

PRAIRIE QUEEN QUILT PATTERN: REFLECTING PIONEER DAYS

The name Prairie Queen has been applied to regions, cities, businesses and even a stagecoach. It is a name that brings to mind the pioneer days and settlers moving into what would become the prairie states.

CALAMITY JANE THE PRAIRIE QUEEN?

Songs and poetry reflect the romance of the name. Pioneer women have been referred to as Prairie Queens. Even Calamity Jane is said to have gone through a period when she wore women's clothing and went by the name Prairie Queen.



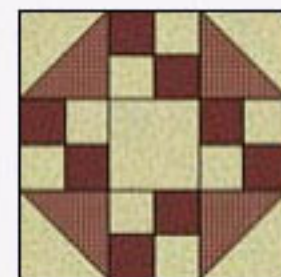
[click here for the pattern](#)

ALTERNATE NAMES AND PATTERNS

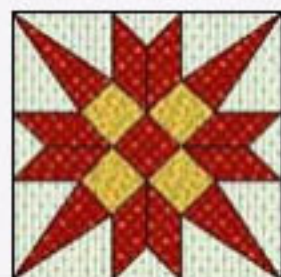
It's no surprise that the name has also been applied to a quilt block, in fact two blocks bear this name. One is a variation of the Monkey Wrench and the other a star like block. Often patterns have more than one name and the pattern shown in the graphic on this page has also been published under the name "True Blue".

A PATTERN EVERY QUILTER SHOULD KNOW

In her book, "Old Patchwork Quilts and The Women Who Made Them", that was first published in 1929, Ruth Finley mentions the Prairie Queen as one of the, "Simple but widely used nine-



patches that every person interested in quilts should know..." Finley gives no history of the block but we can assume from the quote that the pattern must have been around for a while to be that widespread.



The free pattern for this quilt can be found at [Prairie Queen Pattern](#). You will also find information on how to make a Pyramid border and a link to information on making Prairie Points.

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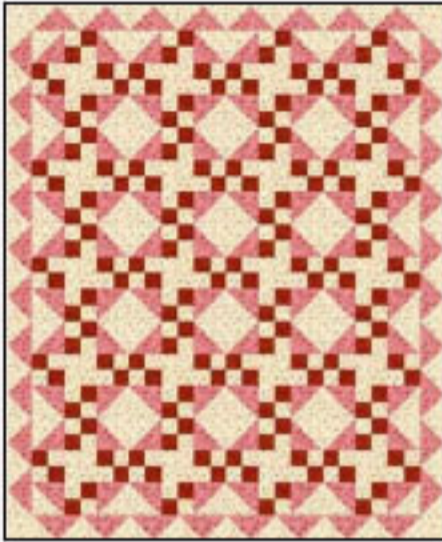
REFERENCES:

["Old patchwork Quilts and The Women Who Made Them"](#), by Ruth Finley

FREE PATTERNS FOR A PRAIRIE QUEEN QUILT

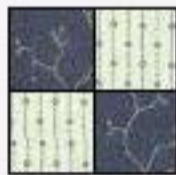
"Temperament has much to do with success in any undertaking, and persons afraid of coyotes and work and loneliness had better let ranching alone." ¹ Elinore Stewart of Burnt Fork Wyoming

The prairie is tied in our minds to the pioneers. We envision them crossing the plains in their prairie schooners as we imagine their triumphs and fears.



The quilt shown to the left is 45" by 55". By changing the number of blocks you can make anything from a crib quilt to a king sized quilt. Be sure to look at [The Prairie Queen History](#) page for background on this quilt.


Steps for making the Prairie Queen Block

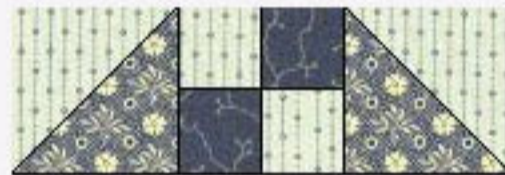



make 4



make 4

 make 1

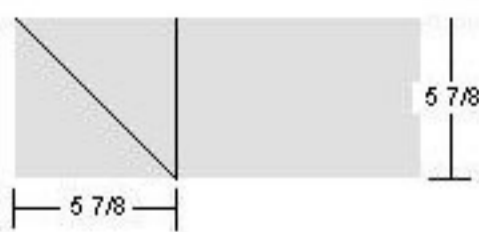


 make 2

Instructions for making the Pyramid border



The pyramid border has been around for a very long time. It can be seen in some borders of Medallion Quilts in the early 1800s and continued to be used in quilt borders when block quilts became popular around mid the 19th century.



> Cut triangles of contrasting colors in 5 7/8 inch squares then cut the squares into two triangles. I suggest making a test row of triangles then measuring them against the blocks to be sure they are the right size. Two dark pyramids should be the same length as one block. Do some experimenting with this before you make the whole border.

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REFERENCES:

¹ p 164, ["I Dwell in Possibility: Women Build a Nation"](#), by Donna M. Lucey

² p 121, [Clues in the Calico](#), by Barbara Brackman