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Scrap Happy – 10 tips to make sensational scrap quilts!

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Have you ever noticed that a scrappy quilt can be absolutely stunning, or it can be a real bore? While most people think scrap quilts are a 'no brainer' – meaning you just sew a bunch of your old fabrics together and voila, you have a great scrap quilt, in reality there's a little more thought that goes into the process. It really depends upon the fabrics you're using, and how you use them. Here are 10 ways to stitch up a superb scrappy quilt.

- Use a variety of fabrics, even those ugly or 'what was I thinking' fabrics.
- Mix up the prints – use florals with plaids, and everything in between.
- Make sure to use different scale prints and patterns – small, medium and large.
- Use lots of colours, in light, medium and dark tones.
- Alternatively, work within a colour palette and use up all your scraps in those specific colours (use a colour wheel to help coordinate colours).
- If you've have one fabric that is very different than the others, make sure to use it in more than one block or it will stick out like a sore thumb.
- A neutral or solid colour in the sashing or borders allows the eyes to 'rest' from the busy-ness of the coloured blocks
- Don't have quite enough fabric? Go shopping at your friend's (I'm sure she'd be glad to get rid of some of her scraps!) instead of buying new.
- If you're doing a block such as a string block or a crazy block, do not use the same fabric more than once in each block.
- Finally, if you have larger pieces of the fabrics used on the front of the quilt, make a scrappy backing too!

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Corrections

It happens. We all make mistakes. Quilter's Connection Magazine makes every effort to ensure that the patterns and projects in each issue are error-free, but we do occasionally miss something.

Tip of the Day

Instead of folding your quilts for transport or storage, roll them – no creases or wrinkles!

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