

A CHILDREN'S MAGAZINE GUIDE® Anthology



OF CABBAGES

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KINGS™

THE YEAR'S BEST MAGAZINE
WRITINGS FOR KIDS

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There are still people who “quilt,” but do they work from real patches, or do they purchase fabric for the project? In one family, the scraps of collected fabric from children’s home-sewn clothing were piled high before the grandfather at last picked up his needle and thread and set to work.

Patchwork Art

*by Mary Morton Cowan
from Cobblestone*

In the early days of America, cloth was scarce. Many settlers had looms, but it was time consuming to make new cloth. So women who could not afford to send to England for new fabric saved every scrap of cloth and worn-out clothing. They sewed their small scraps together to make quilts. In cold climates, a layer of warm filling—everything from unspun wool to cornhusks and dry leaves—was stitched between the pieced top layer and a cloth backing.

At first, quilt pieces were odd shapes and sizes. As time went on, women cut and arranged pieces carefully, creating elaborate designs. Some patterns told stories and family histories. Others, such as Water Wheel, Pine Tree, and Weather Vane, symbolized their daily lives. The Log

Cabin pattern was made from strips of fabric, or “logs,” around a center square representing a chimney. Turkey Tracks portrayed turkeys’ tracks in the snow, while Mohawk Trail symbolized sunny and shady spots along a forest trail. The Friendship Ring pattern was made from pieces supplied by friends. Many patterns were created to honor people or commemorate events.

There are hundreds of variations of patchwork quilt patterns, many of which have more than one name. Can you identify the traditional patterns in the quilt on the next page? In the smaller diagram, label the square that corresponds to the placement of the pattern on the quilt. Answers below.

<i>o</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>l</i>	<i>c</i>
<i>i</i>	<i>q</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>h</i>
<i>k</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>a</i>
<i>m</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>f</i>
<i>g</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>e</i>

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| a. Union Square | k. Bear's Paw |
| b. Pine Tree | l. LeMoyne Star |
| c. Water Wheel | m. Turkey Tracks |
| d. Crazy Quilt | n. Sunburst |
| e. Log Cabin | o. Weather Vane |
| f. Friendship Ring | p. Joseph's Coat |
| g. Tumbling Blocks | q. Flower Basket |
| h. Mohawk Trail | r. Mariner's Compass |
| i. President's Wreath | s. Clamshell |
| j. Honeycomb | t. Pinwheel |

