

# Sunshine Maze

## Class Lesson Plan

### Christine Porter Quilts

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This lesson plan is provided to help you plan a class for *Sunshine Maze*. Use this lesson plan as a guide for presenting the ideas and methods needed to make this quilt. This lesson plan does not have to be followed precisely. Make changes as needed. Also, your ideas and additions are important elements, so be sure to share your thoughts, methods, and advice with your students.

#### **The Quilt Project: Sunshine Maze**

*Sunshine Maze* is a very simple, colorful wall quilt. It is a great class for beginners. Also, it is a wonderful quilt to use to learn the basics in quilting.

#### **Sample Brochure Class Description**

*Create this simple, colorful wall quilt in this quick one-day class. This project-oriented class gives you an opportunity to play with color, work with easy construction techniques, and create optical illusions through your quilting design. Skill level: beginner.*

#### **The Class Schedule**

This class has been designed to be taught in a one-day, six-hour session. If you think it will work better for you to offer another session, feel free to make this change.

#### **Christine's Basic Sewing Basket of Tools**

small scissors, seam ripper, rotary cutter, gridded ruler for rotary-cutting (e.g. 6" x 12" or 3" x 18"), cutting mat, thread, extra-fine pins, sewing machine needles

## CLASS — SUNSHINE MAZE

### *Students should bring to class the following items:*

*Sunshine Maze* pattern, *Christine's basic sewing basket of tools*, sewing machine & equipment, twelve fabrics for the quilt top, backing fabric, batting, basting tools, binding fabric, quilt- marking tool, quilting thread, 2-3 pieces of tracing paper, pencil

### **Step 1 Fabric Selection**

Discuss fabric and fabric placement. Have students assign a number to each fabric (e.g. fabric 1, green; fabric 2, yellow-green; fabric 3, yellow; etc.)

### **Step 2 Cutting Squares**

Demonstrate how to cut the quilt's squares. Have students cut their fabric squares. Have students set aside the two larger sets of squares and lay out the small center squares in the order of their placement (see *Center Panel Assembly*, step 1).

### **Step 3 Sewing the Small Center Squares Together**

Demonstrate how to sew the center squares into rows. Discuss pinning, setting seams, and pressing. Have students sew the four rows of squares, pressing seam allowances as noted in instructions. Then have them sew the rows together and press the center area.

### **Step 4 Sewing the Middle-sized Squares to the Center Panel**

Have students sew the middle-sized squares to the center panel in the manner shown in the instructions, steps 5 and 6. They should set seams and press before the next step.

### **Step 5 Sewing the Large Squares to the Center Panel**

Have students sew the large squares to the center panel in the manner shown in the instructions, step 7. They should set the seams and press before the next step.

**Step 6 Triangle Assembly**

Demonstrate how to cut the four large black triangles. Then demonstrate how to cut the black strip away. Have students do the same.

**Step 7 Assembling the Colorful Strips**

Demonstrate how to sew the colored strips together in their proper sequence (Triangle Assembly, step 3). Have students sew the strips together.

**Step 8 Assembling the Triangle**

Demonstrate how to assemble the triangle (steps 4, 5, and 6). Have students assemble their quilts' triangles.

**Step 9 Sewing the Triangles to the Center Panel**

Demonstrate how to sew the triangles to the center panel, using the instructions as a guide (steps 7-9). Have students sew their triangles to their center panels, set seams, and press. They should clip all seams and clean off any loose threads.

**LUNCH BREAK**

### **Step 1      The Quilt Design**

Discuss the design possibilities with *Sunshine Maze* via the quilting stitches. Have students view the quilt design diagram, noting its dimensionality. Have students play with a few quilt-design options, using tracing paper and pencil placed over the cover quilt. Then have each student decide which design she wants to use. Demonstrate quilting techniques. Discuss thread, needles, recommended feet, foot plate, etc.

### **Step 2      Preparing the Backing Fabric**

Discuss backing fabric. Have students prepare their backing fabric.

### **Step 3      Basting**

Discuss the different tools and methods for basting: spoon basting, safety-pin basting, etc. You may wish to discuss pros and cons of the various basting methods and tools. Explain your favorite method.

### **Step 4      Binding**

Demonstrate how to make the binding: how to cut the strips and how to sew the strips together, etc. Show your favorite binding method. Demonstrate how to hand stitch the binding to the back of the quilt.

### **Step 5      Work Period**

Have students work on their quilts.

### **Homework:**

Have students finish their quilts.

### ***Extra Credit***

If there is interest, set a date for the following month at the store for a *Sunshine Maze* quilt celebration. This should be an informal gathering where the students bring their quilts to share—finished or not. A beautiful bowl of fresh fruit (blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, oranges, cantaloupe, kiwi) would be a beautiful dessert and reiterate the quilt's colors so well.