

Create with Claudia

Stars of the Prairie 2021 Mystery Quilt

Welcome to the 2021 Monthly Mystery Quilt. This is a monthly event with a new block (or blocks) announced at the beginning of each month.

Inspired by the carefree beauty of the prairies, this quilt design features various blocks that are set in an irregular pattern. There is a quite a bit of background area (negative space) so you can show off your quilting skills.

Here is what you need to know:

- Read all instructions carefully before starting.
 - Finished quilt top will measure approximately 72" x 84".
 - A ¼ inch seam allowance is used throughout the quilt.
 - One new block will be released at the beginning of each month, for the first 11 months of the year. Depending on the month, you may be making more than one of the blocks. In December the quilt top gets assembled.
 - Along with a printable pattern, a video tutorial will be available for each month.
 - Skill Level: Advanced Beginner/Intermediate. Blocks do get trickier as the months go along but they are manageable.
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Fabric Requirements (amounts given are generous):

While fabric choices are ultimately up to the quilt maker, to help make sure those stars of the prairie really shine in this pattern, please strongly consider the following suggestions:

- Use the same background fabric throughout the quilt.
- Make the background light or dark.
- Choose a background fabric that is not busy.

***Total Background Fabric: 5 yards (this is enough for every month if you are using the same background fabric (recommended) each month.**

- ◆ **January:** 2 3/8 yards of background fabric* plus 2 other fabrics: one 1/3 yard & one 1/8 yard
- ◆ **February:** ½ yard of background fabric* plus 2 other fat quarters
- ◆ **March:** ¼ yard of background fabric* plus 3 other fabrics: fat quarter, 1/8 yard & a 6 ½ inch square
- ◆ **April:** ¼ yard of background fabric* plus 2 other fat quarters

- ◆ **May:** ¼ yard of background fabric* plus 3 other fabrics: One fat eighth, one 7” square, & one 8” square
 - ◆ **June:** 1/3 yard of background fabric* plus 2 other fabrics: 2 fat quarters
 - ◆ **July:** 1/3 yard of background fabric* plus 4 other fabrics: 1 fat quarter, 2 fat eighths & one 5” square
 - ◆ **August:** Fat eighth of background fabric* plus 3 other fabrics: 1 fat quarter, 1 fat eighth & one 6 ½ inch square
 - ◆ **September:** ¼ yard of background fabric* plus 3 other fabrics: 2 fat quarters & one 6 ½ inch square
 - ◆ **October:** ¼ yard of background fabric* plus 5 other fabrics: 4 fat eighths, & one 6 ½ inch square
 - ◆ **November:** ¼ yard of background fabric* plus 3 other fabrics; 2 fat quarters & 1 Fat eighth
 - ◆ **December:** No fabric is needed because we are assembling it this month.
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Tools and Supplies:

No special tools or supplies are needed for this quilt, only standard sewing supplies, a sewing machine, quilter’s ruler and rotary cutter.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can I make the quilt larger or smaller?** Because of the asymmetry of the pattern, that will make it difficult. However, if you are a more experienced quilter, you may be able to rearrange the blocks to make the quilt a different size. One way you could make it larger is by adding a border.
 - **When can I get the next block?** Blocks will be released at the beginning of each month. They will be on my website as well as on my YouTube channel. If you signed up for my newsletter, you will receive an email at the beginning of each month with the pattern in it. If you signed up for the email, but don’t receive it, please check your spam folder. It may have gone there.
 - **How much does it cost?** The pattern and tutorials are free. The only cost to you is whatever fabric(s) and supplies you may need to purchase.
 - **Can I see what other people are making?** Yes you can. There is a Facebook group for the mystery quilt that people post pictures of their blocks too. Also, a number of people post pictures on their Instagram accounts. Make sure to use the hashtag #createwithclaudiaqal so everyone can see your beautiful blocks.
 - **Are there any prizes or giveaways?** Unfortunately no, but if you participate each month you end up with a beautiful quilt.
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Why Stars of the Prairie?

I have always wanted to see the prairies out west. I would love to stand in a windswept prairie looking at the flowers, or lie on my back and gaze at the stars above. I'm fascinated by their beauty. While nowhere near the size and scope of those out west, we are fortunate to have a small prairie near us. In the spring, summer and fall, the flowers put on a show and, to me, they are the real stars.

Whether your stars of the prairie are flowers, the ones in the sky, or something else, I hope you will consider giving this mystery quilt a try. It's going to be lots of fun!

This mystery quilt along is for entertainment purposes only. Therefore, there are no prizes or giveaways.* Best efforts have been made to ensure that the instructions are correct, however sometime errors occur. If you have any questions, please contact us at claudia@createwithclaudia.com