



UFO's: How to Tackle Unfinished Projects

Unfinished Objects, or UFOs, are something every quilter knows all too well. Whether it's that quilt you started in a fit of excitement or the project you just couldn't find the motivation to finish, UFOs seem to multiply over time. But fear not! With a little planning, strategy, and a dose of quilting wisdom, you can tackle your UFOs head-on and finally finish those projects. Here's how to get started:

1. Acknowledge the UFOs

The first step in tackling unfinished projects is to face them. Take a deep breath, and gather all your UFOs in one place. Whether they're stashed in various corners of your sewing room or tucked away in boxes, pull them all out. Sometimes, seeing everything in one place can help you assess how many you actually have—and motivate you to start checking them off one by one.

2. Sort and Organize

Once your UFOs are out in the open, organize them by size, priority, or project type. Are some of these projects small, like a quick table runner? Or are others large, like a king-size quilt? Consider your time, energy, and resources when deciding what to tackle first. It's often motivating to start with something small and manageable—those quick wins can give you the boost you need to keep going.

3. Set Realistic Goals

Don't overwhelm yourself by trying to finish everything at once. Break down each project into smaller, manageable tasks. For example, if you're working on a quilt top that's halfway done, set a goal to complete just one row or one block a day. Giving yourself realistic, bite-sized goals will help you feel more in control and make the entire process feel less daunting.

4. Create a UFO Challenge

If you thrive on accountability, try creating a UFO challenge! Whether it's for yourself or with a group of fellow quilters, having a designated time and a community to share your progress can keep you motivated. You could create a weekly "UFO check-in" or even join a monthly sew-along to focus on tackling your UFOs.

5. Use Your UFOs as a Learning Opportunity

Sometimes UFOs pile up because you've hit a roadblock—whether it's a new technique that's intimidating or a tricky pattern that you're unsure how to complete. Use this as an opportunity to learn! Try tackling a challenging technique or pattern in a low-pressure environment. If you get stuck, reach out to a fellow quilter, watch a tutorial, or ask for guidance. Every UFO is a chance to level up your quilting skills.

6. Reward Yourself

Finishing a UFO deserves a celebration! Every time you cross a project off your list, reward yourself in a way that motivates you to keep going. Whether it's a new quilting tool, a special fabric, or a relaxing afternoon with a cup of tea, celebrating your progress is key to staying inspired.

7. Get Creative with UFOs

What's better than finishing a UFO? Repurposing one! If you're no longer in love with a project or if it's taking up too much space, consider turning it into something new. Maybe an incomplete quilt top becomes a set of matching pillows, or an unfinished wall hanging turns into a tote bag. Get creative with how you can finish a UFO in a new, fun way!

8. Prevent Future UFOs

Once you've cleared out your UFO stash, consider ways to prevent future projects from becoming unfinished. Commit to completing one project before starting another, or create a list of priorities to stay on track. A little planning at the start can save you from the dreaded UFO pile later on.

Mission Sew-Possible: A Community for UFO Accountability

If you need an extra boost of motivation to tackle your UFOs, join our **Mission Sew-Possible** group! This community of like-minded quilters offers a supportive space where we hold each other accountable for finishing our unfinished projects. Whether you're looking for a sewing buddy to check in with or a place to share your progress, our group offers a fun and encouraging environment to help you celebrate your victories and get past the hurdles. Together, we'll turn your UFOs into completed projects—and have a great time doing it!

In Conclusion:

UFOs don't have to be a source of guilt or frustration—they're just unfinished projects waiting for your attention. By organizing, setting realistic goals, and getting creative with solutions, you can finally tackle those UFOs and enjoy the sense of accomplishment that comes with finishing what you started. Happy quilting!