

“Some quilters have a stash,” a first-time quilter tells her husband. “Imagine,” she says. “when you have a stash of fabric all you have to do is go to the cabinet you stash your stash in and select what you need to make a quilt.” Her eyes gloss over as she slips with ease into the future, two days ahead.

“All I need,” she dreams, “is a bunch of this dark blue and a lot of this red and then some yellow. Might as well use this little bit of orange, too,” she thinks. This is like having a shop in your bedroom closet,” she thinks. “But, don’t tell my husband! She remembers telling him, “I would NEVER have a stash of fabric. I would just purchase the needed amount of material for a particular size quilt. Why buy more than I need?” She says this while shaking her head at the same time as rolling her eyes.

Time goes slowly though, when you need a particular color of fabric to enhance a quilt, especially when the quilt shops are shut tightly for the night.

“Fiddlefaddle,” she curses. “This wouldn’t happen if I had a STASH,” she laments. She seldom uses the “F” word, she, however means what she says.

So, a STASH is born.

No longer would she curse when she had to wait for the 10 AM hour the next day. No longer would she suffer withdrawal the entire evening thinking about what quilting she could get accomplished “if only” she had a stash to choose the right color.

She could have gone to the cabinet or even to the stash underneath the bed and searched for the perfect purple piece. She could have gone to the suitcase next to the dresser drawer upstairs and found the right rose red for the half-square triangle.

A quilter is born. She has a stash! She can hold her head high. She has an abundance of brights, an array of batiks, a bin of blues and a wardrobe of florals, stripes, polka dots. There are fat quarter neutrals she will never use. They are too precious. She dreams of the two and a half inch strips she will never share and the half-yard Asian prints she will never cut. She has her stash and she is proud to caress each and every scrap.

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