

## “WHAT’S IN THE BOX?”

### Supply List

For this fun quilt you’ll need to raid your stash--just what we’re all looking to do, right? First, you need to decide what you would like to have in your boxes? Do you have a lot of ‘theme’ fabric--food, animals, letters and numbers for baby or does your stash of Asian fabrics, 30’s or batiks rival your favorite quilt shop? (Yes, even plain colors look good in these boxes).

This quilt can be made in a couple of sizes; the sample you’ve seen has 18 boxes (4,3,4,3,4 for the number of boxes in each row) which finishes 48” x 54” but you can add 5 more boxes (5,4,5,4,5) and make the quilt more like 60” x 60” or you can make it smaller with only 7 boxes (2,3,2) which would end up as a wall hanging about 37” x 37”.

For **each box** you need a 3 1/4” x 18” strip of the inner, focus fabric.

For **each box** you need a 1 1/2” x 24” strip of a light, a medium and a dark fabric from the same color family to be used as the edges of the boxes. (I used a different set of light, medium and dark fabrics for each box but you could duplicate or switch one or two out for another shade in the color family). Any color will do for these strips but you need to be aware of your background fabric (mine is dark purple). If you choose black for your background, be sure you don’t have too many really dark strips. Some of the dark strips can be placed in the center of the quilt and avoid the edges where the background is but not all of them. Likewise, if you choose a light blue for your background, you don’t want too many strips to be of the same value and fade into that background.

**Background / border fabric** My rule of thumb would be to get enough fabric to make the borders without piecing them. That is, if you’re making the largest quilt (60” on a side) buy 1 3/4 yards (63”). If you’re making the 37” quilt, get 1 1/8 yards of background.

As for color, a very dark color is great, black always works. But if you want to try a lighter color, again, be sure the strips you use for the outer edges of the boxes that will touch the background/border will contrast enough so they don’t blend into the background.

The inner, focus fabrics and the strips can be cut before class if you want to save time and get right to putting the quilt together. I would suggest you bring all the fabric from which you’ve cut the pieces just in case you want to cut more or to share with others in the class.

Additional supplies:

Sewing machine you’re familiar with

60° ruler that is at least 6” on a side. My favorite is the Clearview Triangle by [www.aliciasattic.com](http://www.aliciasattic.com) because it has all the points intact. Other rulers on the market have the top point cut off and they will work, but the point is helpful for this project.

**WARNING:** be SURE you have a 60° ruler NOT a “peaky and spike” ruler. If it doesn’t say 60° on it, it isn’t the one we want.

Rotary cutter with a nice, sharp blade

A ruler that’s at least 4” x 12” (6” x 12”, 6” x 24” etc.)

Flannel or batting for a design wall or a portable design wall

Masking tape

Ink pen

Straight pins

If you have questions, don’t

hesitate to email or call:

[steeledome@gmail.com](mailto:steeledome@gmail.com) or 530-757-1685.

Happy Quilting!! ~~~Diane Steele~~~