

PVQA Block-of-the-Month Program

Nine or ten months each year, the Block-of-the-Month (BOM) Chairperson chooses a quilt block design and puts together kits that include directions to make the block. Usually at least one fabric is provided which will be common to all the blocks. The exception to this is a “scrappy” block, where members use their own fabrics. Block projects teach a variety of techniques and sometimes complement the lecturer and workshop for the month.

How to Participate: PVQA members wishing to participate pick up a kit at the regular meeting and sign the participation list or request a kit to be mailed to them, make the block according to directions, and return the completed block and return slip at the next regular meeting or by mail. Members receive one credit for each completed block that is returned on time. Uncompleted blocks may be returned the next month. Anyone who takes a kit and does not return the completed block or the kit within two months will be penalized one credit.

Who Gets the Blocks?: A drawing is held at each meeting from among the names of members who completed blocks that month to determine the winner or winners of the blocks. The number of drawings and members eligible is at the discretion of the BOM Chairperson, determined by the number of blocks turned in and other methods that the chairperson deems appropriate. The chairperson keeps a record of who takes a block each month and who returns completed blocks (or incomplete kits).

Eligibility: To be eligible for the drawings a member must have completed six blocks and have six available BOM credits. After winning a drawing, the number of blocks won is subtracted from the member’s available credits. For example, if a member makes one block each for eight months before entering a drawing, she/he would have eight credits. If this member then wins 15 blocks, she/he would have to make seven more blocks to erase her/his deficit, and another six blocks before being eligible to win again. A member who did not make the current month’s block cannot participate in the drawing, except members with 50 or more credits.

It’s Not Your Favorite Block?: Once eligible, members may choose whether or not to participate in the monthly drawing for blocks. Members always receive credit for the blocks completed whether participating in the drawing or not.

Comments: Participating in this project is a learning experience and a practical way to try new techniques. Quilts made from the blocks are especially treasured at “show and tell” and in the quilt show, and occasionally may be featured in a program at a regular meeting.

Traditionally there is a “make-up” block once a year with no limit on how many one can turn in. This gives an opportunity to those who wish to “replace” their winnings in a quick fashion. Additional BOM credits can be earned by completing thank you blocks.