

## One Block Wonder Technique Class

For those who wish to learn the *techniques* for a One Block Wonder (OBW), I'm more than happy to share what I know with you. It's a fun quilt and seems to be a rage at-the-moment. NO "Y" Seams! This is just a TECHNIQUE CLASS, not to make a specific quilt out of one of the OBW books, or the sample hung in the shop. I do not believe that even if 5 people choose the same yardage or panel, that you would not get two alike.

For this type of quilt, you'll need 6 repeats of the pattern within the fabric of your choice. To find the fabric's repeat you can either look close to the selvage edge, or closer to the fold. Pick out an identifiable object and then slide your finger along in the same area (right/left) until you find that same object next (that's your repeat). It can be a small repeat 6" or a large repeat, 24". For this quilt I'd lean towards a 24" repeat, so if it's a 12" - 15" repeat, I'd double the repeat (by skipping every other repeat). So, with the following repeats, I've also added how much you will need for those repeats: so if a 15" repeat doubled to a 30" repeat you'd figure the yardage as:  $6 \times 30 = 180 \div 36$  is 5 yards (I'd add at least a quarter to third yard), if you choose to use the main fabric as binding, add another half to two-thirds yard depending on size quilt you want to make. Remember to calculate your fabric required by the length of your repeat times 6 divided by 36 for your total yard and then add the quarter/ third yard in addition as you'll be taking a clean cut before starting to cut your repeats and if your repeat is a couple inches from the left side, then you need to account for this in additional fabric and then add for binding as noted previously.

**Fabric choice tips:** Yardage - look for larger prints (I tend to lean toward large floral prints, only 3 - 4 colors, curved lines not straight (such as buildings/posts), swirls, movement and not a lot of open background. I stay away from things that have linear features, such as trees, houses, bird houses, watering cans.

Repeat Length	Number of Strips cut at 3.75" from Panels (generally 24" x 41", or from two sets of 6 from Yardage	Yardage required (based on the larger number of repeat inches) (Suggested size quilt noted below)
6" to 9"	2 strips, 32 triangles	1.5 yards (Small wallhanging)
10" to 16"	2 to 4 strips, 63-84 triangles	2 2/3 yards (Lap quilt)
17" to 24" (recommended)	4 to 6 strips, 84-126 triangles	4 yards (Full, with borders could have a Queen/King)
Panels	Estimating maybe the 126	6 or 7 if you want to include in the quilt top or add to the back so folks know the fabric used to create the front
NOTE: When purchasing fabric, I'd buy at least 1/2 to 2/3 yard extra to include for binding, or if you choose to cut a second set of hexies from the second half of the "yardage" then you should have enough to slightly offset your repeat areas to help ensure that you never get a duplicate block. For large quilt using "Panels", you'd have to purchase 13 panels, 12 for the hexies add 1 extra to be incorporated into the front of the quilt, or the back to show the original fabric, or, you can add additional coordinating fabric to make some borders to enlarge your quilt.		

Choose fabric/panel(s) in design and colors that's pleasing to you! If choosing a panel, you can either do 7 panels, or if the panel has coordinating fabrics in the line, you may choose to use yardage in addition to one panel.

### List of Supplies/Materials to make a OBW -

Recommend: *One Block Wonder Encore* or *One Block Wonder Cubed* by Maxine Rosenthal

- **Fabric based on the repeat measurements noted above. Prior to class, please make sure to press all fabric with the grain, not side to side with the selvages, but up and down.** You want all those threads aligned and tight. As you are pressing, mist with water or a light “sizing” spray (Faultless with light blue label – can be purchase at your local grocer/Walmart store, fairly inexpensive), Best Press or Flatter is usually available at your Quilt store. This ensures that if there is going to be any shrinkage, it’ll happen now and not when you are working with the fabric pieces. I do not wash my fabric ahead of time, I want that manufactured sizing in my fabric.
- **RULERS:** 6” x 24” and smaller ruler with 60° line on it (maybe a 6” x 12” if you have, just make sure that it has a 60°line on it), or 60 °degree equilateral ruler if you have (I prefer a point, but a lot of the rulers have a blunt top, both will work). There are many 60° rulers on the market if you want to add to your ruler collection.
- **Rotary cutter** (recommend using a 60 mm cutter with “NEW” blade, you’ll be making several cuts through 6 layers of fabric)
- **Sewing machine with quarter inch (1/4”) foot**
- **Thread**
- **Scissors, seam ripper**
- **Flat – Flower Head pins** or any other flathead pins (many designs out there)
- **Paper plates** – thin white ones (100 pack at least) (this is what I use, but you can use pins, clips, or the plates) Your choice as to how you would like to manage keeping your triangles and half hexies together.
- **Ironing board, iron, and some cutting mats are available** in the class room; you are welcome to bring your own if you choose.

Check out the [oneblockwonder.com](http://oneblockwonder.com) website. There is a Design Helper there that if you click onto it, take a photo of your fabric choice, upload it into the Design Helper where it says “Choose Local Image”, scroll down, you can adjust the Width of Image (fabric) (I sometimes put in 22), leave the 3.75 and the Pixels alone. Click on “Make Hexies”, It’ll magically show you your fabric with the hexie triangle marked out in white lines and below that you’ll see a sample of the potential hexies you’ll get from the fabric (this is for reference only, as when you make the cuts, it make look slightly differently). You can arrange them into colors, Randomize, Rows and Turn them all again (as you get to turn those triangles three times to get the Hexie you love). You can have a lot of fun with this. You can add as many fabrics as you like, each time you upload a fabric photo it’ll override the previous one, but it’s so easy that you’ll have a blast exploring.

Other sites to check: Pinterest (so many beautiful quilts – check out Bruce Seeds – he has the most awesomest OBWs, Jackie O’Brien (she has many tutorials and information you’ll find helpful) and You Tube (so many great tips here). There is an on-line FaceBook Group called **One Block Wonder Quilt Forum** (if you join, you’ll have access to a lot of their files, gallery of quilts and one of the Administrators, Kathy Gannon, gives a lot of FB Videos of several things she has learned or has tried.

I still prefer to pin a little more than they do for the OBW, but it still works with just the 6 pins they use (although I find that fabrics sometime move a little and you may get slightly off centers).

On another note: if you cut the shorter sides vs. the WOF, it’ll be a little easier as your rulers will reach all the way across, otherwise, a buddy to help hold your extra ruler will be appreciated. If not using a panel, I would tear the fabric piece in half along the fold area for the number of repeats needed (6 in this case), a good 3 yanks. If the repeat is only 12” or so I would double the repeat so that you’ll be cutting every two repeats. This would give you the same amount of hexies as the 6 panels.

I think you’ll enjoy the process, and it will be a super awesome quilt no matter what. You can add borders if you wish. If you want to include some of the original fabric in a border, then you may want to purchase more.

Hope you enjoy the journey!

Geri Waldo, Instructor      E-mail: [jojow54@comcast.net](mailto:jojow54@comcast.net)      Cell Phone: 802-522-3173