



Grand Country Quilters Winter 2021 Mystery Quilt-Along

Week #1 - Cutting

Are you ready to start our new “Winter Mystery” project? I am so glad that you are going to join in the fun and share this adventure with us.

The kit is made using Fat Quarters (18” x 21”) so when you cut the fabric be sure to lay the fabric on your cutting mat with the 21” vertically and the 18” horizontally. (selvage toward you belly)

The instructions will be written with a little more details to help our “confident beginners” feel confident. But, it always helps to have a little refresher course – right?



If you are using Diamond Textiles your first step should be to iron (press) them using a little starch. Any kind of starch will do...it’s up to you how heavy you want to starch – I like a little- but it’s your choice.

You might occasionally notice thread “slubs” in your fabric – this adds character to the fabric or you can work around them – again your choice.

I like to use both side of the fabrics. If you can run your fingernails across the fabric and not snag a thread – use it! Again your choice.

So put in a new rotary blade (your shoulder will thank you), grab some post-it notes and baggies and let’s get started. Be sure to “label” the squares, it will help you identify them later.

Fabric requirements – based on Fat Quarters 18” x 21”

Separate your bundle as follows –

(refer to the photo – these are the fabrics in the kit)

Dark Grey – 7 fat quarters

Lt. Grey – 8 fat quarters

Dark Blue – 6 fat quarters

Gold – 4 fat quarters

Cream – 3 fat quarters

Med. Blue – 3 fat quarters

Lt. Blue – 8 fat quarters

Dark blue – 5/8 yard for binding (cut 8 strips @ 2 ¼” x wof 44/45”)

CUTTING TIPS– based on Fat Quarters

- the cutting instructions have been divided by “color” groups. Read through each cutting assignment so that you can plan accordingly.
- ALSO – I’ve listed the **Total number of strips that you will need from each “color” group**– so you get to pick your favorites. You should have wiggle room for most of the groups except the Light Greys – so be wide awake when you cut that group.
- ALSO – always cut the larger measurement strips first, then work your way down to the smaller size strips.
- ALSO – we will cut “sets of 4” for some of the steps. You can get 3 completes “sets of 4” from two strips of the same fabric– so cut two strips from the same fabric to make this possible. I will give you a heads-up ***when you need to do this.

CREAM – using the 3 Cream fat quarters cut the following;

- **Total** - 10 @ 4 ½” x 21”
 - From these cut 40 @ 4 ½” x 4 ½”
 - Label 30 “1A”
 - Label 10 “3”

GOLD – I separated the 4 Golds into 2 groups – 2 “dull” and 2 “bright”. You will have plenty of Gold fabric left over.

from the 2 “dull” Golds cut;

- **Total** – 3 @ 4 ½” x 21”
 - From these cut 10 @ 4 ½” x 4 ½”
 - Label “4”
- **Total** 1 @ 5 ¼” x 21”
 - From this cut 3 @ 5 ¼” x 5 ¼”
 - Label “6”
 - From left-over cut 1 @ 3” x 3”
 - Label “10”

From the 2 “bright” Golds cut;

- **Total** – 5 @ 2 ½” x 21”
 - From these cut 40 @ 2 ½” x 2 ½” making 10 sets of 4
 - Label “3”
- **Total** 1 @ 5 ¼” x 21”
 - From this cut 3 @ 5 ¼” x 5 ¼”
 - Label “5”
 - From the left-over cut 1 @ 3” x 3”
 - Label “10”

Light Blue – using the 8 Light Blue fat quarters cut the following;

- **Total** - 4 @ 5 ¼" x 21"
 - From these cut 13 @ 5 ¼" x 5 ¼"
 - Label "2B"
- **Total** 14 @ 2 7/8" x 21" (from 7 of the fabrics – ***cut two from the same fabric)
 - From each set of two - cut 3 sets of 4 @ 2 7/8" x 2 7/8"
 - label 13 sets "2C"
 - label 6 sets "7"
- **Total** 15 @ 2 ½" x 21"
 - From these cut 120 @ 2 ½" x 2 ½" - making 30 sets of 4
 - Label "1A"
- **Total** 4 @ 3" x 21"
 - From these cut 22 @ 3" x 3"
 - Label 13 "8"
 - Label 9 "9"

MEDIUM BLUE – using the 3 Medium Blue fat quarters cut the following;

- **Total** – 4 @ 5 ¼" x 21"
 - From these cut 13 @ 5 ¼" x 5 ¼"
 - Label "2C"
- **Total** 2 @ 2 7/8" x 21"
 - From these cut 12 @ 2 7/8" x 2 7/8"
 - Label "6"
- **Total** 5 @ 2 ½" x 21"
 - From these cut 40 @ 2 ½" x 2 ½" – making 10 sets of 4
 - Label "4"

DARK BLUE – using the 6 Dark Blue fat quarters cut the following;

- **Total** – 9 @ 5 ¼" x 21"
 - From these cut 32 @ 5 ¼" x 5 ¼"
 - Label 26 "2B"
 - Label 6 "7"
- **Total** 13 @ 3" x 21"
 - From these cut 74 @ 3" x 3"
 - Label 60 "1C"
 - Label 13 "8"
 - Label 1 "10"

LIGHT GREY – using the 8 Light Grey fat quarters cut the following;

- **Total** – 4 @ 5 ¼" x 21"
 - From these cut 13 @ 5 ¼" x 5 ¼"
 - Label "2B"
- **Total** 10 @ 3" x 21"
 - From these cut 60 @ 3" x 3"
 - Label "1C"
- **Total** 30 @ 2 7/8" x 21" (**cut two strips from the same fabric = 3 sets of 4)
 - From these cut 172 @ 2 7/8" x 2 7/8"
 - Label 30 sets of 4 "1B"
 - Label 13 sets of 4 "2A"

DARK GREY – using the 7 Dark Grey fat quarters cut the following;

- **Total** – 11 @ 5 ¼" x 21"
 - From these cut 43 @ 5 ¼" x 5 ¼"
 - Label 30 "1B"
 - Label 13 "2A"
- **Total** 2 @ 3" x 21"
 - From these cut 10 @ 3" x 3"
 - Label 9 "9"
 - Label 1 "10"
- **Total** 2 @ 2 7/8" x 21"
 - From these cut 12 @ 2 7/8" x 2 7/8"
 - Label "5"

You did it! You're all finished with the cutting!
Next week we will begin sewing...I can't wait – can you?

Stay safe -See you next Saturday!
Enjoy! Karen Wittmeyer

Grand Country Quilters

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