participate in quilt and fiber art shows. Helene's Website is: <http://heleneknott.com/helenes-story/>

I am active in a number of guilds and art/quilting groups and like to stay involved with the quilting community. In addition to art, I have a passion for gourmet cooking, reading and music.

PaperPiecedQuilting.com is pleased to carry several of Helene's designs and we are adding more all the time!

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Final Words:

Well, I hope that you have enjoyed this issue of our Newsletter. I do appreciate your continued support.

If you would like to see any particular subject matter explored or covered, please email me and I will see that it is included in one of our future issues. Also, your comments and suggestions are always appreciated.

As always, I wish you Happy Piecing!

Jim

Coming Up In Our Next Issue:

A new Designer introduced –

More fun Recipes -

Directional Foundation Paper Piecing: How to in easy steps -

New Products -

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