

## Plaid is the New Black

Modern meets country here using solid color fabrics and woven plaids. You even learn to upcycle shirts! Tartans, checks, plaids are the scrap quiltmaker's friend. Effectively combine them with plains, solids, chambrays, and Shot Cottons for really graphic patchwork blocks. Note: the two patterns of this project are variations on traditional patchwork blocks.

In the morning session we'll cut two templates (other shapes cut using rotary cutter) and machine sew a pattern that's a variation on *Storm at Sea*. I call it the *Diamond Path* block but the Victorians called it *Vestibule*. Ideally, you will have time to sew this block and trace/cut templates for the afternoon session.

The afternoon block is a compass-like pattern originally called *Star of the West*. With its extra points, its new name is *Slashed Star of the West*. Both blocks measure 16" square when finished. Pepper's sample quilt has no sashing or borders but you can add if you want to size the project differently.

**Required Kit** – You'll pay Pepper for this at the beginning of class. Kit costs \$8 and includes lots of pages of instructions, full-size pattern, and a sheet of template plastic. Note that the curved shapes around the compass patchwork are the same as the shape used in an 8" Drunkard's Path block. **I can have those templates custom-cut for every student who wants them for an additional \$19. Would like to know about custom-cut templates at least 6 weeks ahead of time so I can order them – Please email Gay at [info@sentimentalstitches.net](mailto:info@sentimentalstitches.net) if you'd like to order a set.**

Bring to class: Sewing machine in good working condition threaded with neutral-color thread like charcoal grey. Fabric and paper scissors. Rotary cutter and mat. Long thin straight pins (like Flowerhead by Clover). Ultra fine-point black Sharpie pen. Mechanical pencil. Small assortment colored pencils. Rolling chalk wheel (white or grey)—trade name Chaconer by Clover. Notebook. Camera/phone.

Fabrics: wide assortment (at least 12) of plaids (think different scale, lights and darks, different styles) in at least FQ size. Plus at least five different solid colors (FQ's). Note: 'solids' can mean textured solids such as shot cottons and yarn-dyes. More fabric choices always welcome. Note: these should, for maximum precision piecing, be washed-dried-ironed prior to class.

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