QUILT GUILD
BINGO

We know quilt groups are always looking for a fun, inexpensive activity for a meeting night. Iowa quilter Cathy Busch suggests this "quilty" version of an all-time favorite. You'll love playing on patchwork game cards!

Getting ready for Quilt Guild Bingo is almost as fun as playing the game, since making your game cards ahead of time allows you to rediscover many of the great fabrics in your stash. As with traditional bingo, the more cards you have in front of you when the playing starts, the more chances you have to win.

Our prize suggestions are just a place to start. Form a committee and brainstorm many more.

Planning the Night

A month or two before bingo night, distribute instructions for making cards (page 117) at guild meeting. Each player must make at least one game card in order to participate. Players bring their fabric game cards and buttons for markers to the meeting.

Download a printable call card sheet from our Web site at: Fonsand-Porter.com/bingo. You'll be able to print the calling cards on perfo-rated business card sheets. Print and separate the cards. You'll have all the possible combinations of colors and fabric.

Playing the Game

Designate a bingo caller, preferably someone with a loud voice and a sense of humor! Put calling cards into a bag or canister to pull from. The caller randomly selects call cards and reads the color first (yellow, for example), then the fabric type (batik,

Prize Ideas

- **Fat Quarters** Every player brings four fat quarters to throw in a pot. A winner of a round can receive a dozen to take home.
- **Magazine Subscription** To *Love of Quilting* of course! Extend it to a two-year subscription to make it an extra special gift.
- **Elm Creek Quilt books** Give a boxed set of the first three of Jennifer Chiaverini's novels. So far, she has written ten in the popular series.
- **Free 1-year Guild Membership** Offer a certificate for next year's quilt guild fee, or sponsor the winner's daughter or granddaughter with a junior membership.
- **Seasonal/Holiday Patterns or Kits** Choose a Halloween wallhanging or a table runner for Thanksgiving, Christmas, or Hannukah.
- **Special Tote Bag** Fill it with donated small scissors, thimble, seam ripper, box of pins, marking pencils, and graph paper for quilt block ideas.
- **Workshop Gift Certificate** Let the winner attend an upcoming quilt guild class of her choice free of charge.
- **Top-notch Iron** Purchase a top-of-the-line iron at your local quilt shop to give for a grand prize!

TIP Make a charity quilt with the fabric game cards after the event. —Liz

for example). The black center square is a free space.

A player wins by being the first to cover one row of five squares in any direction. Players should play as fast as they can and must yell "Bingo" before another player does in order to win. Speed and hand/eye coordination are the keys to winning.

GAME CARD INSTRUCTIONS

Materials for 1 (10½") card

(Each fabric must be chosen from one of the following categories: batik, floral, geometric, heart, leaf, metallic, holiday, novelty, paisley, plaid, solid, star, stripe, or 1930s print. Use a black print for the center square.)

5 (2½") squares assorted yellow and orange prints
5 (2½") squares assorted red prints
5 (2½") squares assorted blue prints
5 (2½") squares assorted green prints
4 (2½") squares assorted pink and purple prints
1 (2½") square black print

Block Assembly

1. Referring to photos of blocks, join 5 yellow/orange print squares to make 1 row. In the same manner, make 1 red, 1 blue, and 1 green row.

2. Join 2 pink/purple squares. Make 2 pink/purple pairs. Join one pink/purple pair to each side of black square to complete pink/purple row.

3. Join rows, placing pink/purple row in center, to complete 1 Bingo Game Card block.

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