

WELCOME!

Congratulations on your decision to learn to quilt! Nothing says I LOVE YOU like the gift of a quilt.

I am going to take you through the exciting journey of making your first quilt. The best news is that learning to quilt is easy! Just remember, good habits = beautiful quilts.

Let's start with some basics:

ELEMENTS OF THIS QUILT

- Blocks
 - Inner Border
 - Outer Border
 - Backing
 - Binding
- Kits for this quilt are available at ShabbyFabrics.com!
Kits include exclusive **bonus project!**

For use with the
LEARN TO QUILT
Video 1 - Intro to Quilting
featured on our YouTube channel:



[YouTube.com/Shabby Fabrics](https://www.youtube.com/ShabbyFabrics)

*Subscribe to our
YouTube channel so you
don't miss a single video!*

SUPPLIES

- Sewing Machine
- Iron and Ironing Board
- Cutting Mat 24" x 36"
- Rotary Cutter 45mm*
- Scissors*
- 4½" x 8½" Creative Grids Ruler*
- Glass Head Patchwork Pins*
- Magnetic Pin Cushion*
- Seam Ripper*
- 100% Cotton Thread*
- FriXion® Pen*

* Included in the **Basic Notions Kit** from [Shabby Fabrics.com](http://ShabbyFabrics.com)
Save 10% on retail price of these notions and get a
free 2½" x 6½" Shabby Fabrics ruler and ball point pen

SUMMARY FROM VIDEO:

FABRIC

- Quilting fabric is 100% cotton, and comes in both printed and woven varieties
- Top Quality vs Cheap - you get what you pay for!
- Color and texture are the most exciting parts of quilting. The possibilities are endless!
- Scale (choose a variety of print sizes)
 - Large florals, small prints, stripes, dots, plaids, solid, mottled, tone on tone, miniatures
- Pre-Cuts: Jelly Rolls, Charms, Mini Charms, Layer Cakes, Fat Quarters (FQ), Fat Eighths (F8)
 - Precision Cut
 - Save Time
 - Get a piece of every fabric in a collection
 - Finish your project sooner

Shop Pre-Cuts at ShabbyFabrics.com:
Go to Fabrics > Pre-Cuts

FABRIC STASH

Quilt fabric collections are available for a VERY limited time. You should buy fabric for an entire quilt all at once.

When you find a fabric you like, buy it now, and save it for later! This is known as a Fabric Stash.

- If you like it = buy 1 yard
- If you love it = buy 2 yards
- If you can't live without it = buy 5 yards

SEWING MACHINES

Careful! You'll get what you pay for! If you are using a machine that has been handed down, get it serviced before you begin.

I recommend buying from a local dealer because:

- Classes usually available
- Easy servicing (once a year)
- Warranty

Needs to have 3 basic stitches:

- Straight Stitch
- Zig Zag Stitch
- Blanket Stitch (sometimes called a Buttonhole Stitch)

Take the time to learn to use your machine

- It's very important to thread your machine exactly as instructed.
- Thread is the glue that holds your quilt together! Use high-quality thread. We recommend MasterPiece by Superior Threads. Throw out old and poor-quality thread.
- Wind bobbins as instructed; these affect your tension!
- Marking ¼" or using ¼" presser foot is essential for an accurate ¼" seam.

LET'S BEGIN CUTTING!

Remember: Accuracy matters!

Hold the cutter in your right hand, and secure the ruler with your left hand, little finger over edge to stabilize. If you are left handed, simply reverse the process. **Remember to close your blade when you're done cutting. It's very dangerous if left open!**

Let's make a practice cut. Cut a 2" strip with a long, easy motion. Sub-cut several rectangles, making sure to cut off selvages.

LET'S SEW!

Always start a new project with a new, sharp needle.

Establish a ¼" seam allowance. This is one of the most important aspects of quilting. We recommend using a ¼" presser foot. Get one if you can! If not:

- Use small ruler. Place it under the presser foot on your machine. Slowly lower the needle to the ¼" mark.
- Line up ruler with marks on your stitch plate so it's square. Mark this with several strips of blue painters tape.

Sew two strips Right Sides Together (RST) with a ¼" seam, guiding your fabric along the mark.

PRESS SEAMS _____

Ironing: Use Magic Sizing on the wrong side of fabric, and iron out wrinkles and folds.

Pressing: Set seam.

Open and finger press seam flat. Press seam.

Your sewn strips should now measure 3½" wide. If not, double check your strips are cut to exactly 2" wide and your seam allowance is exactly ¼" wide.

SEAM RIPPING (OR "UN-SEWING") _____

The object is to remove stitches quickly and efficiently without stretching the fabric

- Use seam ripper to cut every 3-4 stitches
- Pull bobbin thread to remove

YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY! _____

You now have some basic information so you can practice, practice, practice!

In the next video, we will make the first block. See you then!

FOUR ELEMENTS OF QUILTING

Quality Fabric ✓

Accurate Squaring and Cutting ✓

Accurate ¼" Seams ✓

Accurate Pressing ✓

LEARN TO
QUILT
Beginner Quilt

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