**Quilt in a Box Guidelines**

**2023**

Choose your own fabric. The suggested minimum follows:

Background Fabric – 2 yards

Focus fabric – one yard (If using this for borders, you will need more fabric. I recommend you cut your borders first and keep them at home.)

Three or four (or more) coordinating or blender fabrics – one yard of each fabric

If you will be using these fabrics for sashing, borders, binding, etc. you might want more yardage, but keep the extra at home. Or you can go scrappy and include lots of fabrics.

Pre-wash and iron all fabric (your choice if you usually wash your fabrics) and put them in a box **(I am recommending that everyone use a 14 x 14 plastic project box, this makes it easier to tote boxes home from meetings.)** Put a legend including swatches attached to the inside lid describing your background and focus fabrics, make note if there is a fabric you want used sparingly or if other fabrics may be used.

**Remember to respect the box owner’s choices re: background, focus fabrics, etc.** I will provide you with two lists of names, phone numbers and email addresses of your group members. One list will be taped to the top of the box. I suggest you use the other copy of the list at home to cross off those boxes you have finished. It also helps to pin a small piece of paper with the owner’s name to each block as you finish them. I use address labels and write recipients name on label.

Chose the block you will make for each box. It can be machine pieced, hand pieced or appliqued. Blocks should measure 12 ½” square unfinished so they will finish at 12” square. We will end up with a sampler type quilt top so different styles are OK. When you finish a block, keep it at home. Do not send it along with the box of fabric.

Try to finish in a month so that the boxes can keep moving around the group. If you are not at a meeting, try to call someone on the list and arrange to exchange boxes. Please do not take more than one box at a meeting unless no one is taking a particular box. Also, please do not keep a box for more than one month. We hope to have this finished in a year.

At the end, we’ll have a “big reveal” get-together and everyone will bring the blocks they have made and exchange blocks at that time.

It can be challenging to work with someone else’s color choices, but it is good for all of us to “work outside of the box!” Best of all – **HAVE FUN!!!**

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