

## 9-Patch Pizzazz

class taught by Wendy Mathson

Skill level: Beginner

Based on the book by Judy Sisneros; *9-Patch Pizzazz; Fast, Fun & Finished in a Day*. You do not need to purchase the book to take this class, but it has so many great ideas and photos of quilts for you to study that you may want to have it in your personal library.

Yes, you can finish this quilt in a day, but we will take 2 days for our class. Day 1 is all about fabric selection, then you have time to go home and sew before our second class, where we will arrange the blocks and sew them together.

*Warning:* Judy calls this the “potato chip quilt” because you may find you cannot stop with just one!

The sample quilt shown here is 56” x 68”. The 9-patch blocks finish 6”, and the largest unpieced block is 12” square. Fabric requirements are based on this sample quilt, and you can adjust from there if you decide to make a different size quilt, which is quite easy to do. **You will most likely have extra fabric and left-over blocks when you are done.** This is not a precision pattern that can only be put together one way, so be prepared to make some extra blocks (don’t worry, it’s fast and easy) and use them on the back of your quilt or for another project.



### Fabric Requirements:

Focus: minimum 1 yd large-scale print; up to 2 yards for larger quilt or a print that you want to “fussy cut”

2 to 4 Companion fabrics: ½ to ¾ yd each

“Zinger”: ¾ to 1 yd for blocks and inner border

Outer border: ¾ to 1 yd (may be 2 different fabrics as in the sample quilt)

Additional fabric will be needed for backing and binding

**For the first day of class, bring ALL of the fabrics you are considering using for your quilt. We will NOT be sewing in class on the first day. Here are some guidelines for fabric selection:**

**Step 1.** Choose a dynamic large-scale print as the focus fabric. “Large-scale” means that the elements in the print are at least 4” tall. I have found that the most interesting quilts use a focus fabric that is multi-colored and/or one with a variety of values. This means that there are areas of light, medium and dark in the print. Examples are large florals; landscape panels; asian, juvenile or animal prints.

**Step 2.** Next, select companion fabrics. For smaller quilts, usually 2 fabrics are all you need (plus the zinger). Too many fabrics can be overwhelming. Companion fabrics should blend in with and continue the color theme introduced by the focus. Vary the **scale and texture** of the companion fabrics for more interest. Multi-color prints are great if they work well with the focus, but are a smaller scale.

**Step 3.** Pick one “zinger”. This can be a contrasting **color** or contrasting **value** (much lighter or much darker than the other fabrics). Bring several to choose from if you are not sure what will work.

If you are confused about fabric selection at this point, **don’t worry** (and don’t drive the shop employees crazy, either.) **Fabric selection is what the first day of class is all about! If nothing else, bring one focus fabric, or bring several that you are considering and we’ll start from there.** We will look at everyone’s fabrics and I will help you before you go home and start to sew. If you have a specific question, please contact me: [wmathson@cox.net](mailto:wmathson@cox.net); 858-486-2184.