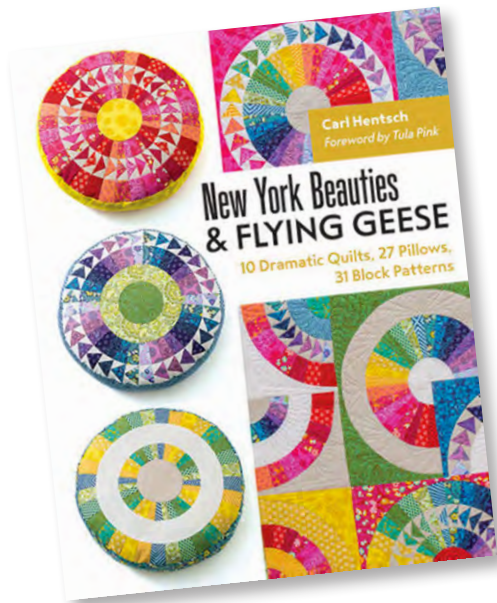


Book Reviews

These new books are worth a look!!!



New York Beauties & Flying Geese by Carl Hentsch

The cover of this new book stopped me in my tracks. I am going through a love affair with foundation piecing at the moment, and knew the vibrant cover quilt must have been constructed with that method. Then I noticed Tula wrote the intro and I figured I just had to peek inside. I started with Tula's note. She starts with a little background about her first meeting with Carl (in a fabric store where he was quietly selecting fabrics from all corners of the shop) and then being in the shop when he brought in his first pieces to be quilted. Everyone was struck by the complex, architectural style of the intricate works. In this new book Carl shares his astonishing work with all of us. Tula describes Carl's works this way, "What I love about these quilts is that they are caught, like so many of us right now, in the gray area between traditional and modern quilting - that indefinable space between a time-honored craft and a burgeoning art form, between yesterday and tomorrow." Tula loved Carl's original drawings for the book so much, she offered help in selecting fabrics for the pieces. The ideas she brought to the process begin the how-to section of the book and are followed by well-illustrated block construction information. Then it is on to the projects! The ten quilts, twenty-seven pillows and thirty-one block patterns move from bold dramatic works in deep rich colors, to the palest of pale works as the book progresses. Every single item is spectacular! This is certainly the moment to put your foundation piecing skills to work - you will want to make them all. If you have never tried foundation piecing, or your skills are a bit rusty, consider squeezing in a class in the technique. You will be glad you did! Book \$27.95

Mary Beth

Simple, Fun & Quickly Done by Terry Atkinson

The title of this book was enough to catch my eye, and once I saw Terry Atkinson wrote it, I knew it would be a winner. Terry always does an amazing job at writing patterns extremely clearly, with great diagrams and helpful tips to keep the entire stitching process as stress-free and fun as possible. In this particular book, Terry has collected a group of projects that are quick to put together, but have great visual impact. Just about every project in the book is enticing - she includes table runners, hot pads, wallets, bags, pillows, organizational bins and more. Plus every project can be whipped up as a great gift! Debbie K. went pretty crazy and made a table runner, the orange and lime slice hot pads and a couple of wallets. I got really excited and made a Mother's Day gift for Mom - the funky bohemian bag done in lime green and grey just screamed Mary Beth, and it was super fun to make! Cute design work, clear instructions and simple construction will keep this book near the top of my pile as a go-to for gifts all year round! Book \$24.99

Maureen

