

# greetings!

Yes, I am one of those people. I start thinking about the holidays before our swimsuits are packed away for the season. The Christmas music starts before we even purchase the Thanksgiving turkey. And yes, I go shopping at the crack of dawn on Black Friday, and I don't rest until every last one of those gifts is meticulously wrapped.

But what can I say? I love the holidays. It's a time to celebrate family, to reconnect, to share, and to make gifts...and memories, of course. For me, there is a clear connection between the holidays and the creation of handmade items. Each presents a special way to celebrate those you love and share a bit of yourself with them.

That's why the process of putting together this book has been such a labor of love—thinking through the many ways to incorporate a passion for sewing and crafting into holiday celebrations, and collaborating with so many talented sewists and designers to bring those ideas to life. The projects all sit at the intersection of family, holiday, and handmade. Who wouldn't want to hang out for a bit at that intersection? Especially when patchwork is thrown into the mix!

In these pages you'll find 28 patchwork projects to make for yourself, your home, or someone special, all created to celebrate the season: from home decor to gift ideas to table dressings for your holiday feasts. Oh, and quilts, of course. Quilts are key to setting the stage for a homemade holiday. Think pieced trees and penguins, modern spins on traditional blocks, fun patchwork letters and sayings, reusable gift wrap, adorable polar bears, hedgehogs, and gingerbread men... And among all that goodness, I've sprinkled in some seriously cute mini ornament projects for quick crafting.

I've also included a few fall items, which can work from October straight through the December holidays and beyond. Best of all, many of these projects can be altered slightly through color palette and fabric choice, to work year-round or for other holidays. And we've given plenty of ideas for simple variations along the way.

Whatever projects within these pages you may choose to create, or however this book inspires you, I hope you are able to patch together a little bit of homemade into your holiday celebrations.

*John Q. Adams, Quilt Dad*





# hedgehog holidays patchwork pillowcase and stuffed toy



This precious pillowcase combines an embroidered hedgehog with a pretty patchwork trim, perfect for dressing your guest bed for holiday visitors. Add a matching stuffed hedgehog, and your guests may never leave!

handmade by **NICOLE VOS VAN AVEZATHE**

## **fabric & such**

### **FOR THE PILLOWCASE**

- 1 $\frac{1}{3}$  yard (1.2 m) of white fabric
- Assorted red and green fabric scraps, at least 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches square (11.4 cm)
- Embroidery floss
- Four or more matching trims

### **FOR THE HEDGEHOG**

- 2 pieces of brown felt (for the body), 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches square (16.5 cm)
- Felt scraps for face, snout, mittens, and apple
- Scrap of fabric (for the legs)
- Embroidery floss
- Polyester fiberfill

## **tools**

- Basic Patchwork Kit (page 9)
- Templates (page 118)

## **finished size**

- Pillowcase: 28 x 18 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches (71.1 cm x 47.6 cm)

## **seam allowance**

- $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6 mm) unless otherwise indicated



# modern maples throw quilt



Inspired by a traditional quilt block—the maple leaf—this throw quilt is made modern with the use of white space and fabric choice, including natural linen and a generous dose of fabric scraps.

handmade by **AMANDA WOODWARD-JENNINGS**

## fabric & such

- 18 assorted fat quarters (45.7 x 55.9 cm) in autumn tones
- 3 yards (2.8 m) of background fabric
- 4½ yards (4.1 m) of fabric for backing
- ½ yard (.5 m) of fabric for binding
- Double-size batting

## tools

Basic Patchwork Kit (page 9)

## finished size

59 x 70 inches (149.9 x 177.8 cm)

## seam allowance

¼ inch (6 mm) unless otherwise indicated

## get started

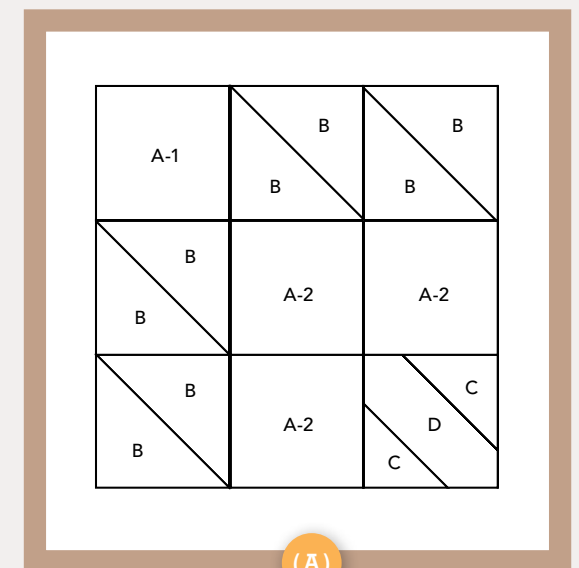
1 Cut out the following pieces from your fabric (A).

From each of the fat quarters:

- 3 squares for A-2, each measuring 4½ inches (11.4 cm).
- 2 squares that will become B-B squares, each measuring 5 inches (12.7 cm).
- 1 strip for the stem (D), measuring 2 x 7 inches (5.1 x 17.8 cm).

From the background fabric:

- 18 squares for A-1, each measuring 4½ inches (11.4 cm).
- 72 squares that will become B-B squares, each measuring 5 inches (12.7 cm).



## Itty Bitty Patchwork Ornaments

Enjoy working on a smaller scale? Then raid your scrap bucket and create a few of these mosaic-inspired holiday ornaments.

handmade by **CHRISTINA LANE**

### fabric & such (to make the set)

Assorted print fabric scraps  
¼ yard (.2 m) of linen  
¼ yard (.2 m) of print fabric  
Batting scraps  
Paper-backed fusible web scraps  
¼ yard (.2 m) of rickrack  
Embroidery floss

### tools

Templates (page 123)  
Spray starch  
Fray retardant  
Pinking shears or pinking blade on a rotary cutter  
Fabric glue

### get started

**1** The central appliqué of all the ornaments are cut from a grid of pieced squares. From fabric scraps, cut squares, each measuring 1 inch (2.5 cm) as follows:

- Dreidel: 54 squares from blue prints.
- Star: 56 squares from yellow prints.
- Tree: 54 squares from green prints.
- Snowman: 50 squares from white prints.

**2** For each ornament, also cut one rectangle from the linen, the print fabric, and the batting, each measuring 6½ x 5½ inches (16.5 x 14 cm). Press and set aside.

**3** Stitch the 1-inch (2.5 cm) squares together for each ornament as indicated by the template diagram. First stitch the squares into rows, then stitch the rows together. Press all seams open. Once fully assembled, lightly starch each piece and press with a hot iron.

**4** To attach the fusible web:

- Lay a piece of fusible web over each ornament template and trace the shapes onto the paper



sides. Cut out each shape, leaving ¼ inch (6 mm) of fusible web beyond the outlines.

- Press each shape to the wrong side of the correct patchwork piece, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- With a pair of sharp scissors, cut around the traced ornament lines. To ensure minimal fraying on the patchwork, run a small bead of fray retardant around each piece.

**5** To assemble each ornament, layer the linen and print pieces cut in step 2, wrong sides facing, with the cut batting pieces between, and press. Press the patchwork shapes, right side up, onto the linen side.

**6** Using a sewing machine, stitch ¼ inch (3 mm) around the outside of each shape and through all three layers. Clip the thread long enough to pull to the back of each piece and tie off. Using pinking shears or blade, cut out around each shape ¼ inch (6 mm) from the outline stitching.

**7** To make the hanging loops, cut four pieces of rickrack, each measuring 8 inches (20.3 cm) long. Attach a loop of rickrack to the top of each ornament using glue and secure with a French knot using an embroidery needle and floss (page 13).

**8** Using three strands of embroidery floss, stitch around the inside of the patchwork piece ⅛ inch (3 mm) from the edge with a running stitch (page 13).

## modern wreath baby quilt

A sweet gift idea for the newborns (or moms-to-be) in your life, don't think of this quilt as a gift for the holidays; instead, think of it as a gift for a lifetime.

handmade by **JESSICA KOVACH**

### fabric & such

16 pieces of assorted green print fabrics, 5 inches square (12.7 cm)  
16 pieces of assorted red print fabrics, 5 inches square (12.7 cm)  
1¾ yards (1.6 m) of linen (for background and binding)  
¼ yard (.23 m) of red fabric (for inner border)  
⅜ yard (.34 m) of green fabric (for outer border)  
1¼ yard (1.1 m) of backing fabric  
1 piece of batting, 44 inches square (111.8 cm)

### tools

Basic Patchwork Kit (page 9)  
Templates (page 122)

### finished size

41 inches square (104.1 cm)

### seam allowance

¼ inch (6 mm) unless otherwise indicated





# drawstring gift bags

For many creative folks, a gift's packaging is often as important as the gift itself. Grab your favorite fabrics and present your gift in a thoughtful (and reusable) handmade bag, practically another present in itself!

handmade by **JOHN Q. ADAMS**

## **fabric & such** (to make one)

- 1 fat quarter (45.7 x 55.9 cm) of red, green, or tan quilter's linen
- 3 fat quarters (45.7 x 55.9 cm) of lining fabric
- White, red print, or assorted fabric scraps
- Extra-wide double-fold bias tape, in coordinating colors

## **tools**

- Basic Patchwork Kit (page 9)
- Large safety pin

## **finished size**

9¾ x 11 inches (24.8 x 27.9 cm)

## **seam allowance**

¼ inch (6 mm) unless otherwise indicated

## get started

### **the swiss cross bag**

**1** Cut out the following pieces from the fabrics.

From red linen fabric:

- 4 squares, each measuring 2½ inches (6.4 cm).
- 2 rectangles, each measuring 2½ x 6 ½ inches (6.4 x 16.5 cm).
- 1 rectangle measuring 2½ x 10½ inches (6.4 x 26.7 cm).
- 1 rectangle measuring 2½ x 4½ inches (6.4 x 11.4 cm).
- 1 rectangle measuring 10½ x 12½ inches (26.7 x 31.8 cm).

From white fabric scraps:

- 2 squares, each measuring 2½ inches (6.4 cm).
- 1 rectangle measuring 2½ x 6½ inches (6.4 x 16.5 cm).

From lining fabric:

- 2 rectangles, each measuring 10½ x 12½ inches (26.7 x 31.8 cm).