

## Magic Carpet Mystery QAL

Magic Carpet by Shel Silverstein

You have a magic carpet  
That will whiz you through the air,  
To Spain or Maine or Africa  
If you just tell it where.

So will you let it take you  
Where you've never been before,  
Or will you buy some drapes to match  
And use it on your floor?

### Quilt-a-long Intro - What is a Mystery QAL?

A mystery quilt is a quilt you start without knowing what the finished design will look like. Instructions are provided each month throughout the course of the mystery giving you very little idea of the finished design until the final month which is called 'the reveal'.

Mysteries are a good way to select fabrics outside of your normal comfort zone, or use up those 'What was I thinking!' yards of fabric in your stash, and can be good skill builders for those fairly new to quilting.

The Magic Carpet Mystery QAL will run from **May through November (I have the mystery ending a month earlier than I'd planned simply because December is such a busy month for most and this way will give a bit more time to finish your quilt before the Jan 2019 meeting)** with each set of instructions posted to the website and a link to the website on our Facebook group the first Monday of every month. Those who 'solve' the mystery can share their quilts at the 'reveal' showing at our Jan. 2019 monthly guild meeting.

The mystery quilt will finish at approximately 72" x 72", a good medium size which has many uses. You can add extra blocks to make a larger size if you wish; I do not recommend going smaller as the overall design will be impacted. You will need only 4 fabrics for the top, about 6 yds total – raid your stash!

The pattern is not hard and is should be doable by those at an intermediate to advanced beginner level and beyond. Even those who are beyond beginner level will have fun doing the mystery because mysteries are just plain fun! The pattern has no applique, Y-seams, curves or paper piecing, nothing scary!

## Fabric Requirements:

The **Magic Carpet Mystery** quilt uses **4 Fabric Sets** (A, B, C, and D). For each of these sets you may use a single fabric or a combination of fabrics. Listed below are the amounts of fabric needed for each set if using a **single fabric** per set. In parentheses is listed the color which will be used to represent the fabric set in future months' instructions. Yardage amounts shown below are **ONLY** for the top. For binding - approx.  $\frac{3}{4}$  - 1 yd, for backing approx. 4 1/2 - 5 yds (can be pieced from multiple fabrics), please plan your fabric purchases (or pulls from your stash) accordingly.

**Fabric Set A** – 1 yard (Shown as **pink** in the future pattern instructions)

**Fabric Set B** – 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  yards (Shown as **yellow** in the future pattern instructions)

**Fabric Set C** – 1  $\frac{7}{8}$  yards (Shown as **purple** in the future pattern instructions)

**Fabric Set D** – 2  $\frac{1}{8}$  yards (Shown as **white** in the future pattern instructions)

## Fabric Selection Tips:

I have seen many quilts made with this mystery pattern, all turned out AMAZING no matter the fabric used with the exception of a couple which were made with 2 or more fabrics with very large printed motifs, and those with 2 or more fabrics with the same value = 2 medium values next to one another etc. However, to help ensure that you are happy with the final quilt design here are some fabric selection tips and hints:

1. Fabrics A and B will be next to each other, Fabrics B and C will be next to each other, and Fabrics C and D will be next to each other. **Please test these fabric set pairs to make sure there is enough distinction and contrast between the fabric sets.** A good way to see if your fabrics have enough of a value spread is to place your fabric choices side by side, overlapping. Take a photo on your cell phone from about 15 feet away. The photo will give a good idea if one or more of your fabric choices are too similar to another.
2. If you are going to go with a scrappy look for any of the fabric sets, some of the fabric in the sets will require larger fabric cuts (up to 19" wide) so make sure you have larger scraps to cut from. **\*Hint:** Scrappy works well if you keep the fabrics in a set (A, B, C or D) to all one color range, ie: all medium value reds or all dark value greens etc.
3. The fabric yardage amounts listed above are for a single fabric, if using a combination of fabrics for the fabric sets, please add  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 additional yard due to cutting waste.

4. Be sure to use a consistent scant  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance in the construction of all units! Failure to keep the seam allowance consistent will make the units smaller/larger than the desired result. If you do not know how to test your machines settings/foot combo for a scant  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch there are excellent tutorials online , such as this one: [SCANT 1/4 INCH TUTORIAL](#)

**Now let's get ready to solve the mystery!**



**MAY – 1<sup>st</sup> CLUE**

### Cutting Instructions

The cutting instructions contain both a listing of pieces by size for cutting from multiple fabrics and cutting instructions for each set using a **single fabric**. Please note that if using the cutting instructions for a single fabric, in some cases a few extra pieces will be cut than needed in the pattern. **\*\*HINT-** To keep track of all the different sets/pieces be sure to label them as you cut! Keep all set's pieces together in a large zip-loc or other container.

**Fabric Set A** (shown as pink in future illustrations)

Number of pieces needed:

Piece Count	Piece Size
8	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
2	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
36	4" x 4"

Cutting instructions if cutting from a **single fabric**:

1. Cut 2 strips 6  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF

- a. Cut 1 strip into 6 squares ( $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ ).
  - b. Cut 1 strip into 2 squares ( $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ ) and 2 rectangles ( $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$ ).
2. Cut 4 strips  $4'' \times \text{WOF}$ 
    - a. Cut each strip into  $4'' \times 4''$  squares (10 per strip) for a total of 36 squares ( $4'' \times 4''$ ).

**Fabric Set B** (shown as yellow in future illustrations)

Number of pieces needed:

Piece Count	Piece Size
9	$7'' \times 7''$
34	$4\frac{3}{4}'' \times 4\frac{3}{4}''$
4	$4'' \times 4''$

Cutting instructions if cutting from a **single fabric**:

1. Cut 2 strips  $7'' \times \text{WOF}$ 
  - a. Cut each strip into  $7'' \times 7''$  squares (5 per strip) for a total of 9 squares ( $7'' \times 7''$ ).
2. Cut 5 strips  $4\frac{3}{4}'' \times \text{WOF}$ 
  - a. Cut 4 strips each into  $4\frac{3}{4}'' \times 4\frac{3}{4}''$  squares (8 per strip) for 32 squares ( $4\frac{3}{4}'' \times 4\frac{3}{4}''$ ).

**Continued>**

- b. Cut 1 strip into 2 additional squares ( $4\frac{3}{4}'' \times 4\frac{3}{4}''$ ) squares and use the remainder of the strip to cut 4 squares ( $4'' \times 4''$ ).

**Fabric Set C** (shown as purple in future illustrations)

Number of pieces needed:

Piece Count	Piece Size
9	$7\frac{1}{4}'' \times 7\frac{1}{4}''$
38	$4'' \times 4''$
18	$13'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$
18	$7'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$

Cutting instructions if cutting from a **single fabric**:

1. Cut 2 strips 7 ¼" x WOF
  - a. Cut each strip into 7 ¼" x 7 ¼" squares (5 per strip) for a total of 9 squares (7 ¼" x 7 ¼").
2. Cut 4 strips 4" x WOF
  - a. Cut each strip into 4" x 4" squares (10 per strip) for a total of 38 squares (4" x 4")
3. Cut 9 strips 3 ½" x WOF
  - a. Cut each strip into 2 rectangles (13" x 3 ½") and 2 rectangles (7" x 3 ½") for a total of 18 rectangles (13" x 3 ½") and 18 rectangles (7" x 3 ½").

**Fabric Set D** (shown as white in future illustrations)

Number of pieces needed:

Piece Count	Piece Size
38	4" X 4"
18	19" x 3 ½"
18	13" x 3 ½"

Cutting instructions if cutting from a **single fabric**:

1. Cut 4 strips 4" x WOF
  - a. Cut each strip into 4" x 4" squares (10 per strip) for a total of 38 squares (4" x 4").
2. Cut 15 strips 3 ½" x WOF
  - a. Cut 9 strips each into 2 rectangles (19" x 3 ½") for a total of 18 rectangles (19" x 3 ½").
  - b. Cut 6 strips each into 3 rectangles (13" x 3 ½") for a total of 18 rectangles (13" x 3 ½").