

Pattern of the Month - May 2014

By Evelyn George

"Gypsy Coins" - 40" x 50"

LAP SIZE -perfect for a charity quilt! Make one for giving, or if you just love scrappy, make it for yourself. Use assorted prints for the coin rows, which are quickly made from strip sets.

Directions are given for using either full width of fabric (WOF) strips, or half-strips cut from fat quarters (FQ's).

<u>Fabrics</u>

9 assorted 4" x WOF strips (OR 5 FQ's) (for coins)

(9 different fabrics are shown here, but repeats are OK)

1½ yards sashing and border fabric

1½ yards backing fabric (42" x 54")

(no binding needed if quilt is enveloped)



Cutting

Cut one 4" x WOF strip each from 9 assorted fabrics (need 9 strips total); if using Fat Quarters, cut them into 4" x 20" strips (need 18 total). Cut the sashing and border fabric <u>lengthwise</u> into 6 strips $4\frac{1}{2}$ " wide x 45" long (they will be trimmed to exact lengths later).

Sewing: The "coin" rows are made from strip sets.

Using the 9 assorted strips, make 3 strip sets with 3 strips in



each set. Press seams in one direction. (If using shorter strips, from FQ's, make 6 strip sets.) Cut strip sets into $8\frac{1}{2}$ " wide sections (4 per strip set, total of 12 from all 3 sets).

(If using FQ's, you'll only get 2 sections per strip set, total of 12 from all 6 sets.)

Combine 4 assorted sections to make a scrappy vertical row of "coins"; make 3 rows with 12 coins in each). See quilt illustration, top of page.

Alternating 4 sashing strips and 3 coin rows, sew vertical rows together. (This includes the side borders, which are the same size as the sashing strips.) Trim ends to straighten and even them up. Add top and bottom borders last. Trim corners to square them up.

To finish the quilt using the envelope method, layer in this order:

1. Batting 2. Backing (right side up) 3. Quilt Top (right side down, facing the backing) Pin together around edges, and stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from edge of quilt top, <u>leaving an 8" opening for turning</u>. Trim off excess batting and backing, turn right side out, with batting inside. Stitch opening closed. Topstitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " around edges. Tie or tack layers together at intervals of about 4" apart.

---Or, if you prefer, layer, quilt and bind in the usual manner.