

Oakshottfabrics



Mini Quilts in Ruby Reds

We were intrigued to see how six quilters, new users of Oakshott fabrics, would approach the challenge of using at least six shades from a Ruby Red Fat Eighths Pack of sixteen colours.

About this booklet

Kristin and Beth of www.sewmamasew.com ran the Oakshott Ruby Mini Quilt Challenge and recruited six creative quilters and designers who delivered six, wildly different looks. Some used ALL sixteen Ruby Reds and some even turned their mini-quilts into cushions – so much for rules, thankfully!

In this booklet we've drawn together the story behind each creation, all fully illustrated so each design can work its magic on your creativity.

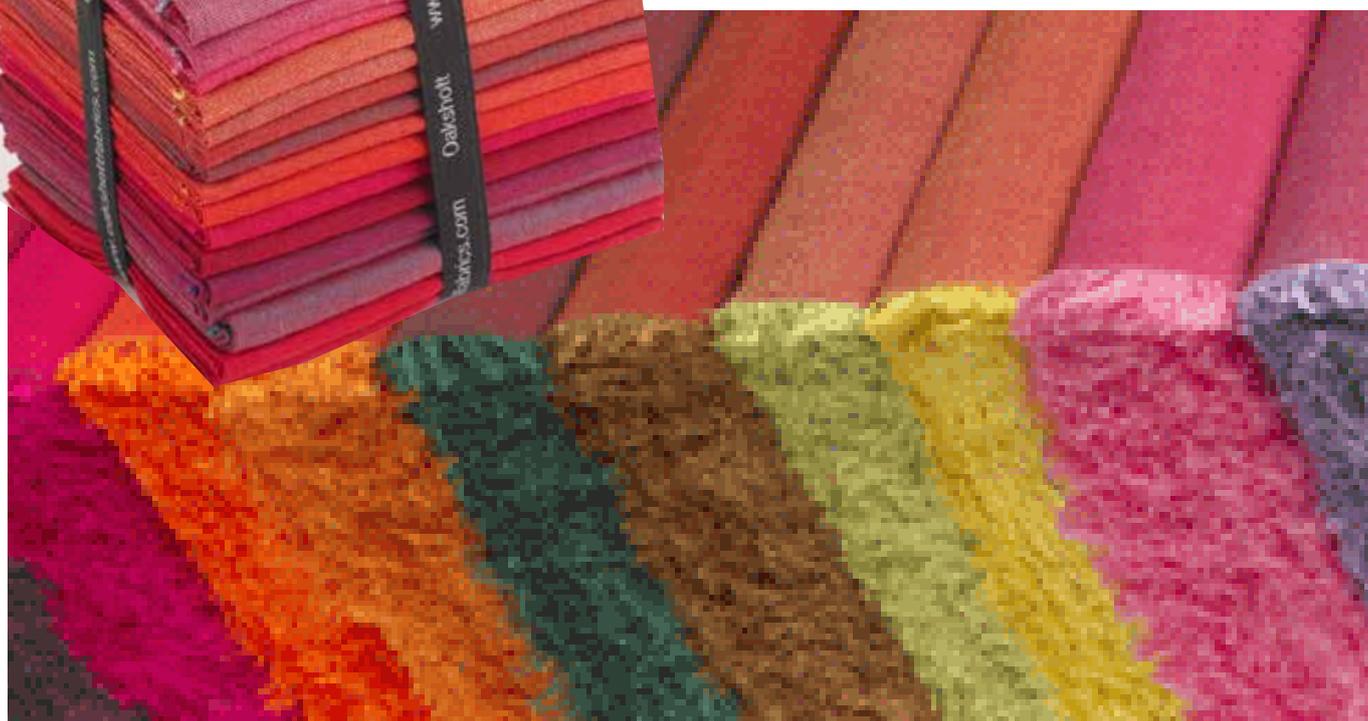
We've also given you the link to the designers' own websites so you can pick up any tutorials and further information.

About the fabric and the packs

Each fabric selection shares the trademark Oakshott colour intensity and characteristic 'shot' effect, created by combining a shared red warp with different weft hues. They work together, each shade toning with the others in the pack with their unique trademark lustre. As 100% mercerised shot cottons, they're suitable for all quilting and general sewing projects.

Each F8th piece measures 9.8" x 24" (25 cm x 61 cm), so you'll be amazed at the amount of fabric in each pack. Well, they have come off the generous 48" Ruby Red bolts.

Each pack can be bought online from www.oakshottfabrics.com or call +44 (0)1452 371 571.



Buy your fabrics online from www.oakshottfabrics.com

Pillows

Three mini quilts, two turned into cushions, from Beth of Plum and June



Says Beth:



“I’d been admiring Oakshott fabrics for quite a while so I was thrilled to have this opportunity to actually see them, not to mention using them in a project!”

I knew right away that I wanted to use every one of the 16 colours. The challenge was to make one mini quilt but I actually made, um, 3?!?!? The first pillow looked so lonely on my couch that I figured I should make it a friend!

After I finished the second mini, I added the large leftover pieces to my stash; however, I still had the small scraps from the first two projects – what to do, what to do? I mean, I could have just added them to my scrap drawer but instead I started sewing them together. And the next thing I knew, I had made another mini with the scraps.”

Background material:

Beth used all but one colour and framed her strips of rectangles with a grey chambray. She substituted flannel for the batting. The triangles were backed with a dark grey essex yarn-dyed fabric, bordered with a linen, similar in colour to the chambray.

She kept her quilting off the Oakshott Ruby Reds and concentrated on the backing materials.

She turned the mini quilts into cushions with a simple envelope backing.

Read all about it at:

<http://plumandjune.blogspot.co.uk/2014/06/oakshott-ruby.html>



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Red Hots

Freehand curves and stripes from Debbie of A Quilter's Table



Says Debbie:



"It didn't take me long to know I wanted to use every single one of those luscious colours. Each fat eighth was 9.8" x 24" (25 cm x 61 cm), with very enticing names - Madrid, Girona, Barcelona, Cordoba, Granada, Valencia, Salamanca, Corunna, Cadiz, Palma, Toledo, Seville, Almeria, Jerez, Santa Cruz and Santiago – all 100% cotton and each with a red warp.

I took inspiration from Red Pepper Quilts' tutorial for 'Cutting and Sewing Free Hand Curves'. But I wanted some of my curves to be scrappy, or rather, striped.

Many thanks for giving me the opportunity to discover these luscious fabrics for myself. It most certainly was a pleasure!"

Background material:

Debbie began by creating a chunk of striped fabric and had enough left over to use as binding down the vertical sides, matched up to solid binding on the horizontals (see her straight matched binding tutorial on her blog). She used her walking foot to create parallel lines on the striped strips.

She also went freehand on cutting out solids, on which she used matchstick quilting and every coordinating thread she had to keep the 'hot' look.

Red Hots finished at 19" x 21" (c. 48 cm x 53 cm)

Read all about it at:

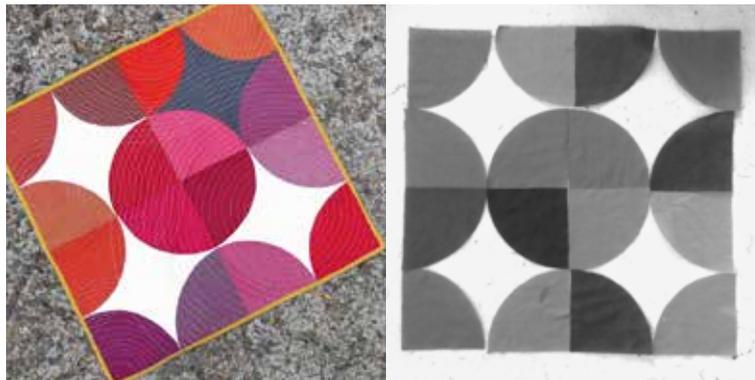
<http://aquilterstable.blogspot.co.uk/2014/06/red-hots.html>



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Circles and Curves

Sewing curves with Jen of BettyCrockerAss



Says Jen:



"I'd never sewn with Oakshott fabrics before, but I'd heard from people who had that they LOVE them. When I saw the Mini Quilt Challenge I had to give it a try.

I wanted to challenge myself and use all the colours. I played around with the layout. I also played around with the value: someone once told me that you can see value better in black and white.

I hadn't done circular quilting in a while but I love how it turned out. Crossing the lines of quilting made me think of the weave of the fabric. The colours change in different lights.

I urge you to try Oakshott cross-weaves – I really enjoyed getting out of my comfort zone and trying something new."

Background material:

The quarter circle has become one of Jen's favorite pieced blocks. It's super similar to the half square triangle, you can do so much with them.

Jen gets asked a lot how she sews her curves. Lately she's been using a kid's purple glue stick and 'basting' them with it. It's pretty quick and does not gum up her machine. She has made a quick video so you can see how to do it. The seam guide is really the key.

Read all about it at:

<http://www.bettycrockerass.com/2014/06/oakshott-ruby-mini-quilt-challenge.html>



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Ruby Red Trees

Klee's Trees and a dash of blue from Malka of A Stitch in Dye



Says Malka:



"First off, because Oakshott Fabrics are a product of the UK, I'm going to forgo the correct spelling for the word 'color', and add the superfluous 'u' to spell 'colour' instead. You're welcome!"

The lovely folks at 'Sew, Mama, Sew' invited me to participate in a wee little challenge, the Oakshott Ruby Mini Quilt Challenge. I received a collection of 16 fat eighths in an array of browns, reds, pinks and purples with the instructions to make a mini quilt.

I used all but a couple of the colours and added a bit of a blue from my stash.

These fabrics are amazing, deep, intense saturated tones. They shimmer and feel a lot like Kaffe Fassett's shot cottons, a similarity that prompted me to choose one of his stripes for binding this quilt."

Background material:

Malka has re-used her Klee's Trees pattern, with a difference, and she points you to where you can buy it on her blog, where she also gives you a tutorial on the whole block making process.

If you follow her pattern you'll end up with a 29½" x 22½" (75 cm x 57 cm) mini quilt.

Read all about it at:

<http://www.stitchindye.com/patterns/ruby-red-trees/>



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Postage Stamp Pillow

A stylised paint chip layout from Deborah of Whipstitch



Says Deborah:



"I didn't know anything about Oakshott cottons. I had a vague idea that they were cross-weaves, meaning that the warp and weft fibres are different coloured threads, which can lead to some really cool shifts in shading. But beyond that, I was flying blind, which I think is both exhilarating and intimidating. I love fabrics like this – they're always so interesting to look at and work with. These Oakshotts are fairly substantial and have a nice handle for quilting.

I used the monochromatic colours to my advantage in the form of a stylized paint chip layout. The result is pretty exciting. I love the way the thread variations give a shimmer and movement to the squares when seen in the light. And I love the way the shades of red, orange and purple work their way across the body of the piece from left to right.

This shot (photo top right) gives a glimpse into the structure of the fabrics: the threads running in one direction are a bluish colour and in the other are red. Those are the warp and weft fibres, running perpendicular to one another. By weaving them in two different colours of thread, the fabric gains a dimension that you can't get with a standard single-colour flat weave."

Background material:

Deborah shares her design thought process in-depth on her blog, including the ideas she discarded, and her simple techniques mean construction took her under an hour for this 14" (35.5 cm) square piece.

Read all about it at:

<http://whip-stitch.com/oakshott-cotton-challenge/>



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Mini Quilt/Wall Hanging

Flying Geese blocks from Kristy of St. Louis Folk Victorian



Says Kristy:



"I was drawn to the earth tones and challenged myself to use them since that palette is something I don't usually gravitate towards. While the Oakshott fabrics have an almost luminiscent quality about them, I liked the contrast of an almost raw, unfinished cloth as the base. So Osnaburg was an immediate choice.

Using one of my favorite blocks, Flying Geese, I got to work. I cannot remember all the layouts that I tried, but in the end, simple looked best.

This was my first time using Oakshott fabrics, although not my first time using shot cottons. I have to admit being partial to those hues – you can clearly see two colours merging together and they do add a certain dimension."

Background material:

Kristy wanted to contrast with an almost raw and unfinished cloth as the base, so Osnaburg was an "immediate choice".

The finished quilt measures 14½" x 16½" (37 cm x 42 cm) and used seven of the Ruby Reds: Santiago, Cadiz, Cordoba, Granada, Valencia, Corunna, and Salamanca.

Read all about it at:

<http://stlouisfolkvictorian.blogspot.co.uk/2014/06/oakshott-mini-quilt-sewmamasew.html>



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