Metropolitan Fair
Barbara Brackman
Finished Size: 76" x 76"

Featuring reproduction prints from the 1840-1870s.
**Metropolitan Fair**

**Barbara Brackman**

**Quilters Basics**
Read instructions before beginning a project.
All instructions include a ¼” seam allowance.
Press as you go. Press seams in one direction
22” measurement is approximate.

**Cutting**

Label and sort all pieces as they are cut. This quilt has many parts and pieces. Make your piecing life easier by sorting and labeling as you cut.

**Fabric 1**
Cut 13 – 3¾”xWOF strips
Subcut 151 – 3¼”x3¼” squares for half square triangles

**Fabric 2**
Cut 4 – 2½”xWOF strips
Subcut 60 – 2½”x2½” squares for block corners
Cut 1 – 2¼”xWOF strips
Subcut 8 – 2¼”x2¼” squares cut once diagonally

**Fabric 3**
Cut 1 – 9⅛”xWOF strip
Subcut 2 – 9⅛”x9⅛” squares cut once diagonally for corner triangles
Cut 2 – 5⅛”xWOF strips
Subcut 13 – 5⅛”x5⅛” squares cut once diagonally for side setting blocks

**Fabric 4**
First cut 1 – 22”xWOF strip.
Subcut 8 – 2½”xWOF strips for binding. Set aside. From the remaining fabric clip and tear away the selvages. Then find a repeating motif and **measure and mark** 4 – 8½” sections across the width of the fabric. Clip and tear 4 – 8½”x LENGTH of fabric strips for outer border.

**Fabric 5**
Cut 12 – 2½”xWOF strips
Subcut 36 – 2½”x12½” strips for sashings

**Fabric 6**
Cut 2 – 2½”x22” strips
Subcut 12 – 2½”x2½” squares for sashings corners
Cut 1 – 2¼”x22” strip
Subcut 6 – 2¼”x2¼” squares cut once diagonally for sashings triangles

**Fabric 7**
Cut 1 – 4½”xWOF strip
Subcut 7 – 4½”x4½” squares for block centers from remainder of strip cut 2 – 3¼”x3¼” squares cut once diagonally for center triangles
Cut 1 – 3¼”xWOF strip
Subcut 10 – 3¼”x3¼” squares cut once diagonally for center triangles

**Fabric 8**
Cut 1 – 4½”xWOF strip
Subcut 6 – 4½”x4½” squares for block centers
Cut 1 – 3¼”xWOF strip
Subcut 8 – 3¼”x3¼” squares cut once diagonally for center triangles

**Fabric 9**
Cut 1 – 4½”xWOF strip
Subcut 4 – 4½”x4½” squares for block centers

**Fabric 10**
Cut 1 – 4½”xWOF strip
Subcut 4 – 4½”x4½” squares for block centers
Cut 1 – 3¼”xWOF strip
Subcut 9 – 3¼”x3¼” squares for half square triangles

**moda**
Fabric 11
Cut 2 – 3¾”xWOF strips
Subcut 14 – 3¾”x3¾” squares cut once diagonally for center triangles
Cut 1 – 3¾”xWOF strip
Subcut 9 – 3¼”x3¼” squares for half square triangles

Fabric 12
Cut 1 – 3¾”xWOF strips
Subcut 8 – 3¾”x3¾” squares cut once diagonally for center triangles
Cut 1 – 3¾”xWOF strip
Subcut 9 – 3¼”x3¼” squares for half square triangles

Fabric 13
Cut 2 – 5½”xWOF strip
Subcut 10 – 5½”x5½” squares cut once diagonally for outer center triangles

Fabric 14
Cut 2 – 5½”xWOF strip
Subcut 8 – 5½”x5½” squares cut once diagonally for outer center triangles
From remaining fabric cut 9 – 3¼”x3¼” squares for half square triangles

Fabric 15
Cut 1 – 5½”x22” strip
Subcut 4 – 5¼”x5½” squares cut once diagonally for outer center triangles

Fabric 16
Cut 1 – 5½”x22” strip
Subcut 4 – 5½”x5½” squares cut once diagonally for outer center triangles. Note direction of stripe when sewing block.

Fabrics 17 and 18 from Each
Cut 3 – 3¼”x22” strips
Subcut 17 – 3¼”x3¼” squares for half square triangles

Fabrics 19 thru 27 from Each
Cut 2 – 3¼”x22” strips
Subcut 9 – 3¼”x3¼” squares for half square triangles

Construction

Half Square Triangles – 302 Total
Note: there will be extra half square triangle units for variety.

1. Using a mechanical pencil draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the 151 – 3¼”x3¼”. Fabric 1 squares.

2. With right sides together pair marked background squares with the 151 assorted – 3¼” print squares.

3. Stitch a scant ¼” on opposite sides of the marked line.

4. Cut on marked line to yield 302 half square triangle units. Press away from background.

5. Trim units to measure 2½”x2½” with seams.

6. For ease of piecing label and sort half square triangle units.

Align edges
Note Direction of marked line

Stitch a scant ¼” on opposite sides of marked line
Cut on marked line
Yield: 2 half square triangle units
Press away from background
Trim half square triangle units to measure 2½” with seams

Make 302 half square triangle units from assorted prints
Blocks – Make 13 whole blocks

The following directions are written for making 1 block, but are the same for all blocks and setting blocks in this quilt.

Step 1 – The Center

1. Begin with a 4½”x4½” square. Add matching 3¾” triangles to opposite sides of center square. Press toward triangles. Repeat with 2 remaining triangles. Block should measure 6¼”x 6¼” with seams.

2. Then add matching 5½” outer center triangles to opposite sides of pieced center. Press toward outer triangles. Repeat with 2 remaining outer center triangles.

3. Square up center block unit to measure 8½”x8½” with seams.

Step 2 – Half Square Triangle Units

1. Stitch 4 rows each with 4 half square triangle blocks. Refer to quilt image for color placement or choose your own arrangement to make each block unique. Note placement of lights and darks. Press seams away from center. Press center seam open.

2. Add 2½”x2½” Fabric 2 corner squares to opposite ends of 2 half square triangle units. Press away from triangles.

3. Add 2 units from Step 1 to opposite sides of center square unit. Press toward center square.
4. Add the 2 corner square units from Step 2 to top and bottom of center square. Press toward center square.

Block should measure 12¼"x12¼" with seams

**SETTING BLOCKS – Make 8 half (setting) blocks**

1. Follow Step 1 to construct block center. But add only 3 – Fabric 3–5½” outer center triangles to sides of center block.

2. Piece only 2 half square triangle units. Add a 2½"x2½" Fabric 2 corner square to end of one unit and add a 2½” half corner triangle to ends of both units. See diagram for placement.

3. Add units to sides of center block. See diagram.

**SQUARING THE SETTING BLOCKS**

4. Using a rotary ruler align diagonal corners of the center square on the ¼” line on the ruler. The edge of ruler should align with the long side of the Fabric 2 end triangles. Trim away excess fabric leaving a ¼” seam allowance. See diagram.

---

*moda*
Follow the Block and Setting Block directions make the following block combinations.

**Block 1**
Make 5 blocks and 2 Setting Blocks

**Block 3**
Make 2 blocks and 2 Setting Blocks

**Block 2**
Make 4 blocks and 2 Setting Blocks

**Block 4**
Make 2 blocks and 2 Setting Blocks
Assemble Quilt

This quilt is pieced on the diagonal.

Sashing Rows

Make the following:
- 2 Rows with 2 Sashing Corner Square Triangles and 1 sashing strip
- 2 Rows with 2 Sashing Corner Square Triangles, 3 sashing strips and 2 Corner Squares
- 2 Rows with 2 Sashing Corner Square Triangles, 5 sashing strips and 4 Corner Squares

Press seams toward sashing strips.

Block Rows

Piece the following:
Row 1: Setting Block 2, Sashing, Block 1, Sashing, Setting Block 3
Row 2: Setting Block 1, Sashing, Block 2, Sashing, Block 4,
Sashing, Block 2, Sashing, Setting Block 4
Row 3: Large Fabric 3 Corner Triangle, Sashing, Block 1,
Sashing, Block 3, Sashing, Block 1, Sashing, Block 3,
Sashing, Block 1, Sashing, Large Corner Triangle
Row 4: Setting Block 4, Sashing, Block 2, Sashing, Block 4,
Sashing, Block 2, Sashing, Setting Block 1
Row 5: Setting Block 3, Sashing, Block 1, Sashing,
Setting Block 2

Join rows together. Add the final 2 Large Corner triangles to quilt top. Press. Quilt top should measure approximately 60½” x 60½” with seams.

Outer Border

Note: Border is designed to "chase" around quilt top. Please note direction and placement of paisley motif.

1. Measure width of quilt top from side to side through center of quilt top.
2. Cut 2 border strips to that measurement (approx. 60½”) and add to top and bottom of quilt top. Paisley motif should be facing in opposite directions. Press.
3. Measure width of quilt top from top to bottom including border strips
4. Cut remaining 2 border strips to that measurement (approx. 76½”) and, noting direction of paisley motif; add to opposite sides of quilt top. Press.

Quilt should measure 76½” x 76½” with seams.

Finishing

Using a bias seam, join the 8 – 2½” x WOF strips end to end. Press seams open. Fold prepared strip in half wrong sides together and press to make the binding.

Layer, Quilt and Bind
Metropolitan Fair recalls the Civil War ladies’ fairs that raised millions of dollars for Union and Confederate soldiers’ hospitals. The largest extravaganza was New York City’s Metropolitan Fair held in Union Square in 1864. These social events had come a long way from the traditional ladies’ needlework sale, closer to an International Exposition than a church bazaar.

Women from the Carolinas to California orchestrated fundraisers to sell needlework and handmade items at tables staffed by volunteer sales clerks permitted to be quite flirtatious for the cause. The wares at the San Francisco Fair were described as "elegant and curious creations from fair hands...The beautiful creators themselves will negotiate the rate of exchange between nick-nacks and gold and green-backs."

The prints in Metropolitan Fair recall calicoes and dress goods of the war years. Each print is named for an exhibit. The collection is a stroll through exhibit halls from the Knickerbocker Kitchen that celebrated New York’s Dutch past to the Old Curiosity Shop where one could see a quilt once owned by Mary Queen of Scots. Luncheon in the cafe with mutton chops, celery salad and Charlotte Russe is remembered in the color names for these modern interpretations of Civil War prints.