



MURDER AT MARDI GRAS

sew the quilt to solve the crime!

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fabric selection guide

Choosing the fabric for your mystery quilt is part of the fun! Our finished quilt features a color palette inspired by EITHER the gorgeous facades of historic buildings in the Vieux Carre (the French Quarter) OR by the bold brights of a Mardi Gras Carnival float. Our quilt grows along with the clues as the year progresses--so you never know too much too soon!

In the list on the next page, I have detailed the fabrics required to complete the quilt. The swatch illustrations show solid-color selections to indicate the general color of the fabrics I have used for the master quilt--these are a suggestion only, and are intended to help guide you as you make choices. You are by NO means expected or required to use these colors, this palette, or this cutting guide! Feel free to make your quilt as scrappy as you choose, as the design is very **scrap-friendly**. You can also easily select your fabrics as we go along, once you have seen each block design; it's recommended that the background fabric be the same for consistency, but even that can be made up from various similar prints. Yardages are given for each fabric, and include a small margin for mistake cuts or directional prints. Should you find you have too little of a particular fabric, or too little of a fabric you LOVE and want to use, you can make up the difference with a "near match" so long as the background colors are matched as closely as possible--the block designs will be sashed in the final quilt, so perfect matches aren't necessary.

If you're uncertain what to choose, fabrics can be purchased as the year goes along, if you'd prefer! Most members enjoy the process of selecting their fabrics, but benefit most from remaining flexible and exploring ideas as the quilt blocks unfold.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME the Murder Mystery Quilt has offered TWO full-quilt designs and TWO color palettes! You can choose to make one quilt top only; two quilt tops in the same colors; or two quilt tops in opposite palettes. You can have two complete quilts at the end, or a single reversible quilt. Yardage lists on the next page will each make ONE quilt top. Remember to have fun choosing fabrics, and make a quilt you're going to love!

Finished Quilt Measurements

Each finished quilt top measures approximately 60" x 81" including border, which is a generous lap size.

The designs each include a border. Both quilt tops have identical layout so the two tops can be combined into a reversible quilt. Either design can be made alone with plain backing; yardage for plain backing is given below but should be **omitted** if making a reversible quilt.

Additional Supplies

Backing fabric: approximately 4.75 yards of 45" quilt-weight cotton fabric or 2.5 yards of 108" fabric (this can also be pieced from any remaining fabric on the next page once blocks are complete)--OMIT FOR A REVERSIBLE QUILT, as the second quilt top will serve as the quilt back

Batting: pre-packaged batting measuring at least 62" x 84" (or larger)

Thread: for piecing the blocks and for quilting the final project. These may be different thicknesses of thread, and are likely different colors.

Binding: 3/8 yard of fabric to make bias-cut binding for the finished quilt OR store-bought quilt binding measuring at least 8 yards long

Fusible adhesive: Some blocks have (optional or alternate) applique elements which are best achieved by using a fusible adhesive to prepare the fabric. Something like Heat N Bond Lite is ideal.



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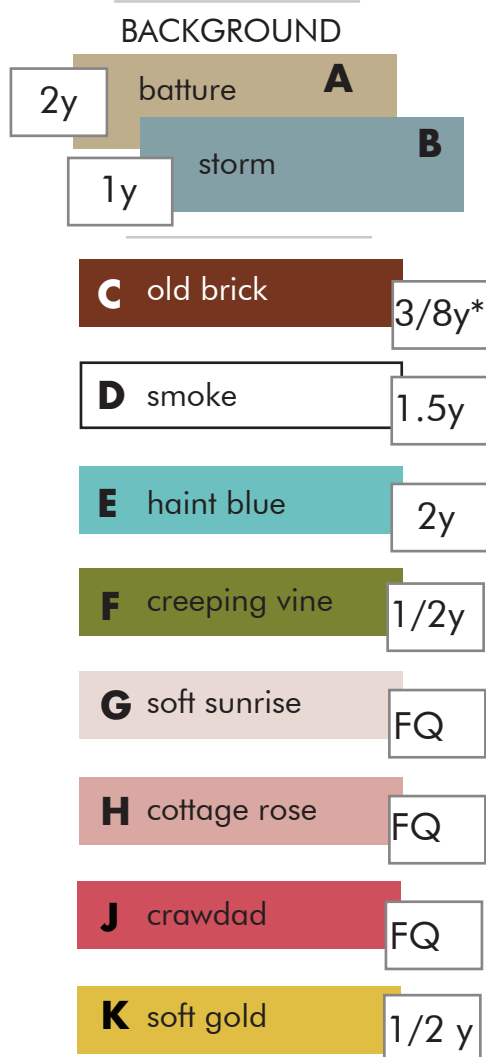
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PATCHWORK PIECED BLOCKS: Makes ONE Quilt Top

Listed below are the colors and amounts needed to complete the traditionally-pieced patchwork block designs. These blocks will be given as cutting measurements and divided by sashing in the finished quilt. Choose EITHER a soft palette made of colors inspired by the French Quarter OR a bright palette inspired by the Carnival floats of a Mardi Gras parade.

FRENCH QUARTER PALETTE

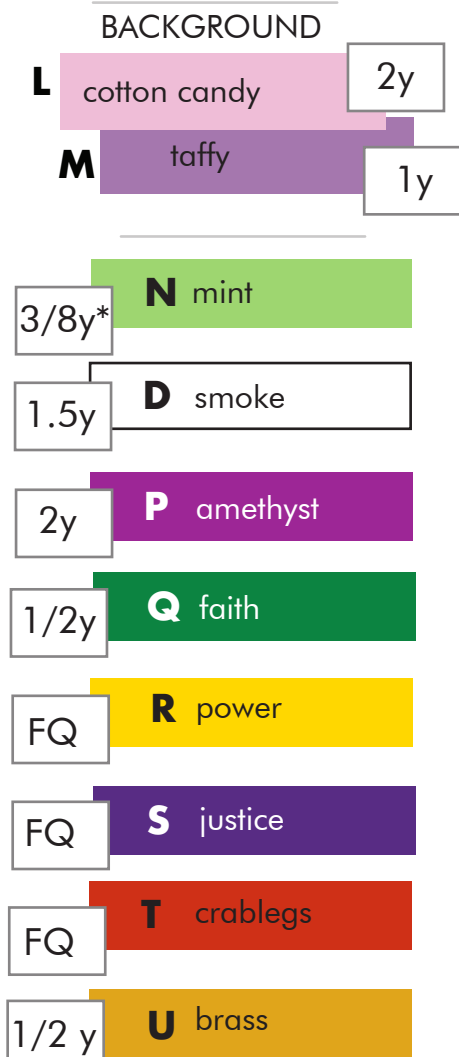
*soft, muted shades with moderate contrast;
storm & haint blue will be seen next to each
other and should be distinct*



OR

CARNIVAL PALETTE

*bold jewel tones in saturated brights;
taffy & amethyst will be seen next to each other
and should be distinct*



There is no letter "i" or letter "o" to avoid confusion with digits 1 and 0.

FQ = fat quarter measures at least 18" x 22"

1/2 y = half yard measures at least 18" x 44"

1y = one yard measures at least 36" x 44" but can be in multiple pieces

When in doubt, feel free to buy a little extra OR use multiple prints to achieve the necessary amount!

* this color is also used for
borders, add 3/4y OR
substitute 3/4y of an alternate
fabric of your choice



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FOUNDATION PAPER PIECED BLOCKS: Makes ONE Quilt Top

Listed below are the colors and amounts needed to complete the FPP (foundation paper pieced) block designs. These blocks will be given as printable paper templates forming iconic symbols inspired by the Mardi Gras season, and divided by sashing in the finished quilt. Choose EITHER a soft palette made of colors drawn from buildings in the French Quarter OR a bright palette inspired by the Carnival floats of a Mardi Gras parade.

FRENCH QUARTER PALETTE

*soft, muted shades with moderate contrast;
soft sunrise & cottage rose will be seen next to each other and should be distinct*

BACKGROUND

2.75y*	batture	A	
2.5y	storm	B	
	C old brick		FQ
	V parchment		FQ
	D smoke		3/4y
	E haint blue		1/2y
	H cottage rose		3/4y
	F creeping vine		1/2 y
	K soft gold		1y
	J crawdad		3/8y
	G soft sunrise		3/4 y

OR

CARNIVAL PALETTE

*bold jewel tones in saturated brights;
two background colors will alternate between neighboring blocks, divided by sashing*

BACKGROUND: choose one pair

2.75y*	taffy	M	OR	2.75y*	N mint
2.5y	cotton candy	L		2.5y	V parchment
FQ	iron	W			
FQ	ash	X			
3/4y	smoke	D			
1/2y	amethyst	P			
3/4 y	justice	S			
1/2 y	faith	Q			
1y	power	R			
3/8y	crablegs	T			
3/4 y	brass	U			

can be metallic, if desired

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My swatches & notes:

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

J

K

L

M

N

P

Q

R

S

T

U

V

W

X

Keep track of your selections by cutting small swatches & stapling them to this guide for reference as the year goes on!

TIP