

Round Robin 2023 – 2024

Around-the-Block

Around-the-Block quilts begin with a theme block that is surrounded by smaller blocks placed “around the block.” The smaller blocks all relate to the theme, subject matter, and color scheme. These quilts have the elements of Round Robin with Borders and applique with the addition of a grid system.

One of the fun aspects of Round Robin Quilt making is that each participant has an active part in the design process for each person’s quilt. The Around-the-Block format also provides this opportunity, but at the end of the rotations, the owner has the option of reorganizing the various blocks created by the participants.

These quilts have various design styles. Some are realistic while others are impressionistic in nature. Still others have a folk-art look, tell a story, or resemble a collage. Both piecing and applique techniques are used to create the components of the quilt top, offering the opportunity to practice a variety of skills. Creativity is encouraged when designing all blocks, whether they are quite simple or very elaborate.

The Around-the-Block Process

The Around-the-Block Round Robin project begins with each participant selecting a theme or subject and making a theme block. This block is then pinned or basted to a piece of flannel/muslin/felt (design grid) that has been marked with a 4” x 4” grid. Following the guidelines each owner prepares a project box that includes the theme block, additional fabric, information and theme resources and grid.

The projects are passed around in a predetermined order of rotation. During each rotation, participants make the required number of 6 – 4” (finished) squares or combination of squares. Some of these smaller squares are special, more elaborate blocks that support the theme and incorporate a specific design element noted for each rotation. They may be pieced or appliqued. The remainder of the blocks serves as background or spacer squares. All small blocks should add to the theme but not outshine it. These smaller blocks are basted anywhere to the design grid in any location the maker desires.

When the projects are returned to the owners, it is the owner’s option to rearrange the blocks. After finalizing the position of the themed block and participants’ blocks, it is often necessary for the owner to make additional blocks to complete the quilt top. Also, no matter how hard one tries to use all of the blocks in the design, sometimes there are a few squares left over. This is an opportunity for the owner to be creative and find another place to use these squares, perhaps in the border or on the back side of the quilt.

If you can’t make the monthly meeting, you need to make prior arrangements to get the current pizza box to the meeting and picking up your next pizza box.

Please reach out to a committee member if you have questions or need help.

Round Robin Committee:

Cherri Hess, Barbara Black, Merry Bush, Jessica Diehl, Barbara Hunt, Sue Seifer

Around-the-Block Guidelines

Size and Format

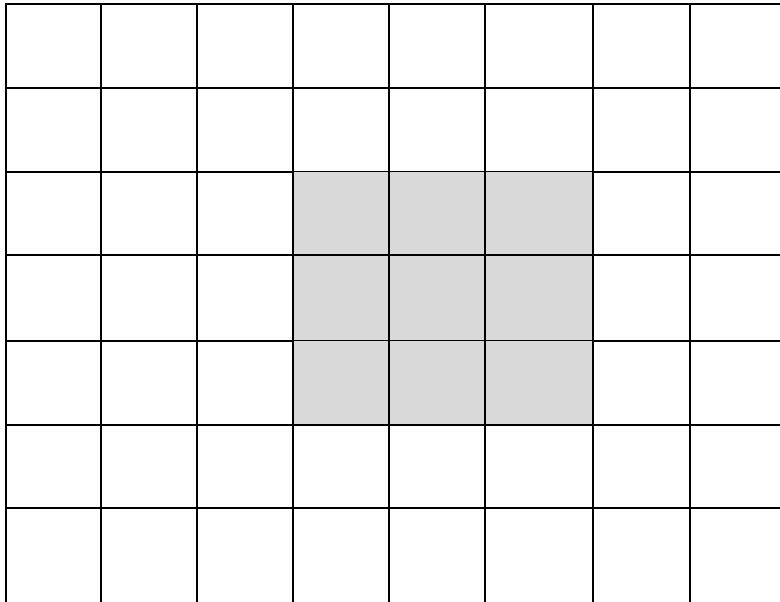
Theme Block size: 12" x 12" (Finished) – (3 x 3 = 9 squares) or a rectangle made up of 12 squares

Finished size of top: 24" x 28" – (6 x 7 squares)

Size of designing grid: 28" x 32" – (7 x 8 squares)

Each participant makes: 6 supporting squares (4" x 4") or combination of squares with each rotation. Include 2 theme accent squares with the design element for that month plus 4 spacer squares.

Owner makes: theme block with 9 blocks and 3 spacer blocks total of 12 squares or equivalent rectangle up to 12 squares



Owner Guidelines:

1. Owner marks a grid of 4" squares on a large piece of flannel/muslin/felt with a permanent marker. Make the total grid size 7 squares by 8 squares to create a design grid. (28" x 32")
2. Owner makes a theme block, with 9 squares (12" x 12" – finished size) plus 3 spacer blocks or equivalent Rectangle with up to 12 squares. Baste these blocks anywhere on the design grid. Then label the top edge of the design grid by writing "top" with a marker.
3. Owner will provide a small journal/notebook that contains some personnel information to introduce yourself to the participants who will be working on your block. Also, provide your reason why you decided on your theme block and color way.
4. Owner will bring the design grid with theme block attached, small journal/notebook, and fabric to prepare a traveling pizza box provided at the October Meeting. Include up to 1 yard of assorted fabrics and ½ yard of the background fabrics. Participants may choose to use your assorted fabrics with theirs in the supporting squares with each rotation.
5. The traveling pizza box will also include the quilt label which owner and participants will sign. Plus, the instructions for each rotation.

Owner keep this set of instructions, Do Not include in pizza box

Around-the-Block Guidelines

Participants Guidelines:

1. Make enough blocks to cover 6 squares on the design grid. Make one to two special accent blocks that carry out the theme and include the recommended monthly design element. Then make some simple spacer blocks.
2. You may combine squares to make a larger block, for example, 4" x 8" or 8" x 8", but don't make too many large blocks for a quilt.
3. Use block designs that are four-patch units. Baste your blocks anywhere on the design grid.
4. It is OK to duplicate other participants' blocks if it will enhance the design.
5. Accuracy is extremely important. All blocks must measure 4 ½" x 4 ½", unfinished.
6. Sign the quilt label with a fabric marker for your rotation number.
7. The box will be returned to the owner in May 2024. The owner can finish the quilt over the summer and bring it to the September Meeting for the Round Robin Reveal!!

Rotation	Pickup Month	Turn in Month	Monthly Design Element
1 st		October 2023	Owner creates the theme block, plus 3 supporting blocks and design grid. Or rectangle for total of 12 blocks
2 nd	October 2023	November 2023	Squares or Rectangles
3 rd	November 2023	January 2024	Applique
4 th	January 2024	February 2024	Curves
5 th	February 2024	March 2024	Triangles
6 th	March 2024	April 2024	Quilter's Choice
7 th	April 2024	May 2024	Embellishments
	May 2024		Box returned to Owner
	September 2024		Round Robin Reveal !!!

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DO NOT remove this instruction sheet from the pizza box