Sears

CENTURY OF PROGRESS
IN
QUILT MAKING

You can "bake a sweet cake" ... but can you "sew a fine seam?" If so, take your place among the geniuses of the world, for quiltmaking has again come into its own, is again one of the "fine arts."

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.
Were You There?

ABOUT 5,000,000 persons visited Sears national prize winning quilt exposition at A Century of Progress, probably the most priceless collection of hand-made quilts ever gathered under one roof. If you were among the 5,000,000 this book will recall vividly your breath-taking admiration of the most exquisite, perfect examples of the handicraft of quilt-making.

You will live again the happy hours spent in comparing, memorizing, exclaiming over the beauty of color, originality of pattern, fine stitches and elegance of the quilting designs. They seemed like living, breathing things; certainly they were works of art to be prized for generations to come.

If you are one of the millions who stayed close to "the home shore" and did not "do the fair"... never mind, here are some of the prize winning patterns, some of the most famous and sought-after quilting designs.

Choose an "original"; choose a new interpretation of a history-old pattern . . . . but whatever you do, MAKE A QUILT. It's the fashion, expresses your own individuality in glorious colors and the finest of fine stitches.
Quilt Making

...a romantic legacy of Ancient Arts

While the art of applique and patchwork comes to us from ancient Egypt and the Early Chinese, America is more concerned with the art as dating from our early Colonial days. Quilt-making was originally classed among the fine arts, one of the luxuries enjoyed only by the nobility. But in the pioneer days of early America quilt-making became a necessity, unrestricted to class. And for the reason that blankets (the soft, fluffy blankets as we know them) were unknown, quilts were a part of every woman's home planning.

The scrap-bag won an honored place in every home. Many of the old quilts, because of the varied materials and unrelated color combination, could lay claim to beauty only because of their fine quilting. Good quilters were always in demand, especially on "bridal" quilts.

In the last few years quilt-making has revived, not as a necessity, but again taking its place among the fine arts. Everywhere one sees groups of women making quilts, joyous old time neighborliness is again binding our women together. Patterns are exchanged, notes compared and materials traded. And so to this growing neighborliness we dedicate this book...MAKE A QUILT!!!

The quilting design should harmonize with the pattern of the quilt. Confine fancy designs to floral patterns; use the tailored quilting designs for the quilt of triangles and squares.

Choose your pattern, decide on your quilting design, select your material and get started on your quilt...we know it will be a beauty!!

Sears for Quilt Supplies

CONTAINED in this book are eleven authentic quilt patterns with exact cutting patterns for each part of every pattern and accurately detailed instructions for making. It is fascinating work—the more quilts you make, the more interesting the work becomes. Don't delay, join the multitude who are finding happiness and a profitable pastime in the art of quilt-making. And being a full-fledged quilt-maker, you'll have need for:

- Quilt Blocks, stamped and ready to sew.
- Quilt Patterns.
- Quilt Pieces.
- Quilting Needles.
- Quilting Thread, (a left-twist thread.)
- Quilt Bindings.
- Bias Tape.
- Tracing Pencils. (Page 22 of this book)
- Quilting Hoop, 23 inches in diameter.
- Clamps for quilting frames.
- Pastoral Cloth, guaranteed fast colors.
- Paradise Prints, guaranteed fast colors.
- Plain Percale, wash-fast, boil-fast.
- Needlethrift Muslin.
- Nainsooks.
- Longcloths.
- Quilt Backs (all in one piece.)
- China Cotton Batting (72 x 90 and 84 x 100 inches.)
- Quilters’ Delight (72 x 90 and 84 x 100 inches.)

All of which you will find by referring to the Index of our big General Catalog or by inquiring at one of Sears Retail Stores.
Perforated Quilting Patterns

No more tiresome marking of quilts in the old-fashioned way. Stamp them quickly by using these perforated patterns. We have selected a dozen of the most popular designs. They are nearly and accurately perforated on a specially prepared, tough but transparent paper, and can be used many times with stamping paste. Instructions for stamping come with each pattern. The actual size of each perforated pattern is given but they can be used on larger blocks. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 2 ounces.

Stamping Wax—Yellow or Black

What’s Worth Doing Is Worth Doing Well

A few “do’s” and a few “don’ts”

QUILT should be a work of art….even as a great painting. Colors should be selected for their suitability to the design, for their harmonious or contrasting relation to other colors, and quite the most important….for their enduring fastness to light and washing.

Extreme care should be used in piecing and setting the quilt together. Edges must be matched, seams must be uniform, designs perfectly balanced and stitches must be fine….the very finest of the fine! The border serves as the frame of the quilt and should be in keeping with the design.

Good materials….not necessarily the most expensive, but good, substantial materials should be used. It’s a waste of time and energy to work with poor materials.

Most quilters prefer cotton batting for filling; the resilient fluffiness of the cotton batting filling gives the desired “raised” effect so necessary to the perfect quilt, enhancing the design and making it stand out in high relief.

Never use lead pencils in marking a quilt, as in quilting the thread carrying back and forth through the pencil marks transfers the lead through to the cotton; many washings are necessary to remove lead marks.

A “left-hand” thread is always stronger for quilting and does not easily snarl.
An "Original" Design—and it's a beauty!

This design won a regional prize in the national contest. It's easy to piece and especially lovely in pink and white. Smart with any type of room furnishings. Good choice for the woman seeking something NEW.

Material Required

3 3/4 yards of white.
2 1/4 yards of pink.
1 bolt of quilt binding.
Blocks finish 12 inches square.
21 pieced blocks.
21 plain blocks.
7-inch border, made as shown here.
Finished size of quilt 71 x 90 inches.
Allow for all seams.

Bleeding Hearts

An Applique Design—elaborate but not difficult. Bleeding hearts, realistic as though they emerged from grandmother's own garden. Their lovely coloring and quaint shape hold charm for us all. Combined in a dainty basket with daisies, they're most effective against dark green leaves.

Material Required

7 yards of color for background.
1 3/4 yards of white.
1 yard of green.
1 1/4 yard of deep rose.
1/2 yard of yellow.
2 bolts of bias tape for baskets.
1 bolt of bias tape for stems.
Blocks finish 14 inches square.
30 blocks to quilt.
Add 6-inch border all sides.
Add 1 1/2 yards extra for border.
Allow for all seams.

Pillow Outfit to Match

Complete pillow outfit to match this spread. Ready cut patches with top and back of good quality percale to make pillow about 18 x 18 inches. Order by number and state name of pattern desired. Not prepaid. Shipping weight, 6 ounces.

25 A47100—Each ........50c
Material Required
- 7 yards of white.
- 1 1/2 yards of rose.
- 1 yard of pink.
- 1 yard of green.
- 1 yard of pink print.
- 2 bolts of green bias tape.
- 1 bolt of green quilt binding.

Tea Rose
... another prize winner

An old design rich in memories. Favorite of early quilter-makers, of the many tea rose quilts still in existence, most of them are fashioned of prints. In ye olde days, plain colors of the softer shades were not obtainable in fast colors. Now, thanks to science, we can select the most delicate of shades with full assurance that they will be bright, fresh, clear-colored after many washings. You'll get much joy in making Tea Rose and its lovely trailing border.

A quilt of this design won first prize in the Minneapolis Region, in the National Quilt Contest. So many requests have reached us for the pattern, we felt our book would not be complete without it.

Blocks finish 14 inches square.
9 blocks to the quilt. 10-inch border all around.
Allow for all seams.

Tea Rose Pillow Outfit to Match
Complete pillow outfit to match this spread. Ready cut patches with top and back of good quality percale to make pillow about 18 x 18 inches. Order by number and state name of pattern desired. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 6 ounces.
35A.47200-Each... 50c
Bowl of Flowers

... Beautilous and fascinating to make

Comparatively a newcomer, but what a popular, successful newcomer! Several Bowl of Flowers entered in the national quilt contest, two taking regional prizes. One of the winners was unusually attractive with the bowl in two shades of blue, flowers in pink with yellow centers.

An unusual design... the roses are shirred on to the yellow centers, each individual petal is padded so it stands out in bold relief. Try it!

Material Required

- 7 yards of white
- 1½ yards of yellow for centers
- 1 yd. of green
- 1½ yards of light blue for bowls
- ½ yd. of dark blue for base of bowls
- 1 bolt of green bias tape for stems

Allow for all seams.

Blocks finish 14 inches square. 13 pieces blocks to quilt, 10-inch border, made as shown in small sketch.

Martha’s Vineyard

... winner of many prize ribbons

Another favorite in the National Contest, and such a wealth of ingenuity used in the selection of color effects! Surely a beauty, winning hearts right and left, proved by the fact that almost every quilt of this design won a ribbon of some sort. Wouldn’t it be perfect on an old maple bed... on any bed for that matter!

This is an appliquéd design. In turning in edges of small circles, cut circles of paper finished size and press cloth over the paper with a warm iron. In this way all circles will be finished true. Lengths of stems are given in pattern, but only for size. Use bias tape.

Material Required

- 7 yards of white
- ½ yard of purple
- ½ yard of lavender
- 2½ yards of green
- 3 bolts of green bias tape

Allow for all seams, unless shown marked on pattern.
Colonial Rose

... do you wonder it was a prize winner?

Adorably quaint, Colonial Rose proudly carries its full history in the title. Handed down from early colonial days, this demure design has retained all the intrinsic beauty of the original, unchanged through the years.

Of course it took a worthwhile ribbon in the National Quilt Contest. It never loses its power to charm, particularly when fashioned in soft pink and rose shades.

Material Required

7 yards of white.
2 yards of pink.
1 yard of rose.
3/5 yard of green.

Blocks finish 16 inches square.
10 pieced blocks.
20 plain blocks.
20-inch border all sides.

Colonial Rose Border

Applique on white border, applying the buds as shown in the small sketch at the right.

Set together with alternate blocks of white before adding the border.

Pillow Outfit to Match

Complete pillow outfit to match this spread. Ready-cut patches with top and back of good quality percale to make pillow about 18 x 18 inches. Order by number and state name of pattern desired.

Nor. Prepaid. Shipping weight, 6 ounces.

25457200—Each........ 50c
Iris
... a regal beauty of gorgeous color

New... and in the National Contest it received one of the coveted prizes. Here's one to try your mettle, but oh what joy to display the finished quilt to admiring guests!

Reversing the colors in each block will add to the attractiveness of the quilt.

The small sketch shows how the block is made, also the border. Blocks finish 16 inches square, 20 pieced blocks (or it can be made with 10 pieced blocks and 10 plain blocks).

Allow for all seams.

Materials Required
- 7 yards of white.
- 3/4 yard of green.
- 1/4 yard of orchid.
- 3/4 yard of lavender.
- 3/4 yard of light purple.
- 3/4 yard of dark purple.
- 1 bolt green bias tape.
- 1 bolt green quilt binding.

Bias tape to match the shade used in the leaves should be used for stems.

Pillow Outfit to Match
Complete pillow outfit to match this spread. Ready cut patches with top and back of good quality percale to make pillows about 18x18 inches. Order by number and state name of pattern desired. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 6 ounces.

25A47200—Each 50c
Autumn Leaves

you can almost hear them rustle!

Meaning this popular "Autumn Leaves" applique quilt of course; well done, it seemed a sure-fire prize winning entry in the National Quilting Contest. Several of them carried away fine prizes. Formerly this appealing pattern was called "Thousand Leaves," probably because about a thousand pieces as outlined below went into the design. Or, in working them out, they may have only seemed like a thousand! If you have ever seen the exquisite colorful effect of a finished original, you never guessed they were so easy to make. Make one of yours "Autumn Leaves."

"Autumn Leaves," as we have told you, is not a block quilt, but a "Top Quilt" or a "Lap Quilt," as our grandmothers were wont to call it. In making, sew the top together, then measure top and applique the design as shown here.

One as lovely as this surely deserves a more sedate name for a "best quilt." Call it a "counterpane," and each leaf will seem to go on easier!

Material Required

7 yards of white.
3 yards of assorted prints.
3 bolts of green bias tape for stems.

The design can be varied by adding a 2-inch strip of green between the quilt and the border, and binding the outer edge of the quilt with green quilt binding.

Allow for all seams.

Pillow Outfit to Match

Complete pillow outfit to match this spread. Ready cut patches with top and back of good quality percale to make pillow about 18x18 inches. Order by number and state name of pattern desired. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 6 ounces. 55A47200—Each 50c

Louisiana Rose

... graced the boudoir of Southern belles

Isn't it impressive and strong and reliant!! This pattern takes its title from the state where it originated. Fashioned in soft, delicate shades of rose and green, it won a prize in the National Quilt Contest. Prude yourself on your "tiny fine stitches" . . . here's an applique design that will do them justice!!!

Material Required

7 yards of white.
1 1/2 yards of green.
1 1/2 yards of light green.
1 1/2 yards of rose.
1 1/2 yards of pink.
2 bolts of green bias tape for stems.

As block and border are made.
(Center stem on border, 4 inches long on sides; 7 inches at corners.)

Pillow Outfit to Match

Complete pillow outfit to match this spread. Ready cut patches with top and back of good quality percale to make pillow about 18x18 inches. Order by number and state name of pattern desired. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 6 ounces. 55A47202—Each 50c

Blocks finish 18 inches square. 1 1/2-inch border, all size. 10 plain blocks. Made of cotton percale only.

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PAGE NINETEEN
Delectable Mountains

Dates back to the early Colonial days. Created by the invalid wife of a New Jersey minister, this design takes its title from John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress." Few quilts of this pattern are in evidence today, probably due to the extreme care and precision necessary to piece it. All seams and corners must be matched perfectly, otherwise it loses the perfect symmetry which is its greatest charm. It's hard to imagine anything more perfect, more gloriously beautiful, more worthy of your finest efforts!

Fashioned of red and white, the same colors as the original, it took four important prizes in the National Contest. It was a beauty to behold, each tiny triangle perfectly matched.

Grand quilt for a man's room, equally smart and appropriate for the daintiest feminine boudoir.

Pillow Outfit to Match

Complete pillow outfit to match this spread. Ready cut patches with top and back of good quality percale to make pillow about 18x18 inches. Order by number and state name of pattern desired. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 6 ounces. 50c.

Material Required

- 6 yards of white.
- 8 yards of color.

(Includes border)

Allow for all seams.

Delectable Mountains

... Winner of Four Prizes!!!
Stencil Diagrams
For perfect quilting lines and designs
To have a good looking quilt depends on how neatly and correctly quilting lines and designs are drawn. A number of quilters choose to use these stencil diagrams, cut out of pressed cardboard, as they are serviceable as well as inexpensive. Instructions with each diagram. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 2 ounces.

Hot Iron Process and Cut Out Patterns
Used to cut out patches and transfer design on quilt block or pillow. With the aid of a hot iron you can very easily and quickly transfer pattern to cloth you desire to use. These patterns are being extensively used in making Crib Sets. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 2 ounces.

The Actual Quilting
HAVING selected the designs and assembled the blocks the final and really most difficult step is the quilting itself. There is no need to go to a professional quilter, though neighborly help will prove as welcome as it is sociable. Proficiency will be acquired on many quilts by helping each other at “quilting bees” much as farmers share work at threshing bees.

Best results are obtained with a frame, which may be bought more easily than made. If you do not have room to set up a full size frame, half sizes are available. And even better, for the small apartment, is a hoop style, like an oversize embroidery hoop, which enables you to keep the whole quilt intact, yet work on but a small portion conveniently and single handed. Some make their quilts in quarter sections and piece them, but this, unless skillfully done lacks the smoothness of the whole job done at once.

Quilting, besides fastening the two sides of the quilt, its lining, and the batt together, is really creating designs in thread. The most common is the criss-cross diamond, but we show others in this book which you can trace or transfer, for we sell unit patterns which may be stamped or traced on cloth. The first is a better method as it need not be washed out. Be sure the lining is larger than the quilt as this will give you a working surface on the frame, which may be trimmed off later.... when the bias band edge is stitched on.

Some prefer long needles, others short, but, as always, moderation seems the best rule. Small even stitches, through three thicknesses, requires patience, not speed, but a beautiful quilt results. Dipping fingers in hot alum water will prevent serious blisters.
GRAND PRIZE WINNER
Sears
NATIONAL QUILTING CONTEST
A CENTURY OF PROGRESS
CHICAGO 1933

Feathered Star

Now Available—This Famous Design and Complete Outfit for Making Quilt Tops

Chosen as Grand Prize Winner from more than 15,000 entries! A quilt that surpasses anything we’ve ever seen for beauty of design and fine needlework! The original was on display in the Sears, Roebuck Building all during A Century of Progress Exposition. Miss Margaret Rogers Caden, its maker, was awarded the Grand National Prize of $1000.00 and $250.00 in regional prizes.

This original prize winning quilt was made entirely from Sears Fast Color Cottons in two shades of green combined with a green and yellow print. Border is a plain green to match the star. The beautiful feathered design is made with cotton padding, outlined with hundreds of tiny stitches.

Answering thousands of requests for this pattern, we’re now offering a complete outfit for making a similar quilt top, size about 71 x 90 inches. This includes the proper assortment of plain and printed “So square” cotton patches in box with illustration and instructions for making. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 2 pounds.

25A5799—Complete Outfit .......................... $3.25
25A47201—Perforated Quilting Pattern for above. Shpg. wt., 2 oz. . . . . 25¢
Delectable Mountains

Awarded Third Prize in National Quilt Contest held at A Century of Progress, 1933.

Size About 84x100
All pieces of 80 x 80 count, fast color percale, ready-cut to proper size, including border.

All pieces are cut 1/8 inch oversize to allow for seams. Begin the quilt by sewing one small red and one small white triangle together to form a square. Then sew three such squares together in a row. Now sew one of these rows to each side of the large red square; next sew two small red and two small white squares to fill out the corners, and add the four white triangles marked special. This resulting square thus formed will be the center of the quilt. Add to the square in like manner until eight rows are added all around the center square first formed. (This is one row less than the photograph shows.) You will notice up to this point that the quilt is square, and in order to make it rectangular add two rows to two opposite ends and finish by adding border all around. A suitable quilting design for border, we suggest Sears Feather Band at 20 cents, order No. 25A47278. This quilt when finished is a beautiful thing to behold and is worthy of your finest and utmost effort.

By special order, this quilt can be had in any combinations of two colors, other than red and white, for one dollar ($1.00) additional to regular price.
Wings of Progress

Awarded Fourth Prize in National Quilt Contest held at A Century of Progress, 1933.

Size About 86x96 Inches
All pieces of 80 x 80 count, fast color percale, ready-cut to proper size, including border.

All pieces cut 1/4 inch oversize to allow for seams. Piece this quilt in NINE separate sections as follows: The center star, the FOUR large points, and the FOUR notched sections. All pieces for the respective sections are kept separately and properly marked, except the diamonds which are used in the large pointed sections. For the center star take the pieces marked as such, cut them and sew them together. For the FOUR notched sections, take pieces marked as such and sew them together. For the FOUR large pointed sections, take the pieces marked as such, plus the diamonds and sew them. Color arrangement for the diamond of these sections are on opposite side of this sheet. When the NINE separate sections are complete, then sew the FOUR large pointed sections to the center star, with the narrow strips between; then sew on the notched sections. Finish by appliqueing the four small round pieces and sewing on the white and border.
Colonial Rose

Awarded Second Prize in National Quilt Contest held at A Century of Progress, 1933.

Size 81x96 inches.

Quilting Design and outlines for appliqueing are stamped on a Seamless Quilt Material. Pieces to be appliqued are ready-cut to proper size.

In making this quilt it is important to proceed in the order mentioned. 1 — Applique the four rose points at extreme tips. 2 — The four leaflike pieces. 3 — The four large rose hearts. 4 — The four smaller pink hearts having the bottom straight edges flush with those of the rose hearts. 5 — The rose circle. For the border applique the large green pieces first and proceed with the buds in following order: 1 — Applique the rose tips, 2 — the pink pieces, 3 — the larger rose pieces. When proceeding in this order, each piece will overlap in the proper way. Before appliqueing the green border pieces lay them on the quilt and fit the heavy ends and sew them. If instructions are followed and sewn carefully you will have as fine a copy of the original prize winner as is commercially possible. All cut pieces are ¼ inch oversize.
Feathered Star

Grand Prize Winner in National Quilt Contest held at A Century of Progress, 1933.

Size About 84 x 102.
All pieces of 80 x 80 count, fast color percale, ready-cut to proper size, including border.

All pieces are cut 1/9 inch oversize to allow for seams. Piece this quilt in sections, beginning with the stars. To make a star sew FOUR diamonds of proper colors together to form a larger diamond, thereby having ONE-EIGHTH of a star. Then sew TWO of the larger diamonds together to form ONE-QUARTER of the star. Next sew TWO QUARTERS together to form a HALF, and TWO HALVES together to complete the star. Now connect FOUR stars with the small square pieces between, and finally fill in with a large square piece. Continue on this basis until quilt is complete.

Quilting pattern especially made for this quilt can be had from Sears for 25 cents by ordering No. 25A47201. Finished quilt is FOUR stars wide and FIVE stars long.
Autumn Leaves

Awarded Fifth Prize in National Quilt Contest held at A Century of Progress, 1933.

Size 81 x 96 inches

Quilting Design and outlines for appliqueing are stamped on a Seamless Quilt Material. Pieces to be appliqued are die-cut to proper size.

In appliqueing this quilt proceed in the following manner. Fill in the short leave-stems with bias-tape, then the longer ones, seeing to it that the longer stems overlap the ends of the shorter ones. Then applique the leaves. The leaves can be padded with cotton to give them a raised effect but this is optional. When appliqueing the stamped green strips (this is done last) sew the mitred corners together first. To have the quilt at its best, care should be taken in arranging the leaves, so that there is an even distribution of color throughout the quilt.