



The Fat Quarterly

CRAFTY FABRICS' NEWSLETTER

Spring, 2012

The cozy quilting store at the Jersey shore.

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Sew, What's New at the Shop?



After a crazy winter that showed Mother Nature has a sense of humor, with wicked winds and teases of warmth, Spring has finally arrived! It's time to open up the windows and let the fresh air in! With daffodils and crocuses blooming, let your creativity bloom, too. We're ready for the lovely weather with some exciting and wonderful new projects!

A new season is always a good time to make a change with your purse, and the *Manhattan Handbag* is a fun way to do so. This bag closes with a magnet, is surprisingly roomy, has pockets on the inside, and a hand strap that can easily be made into a shoulder strap instead. The pattern provides many design options, so you can make the one that suits your tastes. Grab some of our pretty fabrics and join us as we update our pocketbook wardrobe!



As the buds open on the trees to reveal beautiful leaves and blossoms, so too do they flourish on Eleanor Burns' *Magnolia Bud*. This lovely wall hanging pattern of

pieced flowers with a gentle scalloped border comes with a bonus pattern for a mischievous bunny hopping through a field of colorful Easter eggs. Make him in chocolate brown jersey suede to complete the Easter theme, or a change the eggs to match your own flower garden and compliment the larger *Bud* hanging. Both projects will be quick and easy to do, especially with Eleanor's clear directions.



Other symbols of the season are celebrated on a lovely door banner, *Souvenirs of Spring*. This happy pattern has folksy pictures of tulips, gardening buckets, spring bulbs ready for the garden, and some playful chickens appliquéd on a background of 12 different-colored pieced patches. This is a fun quilt to decorate a dreary door or a wall that is missing that final touch to welcome in the new time of year and family and friends as well.



When spring breezes begin to turn balmy with the promise of summer coming, it's time to think of lunch on the patio, and we



have a lovely runner to help update that outdoor dining area. From her book, Let's Do Lunch, Terry Atkinson offers a fun *Ribbon Candy Runner*. This easy-to-make runner highlights bright colors on a soft background arranged in such a way that they really do resemble the swirls of the candy it is named for. Make one in colors to match your dishes and serve up a feast!

Also for your patio (or kitchen) table, is *Ooh La Latte*. This charm-friendly pattern cleverly shows coffee cups facing each other across a backdrop of multi-colored squares and rectangles. All you need to complete this Bistro scenario is a few pastries and a good friend to share your new project with!



Summer brings to mind fresh, juicy fruits, but they don't need to be limited to the produce aisle! Bright golden pineapples are celebrated in *Big Welcome*, a

pattern that features this traditional symbol of welcome in a gigantic way! This wall hanging in pineapple colors of deep golds set upon a scrappy neutral background will welcome visitors to your home with a cheerful heart to let them know you're glad to see them. *Watermelon Day* is a pattern that will bring to mind old-fashioned picnics on the Fourth of July. This larger sized throw is an arrangement of watermelon slices, country-style Americana flags, and scrappy stars. It would look at home on the top of a guest bed as well as the summer outdoors.

To honor America's birthday this year, we begin with the *American Pride Banner*. A

proud bald eagle spreads his wings over a stylized streamer of traditional red, white, and blue in this medium wall hanging. *Floral Fireworks* artfully turns daisy-like petals into the bright sparklers of fireworks with appliqué and patchwork. This pattern would look fantastic in a variety of bold batiks! The *Patriotic Twist* Wall Hanging pattern makes an innovative use of the L'il Twister template (available at the store) to create an Americana flag. Grab some red, white, and blue charms and join us as we celebrate Independence Day!



Once you've started using the L'il Twister and discover how simple and enjoyable it is to make those twisted pinwheels, it's hard to stop, so we also offer *Charmed Twister Table Runner and Place-mats*. This easy to piece pattern



will delight you as the tessellation is revealed. There are so many possibilities for color with this pattern that you'll want to make several sets for yourself, or to put aside for special housewarming or summer bridal shower gifts. Not familiar with the Twister tool? This is the perfect way to become acquainted with it and learn how much fun it can be!



GOT QUESTIONS or IDEAS? There is always someone at the store to help you out and guide you on your way to continue with your sewing and quilting projects. Let us know if there is anything special you would like to do as a project or class. We welcome your suggestions and ideas for future classes.

Our next issue of *The Fat Quarterly* will be ready for July. Till then, we look forward to seeing you at the store. Happy sewing!

