# Peace River Quilters' Guild Brown Bag Challenge



#### **GUIDELINES**

Each January, participants bring at least 4 fat quarters of fabric in a brown bag. The Brown Bag Coordinator collects the bags, keeps track of whose is whose, and distributes them back to the participants. The participants have until the December luncheon to make something lovely for return to the original owner of the fabric. It's fun to find out who you made something for and also fun to get something made for you!

- Place at least 4 Fat Quarters into a bag and bring to the Brown Bag Coordinator by the January business meeting. (You might want to keep a small snip of your fabrics or take a picture so you don't forget what you turned in!)
- Two weeks later, you will receive someone else's fabric, contributor unknown to you.
  The coordinator of the challenge will keep track of where the fabric has been distributed.
- 3. During the next 10 months you <u>MUST</u> make something with the fabric you have received. You can add to the fabric but you <u>MUST</u> use some of each fabric that was in the bag. You can make anything...a wall hanging, place mats, lap quilt, tote bag, whatever your imagination dreams up.
- 4. Bring your <u>FINISHED</u> creation to the December luncheon meeting, we'll have a show and tell and everyone can claim their prize!

Please keep in mind that we are lucky enough to have all different skill levels in our guild. The purpose of this project is to be challenged, to use colors and fabrics that maybe we wouldn't normally pick to use for ourselves or just to try out a new technique. Don't expect to receive a blue ribbon winner but do expect to have a great time. Not only don't you know whose fabric you have, you also don't know who has yours!

Please remember that this is a <u>COMMITMENT</u>.....if you take home a bag you <u>MUST</u> return a <u>FINISHED</u> project. YOU have ten months to complete it and YOU get to decide how hard and how big a project you do.

**Brown Bag Coordinator** 

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### **INSTRUCTIONS**

#### PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE BEGINNING YOUR PROJECT

- 1. This is a Challenge! That means it may not be easy. You may hate the fabric that you get—that's part of the challenge. Don't let it throw you—make something beautiful out of that ugly material! That's what we do!
- 2. You may need to add fabric to your project--There's not a lot you can do with just 4 fat quarters so plan on adding more if needed—and it's a good idea to use fabric of equal or greater value. Don't go cheap!
- 3. You don't have to make a quilt--it can be a tote bag, table runner, etc--as long as you use a recognizable piece of each piece of fabric that you receive. (Of course, if your request is for a community quilt, it's obviously got to be a quilt, duh—and 36" x 45" is the standard size).
- 4. You may get many yards of material—don't worry. You only have to use a recognizable piece in your project—you don't have to use it all—just be sure to return any unused fabrics to the original owner along with the project that you make!
- 5. Make something that you would love to receive. You will be showing the guild your completed project-make it something you will be proud of.
- 6. Attach a label so the original owner knows who it is from. If they have requested a community quilt, get a label from the community quilt committee and attach it.
- 7. When you finish your project, please let me know. It would be nice if you would complete some time earlier than the night before the December luncheon. We have started giving out a prize for the first one finished. And the last one finished gets the Brown Bag Block Of Shame! Don't let it be you!
- 8. If you need assistance with your project, please contact me as soon as possible. I can solicit assistance on your behalf or help you myself, but I need to know early enough so that there is time to get it completed. There are plenty of ways to contact me—if you can't reach me—you're not trying—and remember, I don't work well under pressure—please don't wait until the last minute!
- 9. Please know that this Brown Bag Project is a commitment. You cannot say you will do this in January, and then in November, decide that you don't feel like it. You have someone else's fabrics and the entire Challenge depends on everyone getting their project completed.
- 10. I will be sending nagging emails, phone calls, letters to you during the year if I don't hear that you are complete--expect it!
- 11. On Holiday Luncheon day in December, bring your completed project to the luncheon. Keep it covered in a bag (don't show anyone), let me know you're there, and hold on to your project until I call your name. You will then present your completed project to it's original owner and receive your completed fabrics back (If you can't make it to the luncheon, please arrange for someone to present and receive your completed projects). Be prepared!
- 12. I'll be listening!! I love to tell the funny stories that happen during the Brown Bag Challenge all year!
- 13. Have fun--while it is a challenge--it is still supposed to be fun!! Enjoy!

**Brown Bag Coordinator**