

# THE FLOPPY GAZETTE

Volume 6, No. 2, Fall/Winter 1999/2000

## Dear Friends,

We're introducing two new products and a free upgrade gift to you in this Floppy Gazette. Let's end this century with a bang!



## New Software

Our newest software is **STASH**, a collection of over 2500 new fabrics by 15 of the top fabric manufacturers in the industry. Browsing STASH is like visiting quilt shops around the country. Don't worry about messing up STASH's "shelves." Rummage around to your heart's desire, sorting by color, and filling shopping bags with your favorite swatches. You don't need other software to use STASH. But it's EQ4 compatible, so you can take swatches into EQ4 to color with. For details, see the front page.

## New Book

**EQ4 Magic** is hot off the press from that dynamo of the desktop, Barb Vlack. Barb's 37 lessons take you way beyond the EQ4 user manuals. Barb shows you exactly how to make the specific block, sash and quilt designs you've struggled to figure out on your own. With Barb's precise instructions, you'll make friends with EQ4's powerful Graph Pad tool for Country Set and layers. You'll also learn how to take designs out of EQ4 and into Word, to make address labels, stationery, piecing diagrams and even class hand-outs with blocks and text.

## Free Gift

Both **STASH** and **EQ4 Magic** include a free EQ4.1 upgrade gift for EQ4 users. Installing the upgrade automatically adds new tools to EQ4. We hope you love the new tools for making gorgeous color palettes in graduated tones, shades or tints instantly. Makes that hand-dyed look oh so much easier. See page 3 for more about the free upgrade.

## New Web Site

Our new Web site at [www.electricquilt.com](http://www.electricquilt.com) offers on-line shopping, an EQ Forum for asking questions and getting answers, a mystery quilt and story, and much more. Visit now, visit often. We add new stuff all the time.

## News About BlockBase

We hoped to get our new Windows 95/98 version of BlockBase out this year. (If wishes could fly...) BlockBase 95/98 is now scheduled for sometime in 2000, along with several other surprise offerings. Busy, busy...

*Speaking of busy...happy holiday season wishes to all of you, from all your friends at EQ,*

Sincerely,

**Dean, Penny, Ann, Lu, Margaret, Amy, Jan, Diane, Sharon, Nick and EQ the Mouse**

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## STASH—New Software Program

### View the fabric store shelves at home

STASH is a wonderful collection of over 2500 glorious fabrics from the best manufacturers in the quilting industry. This easy-to-use program lets you view the fabric swatches on your computer screen and create “shopping bags” for collecting and saving your favorites. Print a color swatch list of the fabrics identifying them by name and line to take shopping to your fabric store. Use STASH’s “search by color” feature to color-coordinate the fabrics for your next project. You can choose the color you want to search for or just click on your favorite fabric and ask STASH to search for the fabrics that match! The result is a beautiful mix of fabrics from the various manufacturers. You’ll love it! Want to design a quilt with the fabrics? No problem. (If you own EQ4 quilt design software, of course.) The STASH fabrics will replace the Designer Libraries in your EQ4 program. You’ll still have all the original designer fabrics found in EQ4 plus over 2500 new ones from STASH. There’s no complicated installation. Just install STASH and open EQ4’s Fabric Library to see the fabrics.

### What’s on the STASH CD?

Name a fabric designer. Or think of a fabric line you love. STASH has it! Some STASH fabrics are so new they’re not yet available in stores. Others are favorite lines probably in your own personal fabric stash. It’s a great way to see the fabric store shelves in the convenience of your own home. Some of the fabric lines on this CD include:



- Jinny Beyer Palette from RJR
- Japanesque by Susan Faeder
- Paint Box Prints by Thimbleberries
- Provence! by Doreen Speckman
- Checks and Stripes by Kaffe Fassett
- Savannah by Marianne Fons and Liz Porter
- Civil War and Aunt Grace’s Scrapbag by Judie Rothermel
- Floral Trails by Barbara Brackman & Terry Clothier Thompson
- Hannah’s Garden, Summer Cottage & Folk Art Wedding by Robyn Pandolph
- Camille, Elegant Holiday, Nature Collection & others by Jennifer Sampou
- P&B Basics, Moda Marbles, more, more, more.

These are just a few of the many fabric lines included with our first edition of STASH. If you’re a fabric lover, you’ll love STASH.

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## EQ4 Magic - New Book from Barb Vlack



Barb

Barb Vlack? She's back! This whirlwind EQ expert, back from an 8-city tour of Japan, has just completed her second book for The Electric Quilt Company. You asked for it—EQ4 Magic.

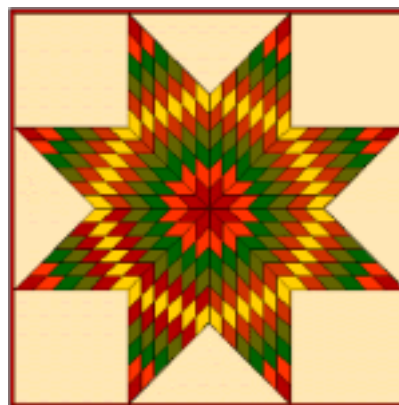


Barb Vlack is a wizard at making the designs you ask for the most. She gives you each step, so you can make magic on your own with:

- Lone Stars
- Feathered Stars
- Grandmother's Flower Garden
- Thousand Pyramids
- Six-pointed Stars
- Hexagon Stars
- New York Beauty
- Flying Geese Sashes and 28 more designs.

### What will you do?

- Make a Holly wreath with WreathMaker.
- Draw the one magic block needed for Star Sashing.
- Design Diamond Quilt layouts.
- Use the Graph Pad to line up rows of blocks in Country Set.



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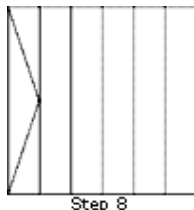
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## Try Before You Buy! A Sample Lesson from Barb Vlack's New Book, EQ4 Magic!

### Setting Flying Geese in the Sashing

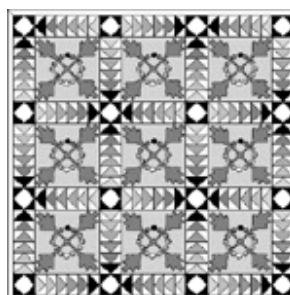
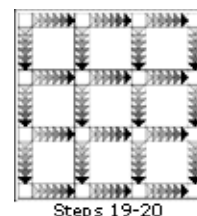
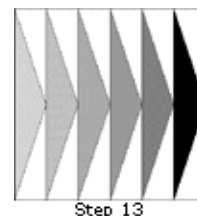
In the EQ4 Block Library there are many different patchwork blocks that will work quite effectively to make a pieced sashing. In EQ4 it's quite easy to set geometric blocks into the sashing and cornerstones to achieve magnificent results. Let's try setting traditional Flying Geese into the sashing in a quilt with 12" blocks. We have to do some figuring (see how I avoided using the M for "math" word?) about how many geese in the proportion of 2:1 we need here. To sash the 12" block, we would need twelve geese 1" wide and 2" tall or six geese 2" wide and 4" tall. My choice is the six geese. There is no block in the EQ Libraries with 6 geese, so you'll have to draw it.

1. On the WORKTABLE menu, click Work on Block.
2. On the BLOCK menu, point to New Block, click EasyDraw.
3. On the BLOCK menu, click Drawing Board Setup.
4. For the Snap to Grid Points, type in 6 for Horizontal divisions. Press the Tab key on the keyboard. Type in 6 for Vertical. Press Tab.
5. Type in 6 for Block Size Horizontal. Press Tab. Type in 6 for Vertical. Click OK.
6. Click the dark square in the lower-left corner of the Grid tool. Click the arrow to set 6 in the box next to Columns. Click the arrow to set 1 in the box next to Rows. Close the box.
7. Drag a grid from the upper-left corner of the block on the worktable to the lower-right corner. You should only see vertical lines.
8. Click the Line tool. Draw the goose triangle as shown in the illustration.
9. Click the Select tool. Hold down the Shift key and click the two lines you just drew.
10. Click the Copy button.



**Note:** If you don't have the Copy button showing on your left toolbar, go to the VIEW menu and click Edit tools.

11. Click the Paste button and move the lines into position to form the second goose.
12. Repeat steps 10 and 11 until all six geese are in line.
13. Click the Color tab. Color the block.
14. Click Save in Sketchbook.
15. On the WORKTABLE menu, click Work on Quilt.
16. On the QUILT menu, point to New Quilt, click Horizontal.
17. Click the Layout tab and make these settings:
  - Number of blocks: Horizontal 3, Vertical 3
  - Size of blocks: Width 12.00, Height 12.00
  - Sashing: Width 4, Height 4
  - Click Sash border (so there is a check).
18. Click Layer 1 and be sure the Set tool is enabled. Click the Six Flying Geese block. Click the arrows on the sketchbook to choose the colored version of the block.
19. Position your cursor on a horizontal sashing strip and Ctrl+click. Do the same on a vertical sashing strip.
20. Click the Rotate tool on the right toolbar. Position your cursor on a vertical sashing strip. With Ctrl+click you'll rotate all the verticals simultaneously.



Barb's Flying Geese in the Sashing Quilt She set Diamond in Square blocks into sash corners.

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## From Our Mailbox

### Sweet Dreams

*Dear EQ,*

*So, is anyone else dreaming in EQ? I am!!! I spent several hours per day for 3 days last week tracing animals off of some Hoffman fabric I scanned — very intense mouse work, but it seems that every animal gets a little easier! Anyway, that third night, I had a dream of some scene from my day (just some everyday stuff, don't really remember) but what I do remember was that I was tracing the people in the scene with EQ4!! And in my dream I was thinking just like I do when tracing with EQ. Bizarre!!!!*

*Candy Glendening, Newark, Ohio*

Dreaming in EQ? Doesn't everyone? We all have nights of EQ Dreams after long days at work here. See you in our dreams, Candy!

### Playing Hooky

*Dear EQ,*

*I am coming to the end of my seven days off and have spent the last four playing with EQ4. My DH [Dear Husband] thinks I'm nuts or obsessed. Anyway, I had been trying to draw some applique blocks and having moderate*



*success. Today I decided to do the block recipes (when all else fails, read the directions!). This is just too cool!!! I have had the best time, and think I've solved my problems. Not sure I want to go back to work tomorrow!*

*Thanks EQ*

*Connie Condra, St. Louis, Missouri*

Hi Connie. Here's something else cool that may help others wanting to draw applique \_ Rita Denenberg, the artist behind those beautiful applique blocks in the EQ4 Block Library, has an EQ4 Tutorial on Applique Tracing on her Web site. You can learn a lot by seeing how Rita draws applique.

### Web Watch:

<http://myquilts.hypermart.net/eq.htm>

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## Ask EQ (1 of 5)

EQ the Mouse keeps track of the questions you ask, and has answered some of them here. For more frequently asked questions, see "[Tech Support](#)" on our Web site.



## Linking EQ4 To Other Programs

### Q: How can I use Sew Precise and BlockBase blocks in EQ4?

A: If your version is 4.1, EQ4 automatically finds any other Electric Quilt company programs on your computer and links them to EQ4.1. If your version is EQ4.0, you can either download the free EQ4.1 upgrade and EQ4 will find Sew Precise and BlockBase for you and link to them, or you can do the linking yourself. To link by yourself, reinstall EQ4 a second time, choosing the option: Link to EQ programs. Full directions are in the EQ4.0 Readme.doc. To find the Readme.doc, and print it, go to My Computer, double-click to open the hard drive on which EQ4 is installed, double-click on the EQ4 folder, scroll to find the file Readme.doc. Double-click to open the Readme.doc file. Then choose FILE and print.

**NOTE:** The directions on the Sew Precise installation sheets for using Sew Precise blocks in EQ3 work for only EQ3.

## Coloring Problem

### Q: I drew a block in PatchDraw. When I colored it the whole block colored the same color. What's wrong?

A: It sounds as though you drew your block with separate lines, rather than drawing complete closed patches.

Lines work for EasyDraw. But PatchDraw needs you to draw complete cookie cutter shapes. Remember, you are drawing applique patches. So think of drawing each separate patch, just as you would cut them out of fabric. Patches can't share lines. Patches can overlap one another. If you have trouble drawing in PatchDraw, see the EQ4 Getting Started book, pages 7\_10.

## Serial Number

### Q: Where is the serial number for EQ4?

A: It's on the back of the EQ4 Getting Started book.

## EQ4 vs. Free EQ4.1 Upgrade

### Q: I'm confused. What's the difference between the free EQ4.1 upgrade and upgrading to EQ4?

A: The free EQ4.1 upgrade ONLY WORKS IF YOU ALREADY HAVE EQ4. If you only have EQ2 or EQ3 (and have registered your program) then you can buy EQ4 (the full Windows 95/98 program), at an upgrade price \_ saving \$65. (See page 8, "Still Using EQ3," for more details.)

You MUST already have EQ4 installed on your system before you can use the free EQ4.1 Upgrade. The free EQ4.1 Upgrade is not an independently working software program. It just adds new things to EQ4. All copies of EQ4 sold after November 1 by The Electric Quilt Company now contain the full EQ4 program including the EQ4.1 upgrade.

## Determining EQ Version Number

### Q: How do I tell if I have EQ4.0 or EQ4.1?

A: In EQ4, choose About EQ4 from the HELP menu. See your version number (4.0 or 4.1) there. Version 4.0 owners should get the free EQ4.1 upgrade. Version 4.1 owners already have the 4.1 upgrade and don't need to do anything more.

## Printing Blocks Reversed

### Q: How can I print the block reversed (mirrored)?

A: To print a foundation pattern reversed, click on the Options tab (you'll see if from the box you print from) and click to check the "mirror image" box.

To reverse a block you want to print as a whole block, or as templates, the easiest thing to do is to set the block onto a horizontal quilt, flip the block (using the Flip tool), then select the block (using the Select tool) and print the block. Your block is reversed on the quilt so it will print like that in your printout.

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## Ask EQ (2 of 5)

### Help With Country Set

**Q: I don't understand what County Set is. It just looks like a big blank space.**

**A:** EQ's Country Set quilt layout style gives you complete design freedom. Use this layout style if you want blocks of different sizes and shapes for the base layer of your quilt. Setting blocks on the base layer of a Country Set quilt is just like setting blocks on layer 2. Use the Set tool and drag the mouse on the quilt to form a box. The selected block will pop into this box. You can also use the Plain Block tool to set large plain blocks as the base of your quilt.

After you have set blocks, use the Adjust tool and the Graph Pad to fine tune your blocks to the exact size and location you want. It is up to you to make sure blocks fit together.

Once your base layer is built, you can use any of the quilt tools to make changes to the quilt. Use layer 2 to add applique motifs and layer 3 for quilting stencils.

### Library File Corrupt Message

**Q: I get the message "Library Files are corrupted." What should I do?**

**A:** If you receive the message, "Library file data is corrupt." after linking EQ4 to BlockBase, it means that EQ4 is having difficulty reading the BlockBase files. To correct this, do the following, following either the Quick Steps, or Detailed Steps.

#### Quick Steps:

1. Find the LIB folder inside the BB1 folder.
2. Rename the folder LIBB.
3. Then create a new folder giving it the original name of LIB.
4. Copy all of the files from the LIBB folder into the LIB folder. That's it. You're done.

### Graph Pad Use

**Q: What is the Graph Pad?**

**A:** The Graph Pad is used to move, resize and rotate blocks on layers 2 and 3 and on layer 1 of a Country

Set quilt. To put the Graph Pad onto the worktable, choose Graph Pad on the VIEW menu. Play with it awhile and you'll understand how much help the Graph Pad can be.

When you select a block on the quilt using the Adjust tool, the controls on the Graph Pad will display the position, dimensions and rotation of the block. The Graph Pad updates automatically when you adjust the selected block with the mouse. When you change one of the controls on the Graph Pad, the corresponding position, dimension, or property of the selected block is adjusted to the new value.

#### Moving a block:



Click the Adjust tool, click on the block, to select it, then use the X and Y controls on the Graph Pad: Changing the value in the X entry moves the block horizontally. Changing the value in the Y entry moves the block vertically. These values correspond to the block's upper-left corner to the quilt layout's upper-left corner.

#### Rotating a block:

Click on the Adjust tool, click on the block, to select it, then use the Rotation entry on the Graph Pad:

To rotate clockwise, click to increase the number.

To rotate counter-clockwise, click to increase the number.

Allowable values  $-180$  to  $+180$ .

#### Sizing a block:

Click the Adjust tool, click on the block, to select it, then use the sizing controls on the Graph Pad.

The top value shows the width (horizontal dimension) of the selected block.

The bottom value shows the height (vertical dimension) of the selected block.

**NOTE:** If the block has been rotated, then width refers the length of the edge of the selected block that was horizontal before it was rotated. Analogously, the height refers to the vertical edge before rotation. These edges are drawn in white on the Graph Pad to help identify them.

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## Ask EQ (3 of 5)

### Resizing Country Set Blocks


**Q: I'm setting a row of blocks into a Country Set quilt. Is there any way to make sure the blocks are the same size?**

**A:** Yes. Use the Graph Pad (see the answer above). First you make one block just the size you want. Then you can change any number of blocks to that same size, instantly.

1. Set blocks on your quilt in whatever size you want you don't need to be careful here. Just put the blocks on the quilt in any size at all.
2. Click the Adjust tool.
3. Click on one block, then adjust the size of that one block to make it the perfect size you need. Use the Graph Pad to help you determine the size, as described in the answer just above.
4. With that block still selected, hold down your keyboard SHIFT key, then click on the other blocks you've set that you want to make the same size as the first you clicked on. All these blocks will become selected, with a select box enclosing them all.
5. Click on one of the sizing tools.




Result of clicking the

Same Width  Tool




Result of clicking the

Same Height  Tool



Result of clicking the Same

Width/Height  Tool


Aligning: the selected blocks can also be aligned to the left, right, top or bottom. So to line up all your blocks along the top of your quilt, for example:

1. Set blocks on your quilt wherever you want.
2. Click the Adjust tool.
3. Click on one block, then move that block exactly where you'd like to line up other blocks. Use the graph pad to help you locate the block in the exact placement you want.
4. With that block still selected, hold down your keyboard SHIFT key, then click on the other blocks you've set that you want to make the same size as the first you clicked on. All these blocks will become selected, with a select box enclosing them all.
5. Click one of the aligning tools.



Align Left  tool.



Align Right  tool.



Align Top  tool.



Align Bottom  tool.

### Importing Photos

**Q: I have a cat photo I would like to use in a quilt. Do I just import it?** **A:** Importing your cat picture would be the first step. But the photo can't be automatically converted into a block and used in your quilt. The photo is just there to give you something to look at as you draw your own cat block. You need to do the following:

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1. You import the picture (following EQ4 Cookbook directions, pages 102-103).
2. You draw your own cat block, using your cat photo as a guide (following EQ4 Cookbook directions, pages 104-105).

Your photo can't become a block automatically until you draw the block. While you can use bitmaps automatically as fabrics, you can't use them as blocks.

### Tracing Troubles

**Q:** I traced a bitmap. But I can't color it. The color just goes everywhere. **A:** Please see the answer, above, about "Coloring Problem." You must "trace" your bitmap by drawing shapes, not just meandering outlines that don't form closed patches. To help you really see this, in an actual block, please look at this EQ4 block which was drawn by Rita Denenberg as she looked at an imported photograph.



1. Go to: EQ4 Block Library - Contemporary Applique - Your Design Studio - the block: "Me: Rita Denenberg."
2. Click on the block, click Copy.
3. Click View Sketchbook.
4. Click on the block, click on the Edit button. You will see the block on the PatchDraw worktable.
5. Click the Select tool, click on any patch, and drag the patch away from the rest.

You will see that Rita drew separate applique patches for everything in the whole block, looking at a picture as she drew. This is what you must do, as shown in the EQ4 Design Cookbook, pages 104-105. You can learn a lot by seeing how Rita draws applique.

Web Watch:

<http://myquilts.hypermart.net/eq.htm>

All applique blocks in EQ4 were drawn in EQ. Try the steps above to really look at how any of these blocks were made. It can really help you understand drawing with PatchDraw.

### Selecting Grid Size

**Q:** I'm drawing an EasyDraw block with a grid of Snap to: 24 x 24. I need to divide each patch in thirds. But I only have space to divide them in half. Help? **A:** You need to increase your "Snap to" grid points. Let's say you're drawing a 9 patch block (3 patches across). You could draw the 9-patch on any grid that could be evenly divided by 3. (9 x 9, 12 x 12, 24 x 24, 48 x 48, and lots of others.) But, you need to further divide each of the 3 patches into thirds. To figure out the grid size you need, multiply the number of patches across (3) by the divisions you want in each patch (3).  $3 \times 3 = 9$ . Therefore, change your drawing board Snap to points to some number that can be evenly divided by 9. (Try 27 x 27, for example.) To change the Snap to number, choose Drawing Board Setup from the BLOCK menu.

### Printing Quilt Measurements

**Q:** How do I print out the layout information such as how many blocks, size of blocks, size of complete quilt, sashings borders, etc. **A:** You can print out whatever is on the screen. To get a picture of the quilt layout (or border layout) from EQ4:

1. Get the quilt showing on the Layout tab in EQ4, or on the Borders tab.
2. Press your keyboard Print Screen button. You won't see anything happen.
3. Open Word, or whatever word processing program you use.

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## Ask EQ (5 of 5)

4. Hold down the CTRL key on your keyboard and press the V key (CTRL + V = Paste). The picture of the layout, along with the layout or border measurements will paste down on the page.

Alternative: You can also make a snapshot of just the layout or border dialog boxes. Choose Copy to Windows clipboard, and then paste, following p.98 in the EQ4 Design Cookbook.

### Watercolor Quilt

**Q:** How do I design a watercolor quilt in EQ4?

**A:** One way to design a watercolor quilt is by starting with a block such as a 100-patch. To draw this block:

1. On the WORKTABLE menu, choose Work on Block.
2. On the BLOCK menu, point to New Block, choose EasyDraw.
3. Look at the Snap points below the blank block. Make sure they are some number than can be divided by 10. If not, do the following step.
4. On the BLOCK menu, choose Drawing Board Setup.
5. On the General Tab, change the Snap Points to 20 x 20 or 30 x 30. Click OK.
6. On the Grid tool button click the small black square on the bottom-left of the tool. A Grid Setup box pops up.
7. Change the numbers in each box to 10. This will mean you'll have 10 squares across and down when your draw the grid.
8. Close the Grid Setup box by clicking the X.

9. Point to the top-left corner of your blank block. Position the cross-hair on your block's corner and drag diagonally down, drawing a grid as you drag. Keep dragging until you have a full grid.
10. Click the Save in Sketchbook button.

Set this blank block in a horizontal quilt layout with as many block spaces as you'd like. Color on the quilt to make a Watercolor quilt.

### Printing Information from Notecards

**Q:** Can I print out notes entered in the Sketchbook, or import text to the notecards? **A:** Yes to both. To print out notes entered on notecards:

1. Highlight all the text in one of the fields (Name, Reference or Notes - you can't do them all at once, just one at a time).
2. Use CTRL + C to copy the highlighted text.
3. Open your word processing program, get a new page, use CTRL + V to paste the copied text onto the page.

To import text for the notes, just reverse the copying and pasting. Copy (CTRL + C) from your word processing document, and paste (CTRL + V) it onto a notecard.



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## Our Talented Users Show & Tell

**Wendy Wetzel's** Flagstaff, Arizona guild selected her EQ-designed quilt to be the publicity quilt for their annual quilt show, held in June at Northern Arizona



University. "It's a variation on the Navajo block. I had seen a pattern I liked in a magazine, so I revised it and drew it in Easy Draw by quadrants, and then set out to cut and sew. I really didn't like the directions the magazine gave, so with the EQ pattern it was easy to do with strips and triangles!"

A quilt that **Tina Davis** designed for mystery writer, Earlene Fowler, was selected for the exhibition, *Once Upon A Time: Story Quilts*, held at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum in Golden, Colorado (November 2, January 11, 2000). "I did put how you helped me design the quilt on EQ3," writes Tina, "so I hope they include that in the story of the quilt!"



**Georgia Heller** uses EQ4 to design the patterns she publishes for her Stamford, Connecticut company, Piece-able Patterns. She'll introduce the patterns to stores

this fall at the International Quilt Market in Houston, Texas. Her Birds-of-Paradise, Roses, Iris, <http://www.piece-ablepatterns.com>

**Pat Tribbey**, the busy clubEQ Webmaster, has EQ-designed patterns now for sale on her site. Her Christmas Countdown Calendar includes instructions for making the tree, plus ornaments to add daily in



December, with the final topper a 3-D star. Check it out at: <http://members.aol.com/anotherpat/ccc.html>

Christmas was a natural theme for **Jeanne Prue's** guild wallhanging, since Jeanne and her husband, Bill, sell glass Christmas ornaments hand-painted with Jeanne's original bird and landscape designs in Newport, Vermont. Jeanne's EQ designed quilt is featured in the new book, *Country Woman Christmas 1999*, as was an applique quilt made by Jeanne's mother. "Too bad Mom is so computer-phobic," says Jeanne. "She'd love EQ4!"

**Christine Turner's** "Prairie Mariner," her guild's 1999 fundraiser quilt, won the Viewer's Choice award at the Lansing Historical Society Quilt Show in May 1999. The scrap quilt features 49 Mariner's Compass blocks, and includes an inner Celtic border. Tickets for this raffle quilt are selling like hotcakes, and the quilt seems to have real "man appeal." "Guild members keep telling me this design REALLY appeals to the men, who were coming up even before it was hung to see it and get tickets."

Long-time EQ user **Dorothy Milligan**, from Hemet, California, has several new EQ designs appearing in magazines this fall. Her Tristar quilt will be patterned in *Quilting Today* #74.

A Feathered Star design will appear in *Traditional Quiltworks* #65 with a pattern for her chain border.

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## Recognizing EQ Designers

### EQ Quilt Wins Hoffman Challenge Prize

Long-time EQ user Diane Rusin Doran, wrote us to share her exciting news:

Dear EQ,

I wanted to let you know that EQ4 was instrumental in helping me win second place in the pieced category of the 1999 Hoffman Challenge. I have owned several versions of EQ, but have not spent a lot of time using them because the quilts I was working on were mixed piecing and appliqué, and I felt more comfortable drawing the appliqué designs by hand. However, I knew that I wanted to make a pieced quilt for this year's Hoffman Challenge. I found two blocks in Judy Martin's *The Block Book* that I thought might work. Though I had not used EQ4 before designing the quilt "Kaleiding Stars," I was able to draw the blocks and come up with the basic design and color scheme of the quilt in about 3 hours! (OK, I'll admit to having a slight advantage here - before becoming a full time mom, I was an aerospace engineer/systems analyst for almost 12 years, so I have had quite a bit of computer experience.) I modified the blocks "National Champion" and "Kansas City" so that there would not be as many seams to quilt through and so that "Kansas City" would have a pieced center octagon. Using existing eight pointed star designs from the block library as guides made drawing the stars very easy. The pieced border is simply an elongation of part of the "Kansas City" block. Being able to experiment with different color combinations on the screen was also very helpful. I did not spend much time trying to get the exact colors I wanted, just enough to get a general idea of what might work. I revisited the design several times to try out additional color options as the work progressed. Finally, I captured a copy of the "final" design and used it as part of the label on the quilt. I would absolutely use EQ4 in designing future quilts, particularly pieced designs. Thanks for coming up with software that is so helpful to quilters!

P.S. To see my quilt on the Web go to:  
<http://www.hoffmanchallenge.com/pg2.html>  
(web page no longer exists)

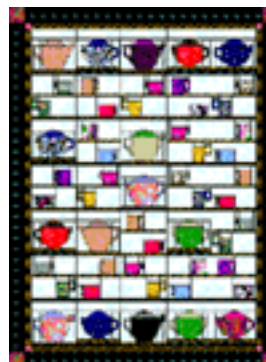


### Cup Quilt!

Designed by Susan Druding

Looking for a cute project to make before the holidays? Make a "cups in the window" project for a perfect gift. The blocks are all interchangeable. We give you one pattern [here](#). To download the entire Cup Quilt EQ4 project, visit Susan's site at: <http://quilting.about.com> 5 blocks across and 7 down  
Each block is 8" square Susan's fabric suggestions:

- Use a fabric that looks like wood for shelves and inner border.
- Use the same light blue patterned "sky" fabric as background fabric in all the blocks to give the illusion of open glass behind the shelves.
- Use colorful scraps for the pots and cups.



# THE FLOPPY GAZETTE

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## Works for Me (Tips from EQ Users)

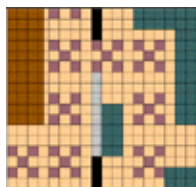
### Merlene's Marvelous Minis

**Merlene Tirone**, from Seabrook, New Hampshire, makes tiny "quilts" for her granddaughter from EQ4 quilt printouts. Merlene takes her quilt printouts, copies them onto copy paper, then takes these copy paper prints to her local copy shop. The copy shop prints the quilt pictures onto fabric for her. Merlene says these tiny fabric "quilts" make great playthings for her quilt-loving granddaughter. It's never too early to get them started!

### Patchwork Floor

**Sharon M Jones**, of Genoa, Nebraska found EQ helped her to have her tile floor and afford it too. Here's her story:

"We're planning to put those ceramic tiles in the kitchen and when we priced it, the ones we want and the ones we can afford aren't quite in the same price range. Bingo, the light came on. Make patchwork with the color we really want as accent. I told him to give me 15 minutes on EQ and I'd have the price for him. He said, "I should have KNOWN you'd find some way to make a quilt out of this!!" Incidentally, I bordered it in the wall colors and it worked out pretty darned well. This is the back entry, staircase to the left. The black is solid wall, and the gray is half walls. Green is cabinets. Now, all I have to do is find out how long the wait is to get to the work."



### Art Arrangements

**Kathleen M Guy**, of Rotonda West, Florida used EQ4 to arrange art on the wall. As she describes the steps:

I named a project "Quilt Wall" and made a Country Set quilt size 74"X36" which is the size of the blank white wall above the King sized bed in the Master Bedroom. I designed and colored six "blocks" in various sizes to place in the "quilt." The "blocks" represent small or miniature quilts which could be hung on that space. It would also work for pictures or paintings that you already own and want to group for hanging. With the help of Graph Pad, I was able to resize and rearrange my little quilts into a very nice display. Now I have a working plan for a layout I can use as I begin to design the actual quilts. Yes, I do plan to actually make them and hang them. Before I start to design the quilts, I already know what size each must be, and where it will hang on the wall. Now I can plan my colors and types, pieced, appliqué, whatever, to fit into the preconceived design. Now the fun part begins. I'm excited about this because EQ4 has helped me to decide exactly what I want to do and focused my attention so clearly on the job."

### Burma Quilt

**Mary Aslanis**, of Redlands, California, made "Burma Quilt" signs that were the hit of the Citrus Belt Quilters show in San Bernadino. First she exported quilt blocks from EQ4 to her publisher program. She added Burma-shave-like sayings, in a font as large as 8 1/2 x 14" paper would allow. "The signs made the walk to the arena thoroughly entertaining, both entering and returning to the parking lot. I even posted one in the men's room, 'My husband said if I buy any more fabric he would leave me ... I'll miss him.' Some of the other signs read:

"A yard a day keeps the blues away."

"People that are organized are just too lazy to get up and look for it!"

"Quilting fills my days, not to mention the living room, bedroom and closets."

The response was so positive that one of the vendors walked the path writing all of them down and even had a lady go into the ladies room for those too. The quilt blocks looked so great - no need to say "quilt show" on the signs - the blocks said it all! "

### Landscape Design



**Judith Ehrlich**, of Pt Angeles, Washington, has used EQ for many non-quilt projects. "The most recent, using EQ4, is a design for our entry arbor and fence. I designed both detail, side view of arbor, and full drawings. DH has just finished constructing it and it is super."

### Print Tear-Away

**Donna Garron**, from Canton, Michigan suggests printing quilting designs onto tracing paper. "Then pin or use the spray to hold the printed quilting pattern to quilt. Machine-quilt and tear off the paper. Voila! No pencil lines to remove."

### Block & Quilt Decals

**Elizabeth MacKay**, of Sew Inspiring in Winnipeg, Canada has a terrific idea. Let her tell it: "I have just had fun with another of the many ways to use the EQ4 snapshot feature. Make a snapshot of your favorite quilt using the export snapshot tool. Send it to the printer or your favorite publishing/word processing program and print it out on Colour Ink Jet Window Decal film. The film is like a transparency film with a peel-away backing. The back is lightly tacky to adhere to most surfaces. Voila, you now have a decal for your window, fridge etc. This gives new meaning to the idea of Stained Glass Quilts. You'll probably find the film next to the image transfer paper at your favorite computer store. By the way, just don't try to wash the window with decal in place, as the water soluble ink is on the non-sticky side."