

THE FLOPPY GAZETTE

Volume 7, No. 2, Fall/Winter 2000-2001

Dear Friends,

We've been busy working on new products - something old, something new, something borrowed, nothing blue.

Something New



[*Stitched with Love*](#) is a new concept: a full-color quilt book including a CD-ROM that lets you not only watch videos and print patterns, but actually design! *Stitched with Love* is the first in our Magic Book series. YOU supply the design magic by using the CD. More Magic Books by exciting designers coming in 2001.

Something Borrowed

[*STASH Fall 2000*](#) is full of 4000 NEW fabrics we borrowed, hot off the printing press, from 22 different fabric manufacturers. Thanks to them, this is the third edition of STASH. Wait until you see the gorgeous new prints and colors!!



Something Old

The new [*BlockBase*](#) replaces our sold-out old *BlockBase* program. More, more, more....more search tools, more printing options, and yes, more patterns than any other program by thousands of blocks!

Dear Jane

Coming next year: *Dear Jane* CD-ROM by the popular author of the *Dear Jane* book, Brenda Papadakis. We're already planning to shoot videos at the May 2001 *Dear Jane* conference. This will be a fun project!

Happy Fall, and Happy Holidays from us all,

Dean, Penny, Ann, Lu, Margaret, Jan, Diane, Sharon, Jill, Jessica, Neal, Ashley, and EQ the Mouse

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Ask EQ (1 of 4)

Frequently asked questions from our software users, answered by our mascot, EQ the Mouse.



Sorting

Q: Can I sort blocks in my project?

A: Yes. Here's how:

1. On the QUILT worktable, click the Set tool. This displays the Sketchbook blocks palette, showing the blocks in your project.
2. Point to any block and right-click. A menu pops up.
3. Choose Sort blocks from the menu.
4. Sort the blocks by clicking directly on each block in the order you want them to appear. Click the Start Over button if you make a mistake and want to begin again.
5. Click Close when you are done sorting. You need not sort all the blocks. Sort only the those you want to sort. When you click Close the rest of the blocks follow automatically.

Q: When I change colors in my fabrics, how can I find the colors I want quickly?

A: When you make print fabrics in new colorways (see EQ4 Design Cookbook, page 118) you can save yourself from having to scroll through colors randomly by presorting the color palette. Try this:

1. Sort the solid colors, putting only those colors that you want to use in the "Change colorway" up in the front of the palette.
2. Right-click a fabric and choose Add Colorway.
3. Beneath the right-hand swatch, click the arrow button that shows left-pointing arrow and a bar. This always takes you to black.
4. Click the arrow pointing to the right. You now see the first color in the palette — the first color you sorted. With each forward click, you'll see the next color in the palette.

You are starting at the front of the color palette, working your way back. By presorting the colors (step #1), you can find the colors you want without needing to scroll through the entire palette.

Coloring

Q: Why can't I color the side triangles in my on-point quilt? I set them into Layer 1 of a Country Set Layout.

A: You cannot color the side triangles because the Country Set space isn't a block - it's just a large open space for you to set blocks into. You must first set a block into that space, and then you can color it.

You can either set individual blocks, or you can save time by setting one big, blank block the size of your Country Set quilt layout, then setting your on-point blocks on top of this, in Layer 2.

To make a blank block:

1. Click WORKTABLE — Work on Block.
2. Click Save in Sketchbook and answer Yes when asked if you want to save a blank block to the Sketchbook.


To set the blank block onto your quilt:

3. Click WORKTABLE - Work on Quilt. Be on Layer 1.
4. Click the block in the Sketchbook Blocks palette, to select it.
5. Point to the quilt and drag the mouse. A box forms. When you release the mouse the blank block sets into Layer 1. Don't worry that it doesn't fit the space perfectly.
6. If you don't have the Graph Pad on the bottom of the screen, click VIEW and choose Graph Pad. **Tip:** You will want to know the size of your Country Set layout for the next steps. Click on the Layout tab to see the size.
7. Click the Layer 1 tab.

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8. Click the Adjust tool.
9. Click the block you just set in your quilt. Use the Graph Pad's size arrows (center numbers) to make the block exactly that size. The block won't fit exactly yet.
10. Use the Graph Pad's location arrows (left numbers) to make each number say 0.00. This makes the block fit your space exactly.
11. Click the Layer 2 tab.
12. Set your on-point blocks into Layer 2. **Tip:** Set all of the blocks quickly, paying no attention to size or location. Then click the Adjust tool, resize one block the perfect size. Next, hold down the SHIFT key on your keyboard as you click all the other blocks. Now click the Graph Pad's Same Size tool.  The selected blocks resize. (They become the size of the first "perfect" block.) Drag them into position.

Drawing

Q: Why did my whiskers disappear? I drew a PatchDraw cat, but the whiskers don't show in the Sketchbook.

A: EQ knows you can't piece or applique a line (you can only embroider a line), so won't save it. But you can draw a PatchDraw rectangle, then edit it, making it long and skinny. Then use this as a whisker.

Q: Can I flip a block drawing to get its mirror image?

A: Yes. Have your block on the EasyDraw screen, then do this: On the EDIT menu, choose Select All. This selects all lines in the block. Right-click anywhere. A menu pops up. Click on Symmetry. The Symmetry pop up menu appears. Click on Flip H (for horizontally). Your block drawing flips. Click on Save in Sketchbook. If you have trouble saving your block to the Sketchbook, or find your drawing missing lines when you color it, your drawing may not quite fit the grid correctly. Perhaps during the "flip," when lines were unhooked from their Snap to

dots, they didn't get properly hooked again. Zoom in, making sure each line ends exactly on a Snap to point. If you can't what is causing the problem, you can convert the drawing to guides, and redraw. (See EQ4 Design Cookbook, page 77.)

Q: I'm drawing a 5-patch block. Why do lines disappear?

A: I'm guessing your Snap Points still say 24 x 24. You need to change these. Your 5-patch needs to be drawn on Snap Points that are a multiple of 5, to fit the block. Your lines are disappearing because they are not "hooking" onto the Snap points correctly. It's as if you're trying to draw a block on graph paper of the wrong size. On the BLOCK menu, choose Drawing Board Setup. Change the Snap Points to 25 x 25 or 30 x 30.

SNAP POINTS

In general, make your Snap points evenly divisible by your patch number. 24 x 24 Snap points are evenly divisible by 4 and 9 for a 4-patch or 9 patch, for example. 25 x 25 Snap points are evenly divisible by 5 for a 5-patch. 28 x 28 Snap points are evenly divisible by 7, for a 7-patch.

Q: How do I change Snap Points?

A: On the BLOCK menu, choose Drawing Board Setup. The Snap points are there.

Q: I don't "get" Snap Points. What's the deal?

A: Snap points are what we call the grid points across the EasyDraw block. Lines snap to these points. The reason EasyDraw got its name is because this drawing method lets you create patches by simply drawing lines. (Other drawing programs make you draw the whole patch - drawing a 9-patch by drawing 9 squares rather than drawing 4 lines.)

But, EasyDraw needs you to start and stop your lines so all lines connect to one another at "Snap points." EQ can make a patch ONLY when it finds these points where lines touch or intersect.

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Ask EQ (3 of 4)

Think of the Snap points as graph paper divisions. If you only had 3 graph paper squares, you could not draw a 4 patch block. It just wouldn't fit.

So, you must fit your drawing to the Snap points on your block. Most (not all) blocks can be drawn on 24 x 24 Snap points. This means you usually won't need to change the Snap points. But some blocks, 5-patch, 7-patch and others, can't fit on 24 x 24 Snap points.

FIGURING SNAP POINTS

If you don't know the patch number, here's how to figure Snap points:

1. Determine the smallest unit of the block
2. See how many times this repeated unit could fit across the block. This number must be evenly divisible by the Snap points.



For example:

Look at the corner square of this block. You might guess this square could be repeated 4 or 5 times across the block. Drawing the block, you'll find that 4 won't work - the square fits 5 times. That means your Snap points must be divisible by 5. So you'd need to change your Snap points to 25 x 25 or 30 X 30.

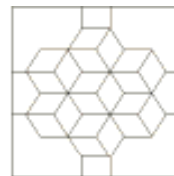
Q: Why does a line disappear in my EasyDraw block? I know my Snap points and drawing are perfect.

A: It may be that you've drawn your design as an island inside your block. Remember, EQ considers the square you draw in as the outside of your block. So draw a line or lines to connect your drawing to the block outside. You'll probably find the line reappear.



Wrong

EasyDraw block drawn as an "island" without connecting to outside block.



Right

EasyDraw design connects to outside of block.

E-mailing a project

Q: How do I e-mail a project to another EQ user? I use Outlook Express.

A: Here's how to e-mail a project: 1 Click the Attach (paper clip) button on the main menu bar in Outlook Express. 2 Click the down arrow beside the "Look in:" box and click on C:\ (or the hard drive on which EQ4 is installed). 3 Double-click on EQ4 in the list below. 4 Double-click on the PRJ folder. 5 Click on the project you want to send, to highlight the project. 6 Click the Attach button. 7 Send your e-mail.

Q: My project is 2 MB! How can I make the project smaller before I e-mail?

A: Fabrics are probably what's making your project so large. Did you use lots of EQ4 Designer Fabrics or STASH fabrics? These are real scanned fabrics and take up lots of memory; the rest of the fabrics in the Fabric Library do not.

If you'd like to save the fabrics in your original project, but remove them from the copy of the project that you e-mail, you can do this: 1 Open your project, full of fabrics. 2 Open the Sketchbook - open the Fabrics Tab. 3 Delete fabrics individually. Don't delete any where you get the message "this fabric used in quilt." 4 Close the Sketchbook when you're done deleting. 5 On the FILE menu, choose Save As. 6 Save your project to be e-mailed, giving it a NEW name. This way you can have your cake and eat it too. You'll still have your original project as it was before you deleted fabric. You'll also have a copy (with a new name), without the fabric that took so much memory. 7 E-mail this NEW project. Printing

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Ask EQ (4 of 4)

Q: I'm printing my quilt to make a class hand-out. Can I make the lines less jagged?

A: Yes. Change the Print Quality.

On the PRINT menu, choose Preferences.

On the Print Quality tab, try choosing quality 2, 3 or 4 and see which printout you like best.

Note: EQ's print quality feature acts as a "reducing glass." This lets you scale printed fabric in your printout. The quilt and block size remain unchanged. Only the scale of the fabric print changes as you change the print quality number. A high number requires considerably more memory than a low one. Not all printers can print from all value numbers. Same Size button

Q: I get an error message when opening EQ4. Help?

A: If you have a problem opening EQ4, please restore the program defaults by following the directions below for the version number you have: FOR VERSION 4.0 Best way: Download and install the free EQ4.1 upgrade find it on this page of the EQ Web site <http://www.electricquilt.com/update.shtml>

Alternate way: Reinstall EQ4 from the EQ4.0 CD. (Do not uninstall.) Choose the option: Restore Default Configuration (rather than the selected option: Install All Files).

FOR VERSION 4.1 At the Windows desktop choose Start — Programs — Electric Quilt — EQ4 Setup Follow on-screen instructions to restore the default program configuration. Note: When asked for Company name, you must type something (anything) in that line in order to make the "Next" button enabled.

Q: How do I tell if I have EQ4.0 or EQ4.1?

A: If you can't open EQ4 to check version number, then, at the Windows desktop choose Start - Programs - Electric Quilt - EQ4 Setup. If you do not see EQ4 Setup, then you have EQ version 4.0

To check version number if you're in EQ4, click the HELP menu and choose About EQ4. The version number (4.0 or 4.1) shows there. Version 4.0 owners should visit the EQ Web site and download the free EQ4.1 upgrade. The free upgrade also comes with two products: STASH, and the EQ4 Magic book by Barb Vlack.

Redwork

Q: Is there a way to do redwork in EQ4?

A: Yes. Redwork means red embroidery stitches on white (muslin) fabric, a style popular around 1900 - 1915 that grew out of the interest in embroidery during the crazy quilt period (1880 - 1900). To simulate redwork in EQ4:



1. Set applique motifs (from the EQ4 Block Library) in Layer 3.
2. Click the Adjust tool.
3. Click the motif you set onto your quilt.
4. Click the Thread Color tool.
5. Click a red solid color in the color palette. Instant redwork!

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More Free Stuff For EQ4 Users

The Internet is full of free EQ goodies. To find these free gifts, visit the Web sites listed below.

Free EQ4.1

Upgrade to add new tools to your EQ4 program.

<http://www.electricquilt.com/update.shtml>

Free EQ4 Show

Show off your own self-running quilt display.

<http://www.electricquilt.com/tech/show.shtml>

Free Web Backgrounds

Use EQ fabrics as backgrounds on your Web site.

<http://www.electricquilt.com/em-pics.shtml>

Free Info-EQ Maillist

Exchange e-mail messages and fun with other EQ users.

<http://planetpatchwork.com/info-eq.htm>

Free Challenges

Compete in monthly club EQ challenges posed by Barb Vlack and posted by Pat Tribbey. Visit the EQ Web site for more information.

Free Round Robins

Join and learn with other EQ users who work on designs together via e-mail exchanges, organized by Suzanne Sanger.

<http://members.aol.com/SangerSL/robinsnest.html>

Free Calendar

Get a new EQ desktop calendar each month created by Carolyn Laukkonen.

<http://www.piecepatcher.com/calendar.htm>

Free Projects

Lots of generous EQ users share free projects with other users. Visit this page and scroll down to find projects listed.

<http://www.electricquilt.com/studio.shtml>

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Stitched With Love

New Robyn Pandolph Book and Design CD prints folk art applique patterns



Robyn Pandolph's *Stitched with Love* book is the most unusual and beautiful quilt book published this year. The book has 96 color pages of Robyn's charming applique, craft and home decoration projects for babies, children, holidays, weddings and celebrations.

Plus a special interactive Windows CD-ROM. Print the patterns for Robyn's projects using your home PC and printer. We call this book/CD a Magic Book™, because the magic starts when you exercise your own creativity, entering Robyn's world by modifying the projects.

Read the book

Robyn's book contains full instructions for making her quilts, wall hangings, pillows, curtains and crafts.

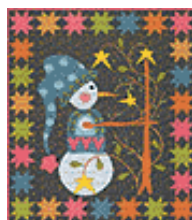
Perfect for all skill levels - hand applique or quick fusing. Use Robyn's room styling and decorating ideas, her secrets for giving quilts that "Vintage Look," or try her fun kids' craft projects like luminarias and window clings.



Robyn's original



Variation 1



Variation 2

Designing with the Stitched with Love CD is easy and fun! Point and click to color with Robyn's different fabric palettes. Change borders and sashes. Turn twin size to table runner. Print perfect patterns in any size!

Design with the CD

The CD is an easy-to-use point and click format that lets you create hundreds of design variations. Resize the quilts, change the borders and sashes, and recolor the projects as you like. Print complete

patterns in any size and use Robyn's motifs for other craft projects. There's even a video of Robyn demonstrating her needle-turned applique techniques. Robyn Pandolph is well-known as a quilting teacher, owner of Cabin Fever Designs, and as a fabric designer for Moda.



Robyn Pandolph

Robyn says, "What's exciting to me about applique is that it's so freeing. It's as if you can take a paintbrush and just paint on canvas. You can have even more design freedom using the *Stitched with Love* CD that comes with my book. It lets you recolor and print the designs in any size you want, to use in all the ways I've suggested and more."

Gardener/photographer Molly Allen, from Birmingham, Michigan, freely painted teacup motifs from the Stitched with Love CD to give clay pots and saucers a colorful folk art look.



Robyn's A Day to Remember quilt, one of 15 special quilts from Stitched with Love, is a folk art wedding wall quilt. Robyn shows you how to applique the winding vines, add dimension with reverse applique, and write the bride and groom's names, and wedding dates on the quilt.

Painter Ann Kelly, from Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, reinterpreted the designs on Robyn's A Day to Remember, painting a wooden tray perfect for a bride and groom's honeymoon breakfast.



Imagine the projects you'll think up using Robyn's motifs! *Stitched with Love* has dozens of suggestions for craft projects the whole family will enjoy. Bake cookies, make coloring book pages and gift tags, print window clings or luminarias using any of Robyn's motifs. Let *Stitched with Love* show you how.

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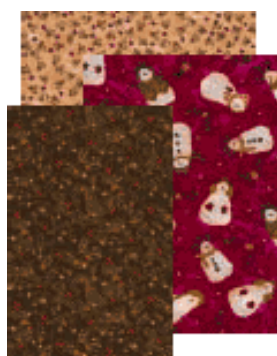
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STASH

Fall 2000 New Fall Fabric CD



The third edition of our popular STASH CD-ROM contains over 4000 ALL NEW Fall 2000 fabrics. Grasses, mums, pumpkins, chickens, brushed plaids and ticking, lavish florals, leaves, holiday prints by the designers you love, including Jinny Beyer, Nancy Crow, Mickey Lawler, Debbie Mumm, Robyn Pandolph, Piece O'Cake Designs, Jennifer Sampou, and Thimbleberries.

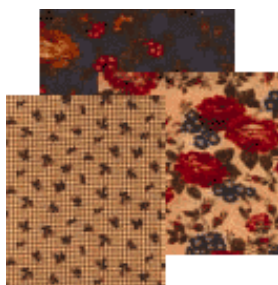


Lancaster Winter
by Balson-Erlanger

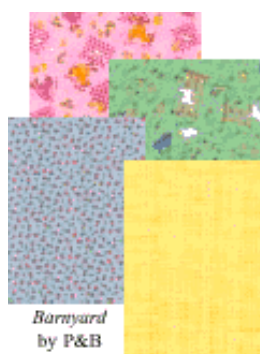


Skyeyes by Mickey Lawler

Sneak preview from this fall's fabrics Kent Avery: "Land, Sea & Sky" by Nancy Crow - Cloudy skies gradating in color across the fabric. Balson-Erlanger: "Lancaster Winter" - Holiday stars, pine sprigs, snowmen in vests. P & P: "Barnyard" - Clucking chickens, baa-ing sheep, clothesline, in 1930's colors. Kaufman: Go Mice Go by Sampou & Schmitz: EQ the Mouse's favorite. Cute mice ! Hoffman: "Needles and Pins" - Sewing supplies, old fashioned iron and sewing machine. Moda: "Rosehill Manor" - Fall-colored roses, paisley, checks and dots.



Rosehill Manor by Moda



Barnyard
by P&B

STASH is completely easy to use. View the fabrics on your computer screen. Create virtual shopping bags for your favorites. Print a color swatch list of fabrics, identified by name and number, as a shopping list. STASH can "Search by Color" - pick any fabric, STASH finds all others in that color. Import the fabrics into EQ4 to use in block and quilt designs.

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Works for Me (1 of 2)

Tips from EQ Users

When **Kathy Faryon's** cat tore her quilt, she cleverly repaired it with the help of her computer. "I scanned the image of the same place where the tear was, on the pattern repeat, and transferred it to fabric, and then patched it - it worked!"

Jean Carlton, of Minnetonka, Minnesota, writes with a tip for getting the most out of the notecard feature in EQ4. "I often design many versions of a quilt that I want to make, changing block size, borders etc. I may have 20 or more versions in the Sketchbook while I'm working things out before I decide to start my quilt. I found it frustrating to have to open each version to see the layout facts, border sizes and block sizes so I started using the Notecard feature. Instead of a 'name' I type in: 63 x 63 7" block or 64 x 72 8" block for example. Then when I am in the Sketchbook, those facts 'show' as the name of the quilt and I can quickly determine which one I am looking at and which one I want to edit or work with.

Randi Robbins, of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina writes, "I find EQ valuable since I usually design backwards.... do the design to use the amount of a fabric I have and want to feature rather than doing the design and then shopping for fabric." She recently used EQ4 to not only print out 90 foundation patterns for my quilt list's anniversary block swap but to calculate the yardage I'll need to complete them. "It let me know ahead of time which fabrics in my stash I already had enough of and which I needed to purchase."

Brenda Brayfield, from Writes with a great tip for teachers. "I draw a 3" square with the drawing grid set for 12 x 12. I connect all the nodes vertically and end up with a series of lines exactly 1/4" apart. I prepare one square for each student in my quilting class." Brenda's students then sew along a line, testing the accuracy of their 1/4" presser

foot. "I instruct them to look exactly where the edge of the presser foot is in relation to the line on the right. If piecing, this would be the fabric edge. This is especially helpful when I teach classes on top stitched foundation piecing."

Charlotte Kleiner, of Winnipeg, MB Canada used EQ to help her with needlework she wanted to frame and hang together. "By using Country Set I was able to see how the framed pieces would look together and just what size the whole project would end up, depending on different arrangements and borders (for mats and frames) I used." Charlotte plans to print the "quilts" to take to the framer, to show how she wants each piece framed.

Faith Bluma, I do the newsletter for Star Point Quilt Guild in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. I created a header for the newsletter with EQ4 and I think it looks pretty nice. I use exported bmp's of EQ blocks here and there in the newsletter but the letterhead is the nicest. I've gotten many compliments on it and there is a renewed interest in Electric Quilt among my fellow guild members. I also used the EQ4 program for everyone of my Round Robin projects for guild, and they were stunning borders, if I do say so myself. Round robin can be a challenge, getting border blocks to fit around someone else's quilt. But with EQ4, it is truly a breeze. A cake-walk, as my sister would say.



After I have printed out the templates for a quilt block, which may be any odd size that I choose, (translated that means it does not strip cut very well). I put inexpensive carpet tape (which is double faced) on the back of the printed template and attach it to my template plastic. You have a permanent template. Be sure to mark on the template exactly what it is. Works better than any type glue.

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Works for Me (2 of 2)

Tips from EQ Users

I also use that tape to make quilt block stickers. Move the colored block to Word, size to any size sticker you want, print and use the tape to make a sticker. Just leave the paper on the back until ready to use as a sticker.

Helen Jacobson, of Maxwell, Iowa writes, "After I have printed out the templates for a quilt block, which may be any odd size that I choose (translated that means it does not strip cut very well), I put inexpensive double-faced carpet tape on the back of the printed template and attach it to my template plastic. Be sure to mark on the template exactly what it is. I also use that tape to make quilt block stickers. Move the colored block to Word, size to any size sticker you want, print and use the tape to make a sticker. Just leave the paper on the back until ready to use as a sticker."

Ruth Paul, of Willoughby, Ohio, used EQ4 to map out her sewing room and bedroom. "I used the Country Set layout to the size of the room, using 1 inch to 1 foot and making the furniture blocks. It was so much easier than moving all the real furniture around. I was able to talk my husband into switching our bedroom with my sewing room when I could show him on paper that it would work. Later when I wanted to hang my rulers on the wall I mapped that out as well, using Country Set. I had no extra holes in my wall from having to move rulers. It worked perfectly. I also use Country Set to help me get the most of my batting. When I have a large batt that I want to use for several smaller quilts and wallhangings I map that out before I cut. I need to visualize everything and this certainly beats using graph paper."

Pat Alnes, of Naerbo, Norway shares a tip that worked with her quilt designing grandchildren, ages 9, 7, and 5. "When here for summer vacation they discovered EQ4 on my computer. Well, they then wanted to make blocks to color as well as one for a quilt. The 9 year old caught on fast to "easy draw" and saving and printing. But the 7 and 5 year olds liked drawing too many lines for the Save & Print. They kept getting the "Maximun op-count exceeded" error message. They were disappointed as they could not do what their older sister did. On went my thinking cap. I drew a 25 square grid for a watercolor block, printed it out with thick lines, and told them to put an "X" in each block to help them count each line they drew. Twenty-five X's were the limit for them, to help control the number of lines they drew. Well, it worked and they enjoyed making blocks to color on the computer. So now I've a project to sew for them for Christmas, and we had some quality time together."

Georgia Taylor, of Madisonville, Texas writes, "I use EQ for my all around crafting software. For example, I like to tole paint. Recently I needed a cookie jar lid with a calla lily. I did this as a PatchDraw block. A heart was the basic shape. Inside the heart I placed a calla lily extending at an angle on the heart. I placed scallops all around the outside edge of the heart which, when painted, became a lacy border. I also use EQ to design real stained glass. I just design my project, print out finished drawings, tape together if necessary, and use the appropriate shears to remove the space needed for the leading. I've also used the PatchDraw feature to design some custom embroidery patterns. I love my 'crafting' software!" (Editors note: Georgia wrote that she considers herself a novice on EQ. Hmmm.....)

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Benni Harper Mystery Lessons

Award-winning mystery author, **Earlene Fowler**, joins forces with The Electric Quilt Company in a series of seven EQ4 lessons on The Electric Quilt Company Web site. Each lesson is based on one of Earlene's mysteries, all named for quilt blocks.

EQ users can print out the lessons, and follow step-by-step directions for creating the quilt on their computer. Each lesson is linked to Earlene's Web site, containing behind-the-scenes information about the real locales featured in each book.



The mystery series, named for Earlene's spunky female detective heroine, Benni Harper, was inspired by Spokane, Washington EQ-user, **Tina Davis**. Tina made a quilt for Earlene in 1998, incorporating blocks for six of Earlene's titles. The two women became such friends that Tina consequently became Webmaster of Earlene's Web site. Tina now uses EQ4 to design patterns for Earlene's Web site, as well as designing the Benni Harper Mystery Lesson quilts.

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Show & Tell (1 of 2)

News from our talented users

Lucky Clover, Indeed! That's the name of the EQ-designed quilt by **Marianne Wise** - one of only thirty-two juried into the show "Second Impressions: Quilter's Celebrate Coheco Fabrics" exhibition. The show was open to quilts made mostly with fabrics from the Coheco Print Works Collection from the American Textile History Museum and reproduced by P&B Textiles. The quilts will hang from August 19 through December 31, 2000, in the museum, located in the historic textile mill town of Lowell, Massachusetts. This quilt was only the second quilt Marianne had designed in EQ.

Lynn Dash used EQ4 to design the Quilt for a Cure quilt shown on the cover of June's McCall's Quilting. "I am still using EQ4 for nearly everything I design," she writes. She'll begin designing the 2001 Quilt for a Cure as soon as she sees Bonnie Stratton's new fabric line. [In STASH Fall 2000] One of Lynn's most recent published EQ4 designs was In Full Bloom with RJR's printed sateen which ran in McCall's. "EQ was especially helpful in playing with turning the blocks to see the various secondary designs, writes Lynn.

Dorothy, the Wizard of EQ - "This is my seventh year of quilting as well as my seventh year with EQ! , writes **Dorothy Milligan**, of Hemet, California. "My very first entry in competition won Best of Show at the local fair (where there is little competition) in 1994. That really sparked my interest!" We asked Dorothy to tell us more.

"I have lost count as to the exact number of quilts that have won awards or been published. I think it's about thirty five. Several have won more than one award. And I have had about 26 blocks that have won awards, all

designed in EQ of course. My blocks and/or quilts have been published in twenty different issues of magazines. *Quilting Today*, *Quilt*, *Traditional Quiltworks*, *Quilters Newsletter Magazine*, *Miniature Quilts*, *Miniature Quilt Ideas*, and *Country Quilts*."



To see Dorothy's latest designs check out *Quilting Today*, #79 for her Flying Geese block, and the #80 issue showing her Lion block in the Cat quilt. She's also featured in *Quilter's*

Newsletter Magazine issue #325. "Look for the biggest block with all the stars and butterflies in the "Block Party." And she was a double-winner in *Quiltmaker magazine's* "Diamonds" contest. Look for her "My "Diamonds- A Gem of a Quilt" in issue #75. "Couldn't have done it without EQ!"

Elizabeth Spannring , of La Center, Washington won Best of Show among the 221 quilts juried into The Great Pacific Northwest Quiltfest exhibition in August 2000. "Of course I designed my quilt using EQ4!," writes Elizabeth. "Sill jumping up and down with sheer excitement! (You should see how BIG the ribbon is!!!) Oh, I won \$500 and a new Bernina 170 Artista Quilter's Edition, too!"



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Show & Tell (2 of 2)

News from our talented users

I am forever entering contests (don't know why) but I just got a letter from Keepsake Quilting today. I didn't win their challenge, but they are including a picture of my quilt from their Blue & White Challenge (April) in their Summer 2000 catalog. The quilt was designed in EQ4. "Pennsylvania Dutch in Blue Nancy Miller in SC

Pat Tribbey's Angel block was a runner-up in Fairfield Processing Corporation's "*Touched by Angels*" contest. Winners' and runner-ups' blocks will be made into quilts that will tour the US, per request from fabric stores and guilds. Pat is from North Lauderdale, Florida.

Sarah Hahn, 9 year old daughter of **Linda J Hahn**, won first prize in the Peddlars Village Quilt Competition's children's category in Lahaska, Pennsylvania for her quilt called "*Sarah Hahn - A Repeat of Color*" Linda writes, "Sarah began helping me quilt when she was four. She's now quilting and creating wearable art with me. Sarah designs her quilts using EQ4 before she sets out to purchase her own fabric." Her "Repeat of Color" quilt, in batik fabrics with metallic thread, was also exhibited at the State Quilt Build of New Jersey show in November of 1999. The Hahns live in Manalpan, New Jersey.

Ginny Massey, of Tulelake, California, has started publishing patterns, Quiltin' Kits, designed on EQ4. See them on the web page <http://www.quiltin-kits.com> "We have used a design created using EQ4 for the pattern covers, as well as the picture on the main web page and been very happy with the results. Again my thanks to the folks at Electric Quilt for their wonderful program and the great support I get from the Info-EQ list.

Barb Vlack was profiled in the Winter 1999 issue of The Quilting Quarterly, The Journal of the National Quilting Association. The article, "Computer Savvy Quilter - Barbara Vlack," Describes "Vlack's enthuasaistic and irrepressible personality plus the stunning collection of quilts she's made." We couldn't have expressed it better! Barb's the author of EQ4 Magic, and is a also a Forum moderator on the EQ Web site. Visit the site to register for the Forum. Then you can ask Barb a quilt design question, and receive an answer, on this page: <http://www.electricquilt.com/eqboards.shtml>

Sarah Hahn, age 9, had her EQ4 quilt, A Repeat of Color, juried into the Primrose Gradations Children's Challenge at the Ft Washington show . Her proud mother, Linda Hahn also got two quilts into the show, both of which were also designed in EQ4. Linda J. Hahn www.geocities.com/lindahahn/

Marion Watchinski has a "Square-in-a-Square" scrap quilt in issue #69 of *Traditional Quiltworks* magazine. She writes, "It's nothing fancy, but I used a streak-of-lightening setting, which, when I first got EQ-4, I couldn't figure out how to do! I asked the Info-EQ list for help, and, of course, they came through!

Donna Stenneche, of Gretna, Nebraska, is a double Hoffman Challenge winner. In 1999 her quilt was selected as a Curator's Choice. This year she won 2nd place in the Mixed Quilt Division. I used Sew Precise to size the paper pieced border to exactly fit the perimeter of the quilt, she writes.

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AUTHOR! AUTHOR!

EQ designers write books



Rita Denenberg has used her EQ4 applique-drawing skills to produce a new pattern book for AQS.

Rita's book, *Rhyme Time Blocks*, has applique and embroidery patterns inspired by nursery

rhymes. "It has been a dream of mine to write a quilt book. I scanned my tiny sketches, made them into bitmaps, and pulled them into EQ4 where I worked them up into 12" blocks. I could even see what the finished quilt would look like as illustrated in the book." Congratulations Rita. (If you think Rita's name sounds familiar, you may have used her blocks in EQ4. There are dozens of Rita's applique blocks in the EQ4 Block Library.)

Elizabeth Spannring

uses EQ4 and BlockBase to design quilts for her pattern company, The Plaid Cat. "Ten years ago when I first started quilting I used a pad of graph paper and colored pencils. I thought I was so much more efficient when I bought myself a pack of colored marking pens and could color in the blocks faster!" Elizabeth has put aside colored markers and has published a book



of her designs called, *Cats and Dogs: A Collection of Pet Projects*. For a look at her designs, see her Web site, <http://www.plaidcat.com>

Janet Selck, a designer from W Jordan, Utah, used EQ4 to design all ten quilts for her book, *Reflections*.

A generous quilt maker and a greedy king are the main characters in *The Quiltmaker's Gift*, an award-winning book (that so happens to be full of quilt designs based on *BlockBase*



blocks). The book was written by **Jeff Brumbeau** and illustrated by **Gail de Marcken**. The quiltmaker teaches the King that the more he gives, the more joy he receives. Jeff and Marcia's book has been so sensationally popular (the movie rights have sold, and it ranked in the Publisher's Weekly Top Ten Children's Picture Books for six months) that it's inspired a how-to-make-the-quilts book, *Quilts from The Quiltmaker's Gift* by **Joanne Larsen Line**, **Nancy Loving Tubesing**, and **Gail de Marcken**. The authors have even listed the BlockBase I.D. numbers in the book, to help you BlockBase owners find the blocks.

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BLOCKBASE

4000 Patterns Less Than 2¢ Each

New Software Coming in December 2000



The same patterns that sold in 1928 for 15 cents each are yours in BlockBase for less than 2 cents apiece!

BlockBase, the world's largest and most complete collection of quilt

block patterns, is the CD-ROM Version of [Barbara Brackman's](#) *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*.

No other pattern collection comes close!

BlockBase has virtually **every** pieced block published from 1836-1970 - over 4000 patterns, ready to print as patterns. The Electric Quilt Company has added hundreds of blocks to BlockBase to make sure it contains all pieced blocks from historic collections.



Barbara Brackman

It's easy! Find a block - click on it - choose Print - type the pattern size you want. Print all patterns as templates, or print numbered foundation blocks, or rotary cutting instructions when applicable. Print blocks in color, grayscale or outlines. Export as bitmaps or enhanced metafiles — great for Web graphics or other projects. BlockBase even identifies which blocks are perfect for cutting with Marti Michell's Perfect Plastic Templates!

Special search categories include blocks perfect for:





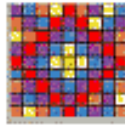
- Reproduction quilts
- Miniature Quilts
- Color studies
- Optical Quilts
- Holidays

Search for:

- States for anniversary or wedding quilts
- Occupations — find symbolic blocks perfect for your favorite lawyer, doctor, teacher or 30 other occupations.
- All star, leaf, tree, flower, airplane, animal, butterfly blocks - or dozens of other searchable categories.

BlockBase Search Results

Making a wedding quilt? BlockBase found these, and dozens more, when we searched by the keyword "Marriage."

 Honeymoon Cottage	 Wedding Chain	 Bridal Stairway
 Bride's Quilt		 Steps to the Altar

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Easy EQ Holiday Card (1 of 2)

Print Right from EQ4

by Diane McEwen-Martin

Here's a lesson on making and printing holiday cards on your computer right from EQ4. No exporting. So quick and easy.



1. In EQ4, name a new project: CARD.
2. click LIBRARIES - Block Library. Click on and copy letters to spell out Happy Holidays. Copy whatever holiday blocks you'd like for the rest of the card. Open the Fabric Library and copy whatever fabrics you'd like.

Suggestions

Letters 1 Classic Pieced/Alphabet (Modified)

Designs 3 Paper Piecing/Holiday Foundations
5 Contemporary Applique/Rita Denenberg Christmas/Hanukkah
5 Contemporary Applique/Christmas

Fabrics Fabric Library/EQ Libraries/EQ3 Designer Fabrics/Benartex/Favorite Things
Fabric Library/EQ Libraries/EQ3 Packet Fabrics/Homespun Holidays
Fabric Library/EQ Libraries/EQ3 Packet Fabrics/Cranberry Christmas
STASH Fall 1999/Benartex/Northern Lights
STASH Fall 1999/Benartex/Twelve Days of Christmas
STASH Spring 2000/Northcott/Polar Pals

3. On the WORKTABLE menu, choose Work on Quilt.
4. On the QUILT menu, point to New Quilt, choose Horizontal or Country Set.

Horizontal Set Example

5. Click the Layout tab. Block number: Vertical - 4; Horizontal - 8 (count the number of letters in your longest word and set this number. Block size = 10. Sashing = 0
6. Click the Borders tab. Border style = Corner Blocks Size of border = 5

7. Click the Layer 1 tab. Set blocks into the block spaces, and border corners as desired. Rotate border corners as needed. Color blocks and borders. Save in Sketchbook. Save in Project.

Country Set Example

5. Click the Layout tab. Block size = Width 8.50; Height 11
6. Click the Borders tab. Size of border = 0
7. Click the Layer 1 tab.
8. Click the Paintbrush tool. Color the whole quilt the color you'd like for your card background.
9. Click the Layer 2 tab.
10. Click the Set tool. In the Sketchbook blocks palette, click on the alphabet letter block you want first.
11. Point anywhere on your quilt top, then drag the mouse. A box forms. Your letter block pops into the box when you release the mouse. Don't worry about block size and placement yet.
12. Follow step 11, and set the rest of the letters for your first word. Don't worry about size and placement.
13. On the VIEW menu, have the Graph Pad checked. If it is not checked, click to check it. This puts the Graph Pad on
14. Click the Adjust tool.
15. On the quilt, click the H letter you set. Look at the Size numbers in the Graph Pad. Make these: 1.50 x 2.00. This resizes the block.
16. While the block is still selected, hold down your keyboard SHIFT key as you click on the other letters of your first word. They will all select.
17. Click the Same Size button. All selected blocks will resize to the size of the FIRST block (H, in our example) selected.
18. Next, we'll position letters. Click on the H block, to select it.

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Easy EQ Holiday Card (2 of 2)

19. Note: To position the block, click on the Position arrows. Our example has 5 letters, so we will make the numbers read: .50 (on top) 1.50 (bottom). The H block moves as you click the arrows.

20. Click each of the other letters in your first word and position each according to these numbers. A: 2.00 (top) 1.50 (bottom) P: 3.50 (top) 1.50 (bottom) P: 5.00 (top) 1.50 (bottom) Y: 6.50 (top) 1.50 (bottom)

21. Click the Set tool.

22. Set the letters of your second word, following step #11, above.

23. Click the Adjust tool.

23. Resize one letter, making it 1.00 x 1.25, using the Size arrows, as in following step #15.

24. Hold down your keyboard SHIFT key as you click on the other letters in your second word.

25. Click the Same Size tool.

26. Position the letters by clicking on each letter in turn, and clicking the position arrows. In our example, using "Holidays," the positions would be:

H: .25 (top) 4.50 (bottom) O: 1.25 (top) 4.50 (bottom) L: 2.25 (top) 4.50 (bottom) I: 3.25 (top) 4.50 (bottom) D: 4.25 (top) 4.50 (bottom) A: 5.25 (top) 4.50 (bottom) Y: 6.25 (top) 4.50 (bottom) S: 7.25 (top) 4.50 (bottom)

27. Click the Set tool.

28. Click the Tree (or whatever block you like) in the Sketchbook palette.

29. Set three blocks onto your quilt, following step # 11.

30. Click the Adjust tool.

31. Resize one block, making it 2.00 x 2.50.

32. Hold down the SHIFT key and click the other two blocks, to select them.

33. Click the Same Size tool.

34. Position the center block by clicking on it, and clicking the Position arrows to make it read: 3.25 (top) 7.50 (bottom)

35. Click the tree block to the left.

36. Rotate the block by clicking in the rotate box and typing: -15 (the minus sign makes the block rotate counter-clockwise). While the block is still selected, drag it to position it where you'd like it.

37. Click the tree block to the right.

38. Rotate the block by clicking in the rotate box and typing: 15 (the block will rotate clockwise). While the block is still selected, drag it to position it where you'd like it.

39. Click the Paintbrush tool. Color your blocks as you'd like.

40. Save in Sketchbook.

41. Save the project.

Printing the Horizontal or Country Set cards

1. On the FILE menu, click Page Setup.

2. Set the margins to these sizes:

Left: 4.50 or 4.75 (**Note:** You may need to play with this margin. Increase it if your quilt comes too close to the fold line of your test printout)

Right: .5 Top: 6.00 Bottom: .25 (**Note:** You may need to play with this margin. You do not want the bottom footer words to print. But your printer determines how small your margin may be.)

3. Click OK.

4. On the FILE menu, point to Print, click Quilt.

5. On the Print Quilt box: Uncheck "Print Name" Check "Showing Fabrics"

6. Print a test page. Fold the print page horizontally in half. Then fold it vertically, forming the card. If the left edge comes too close to the fold line, increase the left margin in step #2 and test print again.

Thanks to EQ staff member Diane McEwen-Martin for this idea and design.

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Quilt University Take an EQ4 class online

EQ4 users Lily Kerns and Carol Miller are the headmistresses of a new Quilt University on the Internet, offering on-line quilting classes. One of the most popular classes offered is EQ4 Basics, given by Fran Iverson Gonzalez, author of the beginner's tutorial, EQ4 Simplified. For more information visit Quilt University online at:

<http://www.quiltuniversity.com/>

YesUcan

A Free Electric Quilt Help Database Programmed by Gordon Cooper

YesUcan is a free EQ4 help program you can download from the Electric Quilt Web site. It's full of searchable EQ4 help and hints, created especially for you by EQ user Gordon Cooper, of Omokoroa, New Zealand. Gordon spent months collecting EQ questions, answers and helpful tips from e-mail messages sent through the Electric Quilt e-mail list, Info-EQ. He then created a searchable data base program to hold these messages.



Gordon Cooper

YesUcan is a "stand-alone" program. It does not require links to any other program on your computer. To download or read more about YesUcan, visit this Web page: <http://www.electricquilt.com/yesucan.shtml>

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EQ: A Perfect Tool for the Quilting Professional

by Mary Waller

Mary Waller, of Vermillion, South Dakota, is a teacher/designer who has gotten lots of local newspaper publicity, in part for the many ways she uses EQ. We asked her to share some of her ideas.

As a free-lance quilt designer, instructor and author, EQ is an indispensable part of my business. Here are some ways to you can put EQ to work for your quilting business.

Business Stationary and Promotional Literature

Use EQ with your computer, color printer and specialty papers to promote your business or event. You'll have the flexibility of printing only what you need, and be able to change your content and design quickly and easily.

Nothing commands attention like color, and quilting is an especially visual medium. With today's affordable desktop color printers, it's easy to use EQ blocks and quilts to add color to letterheads, business cards, brochures, newsletters, signs, bookmarks, coupons, articles, patterns and class handouts. You can purchase forms designed for business cards, address labels, certificates and stationary. For high quality presentations and greater durability, print on card stock or cover copy paper to make brochures, signs, posters and the covers of spiral bound books.

If you want to reduce printing costs and time while still using color, print in black on colored paper or specialty papers with printed backgrounds or borders.

For Writing and Teaching

You can draw and color step-by-step diagrams for quilting instructions in EQ, export them to EQ's clipboard, and paste them into a word processing document.

Here's how I made a setting fabric cutting diagram (figure 1) for my Sheepfold/Puss in the Corner quilt (figure 2), with 10" blocks:



Figure 1

I chose the Country Set quilt layout, setting the layout height at 40," with no borders. I do my yardage calculations based on getting 40" of usable width from 45" fabric. I colored the setting squares red. This quilt requires twelve 10-1/2" setting squares, so, I put those squares on the setting 'fabric' / Country Layout first. Fourteen yellow quarter-square triangles are needed. I put three 15" yellow blocks divided into quarter-square triangles on the 'fabric', and one square with two quarter-square triangles and one black half-square triangle that will be left over. Four blue half-square triangles are needed for the corners. I put two 8" blocks divided into half-square triangles on the 'fabric'.

In my instruction book, I illustrate these cutting diagrams using one shade of gray for the cut pieces; I'm sure if I put different colors for the different sizes and shapes, I'd confuse the heck out of the students. And it's more cost-effective to print in gray than color. I also emphasize that the cutting diagrams are shown on a single layer of fabric, not folded with selvedge seven as cutting instructions are usually shown. You can also use Country Set for exploded diagrams illustrating construction techniques. Place blocks, rows of blocks and sections of a quilt wherever you'd like on the quilt. Think of the Country Set layout as the design wall in quilting instructions.

Research and Documentation

If you're a quilt appraiser, restorer or historian, EQ on a laptop computer makes a great research assistant! Add BlockBase and your laptop becomes a powerful and portable tool for researching quilt history and patterns, documentation projects and working on the road. Quilt appraisers can document quilts and search BlockBase for

pattern names. Restorers can outline proposed work on clients' quilts and document restoration. Use EQ to draft patterns from antique quilts; EQ's flexibility is a must in dealing with the inaccuracies in antique quilts that just won't work with today's accurate cutting and piecing techniques.



Figure 2