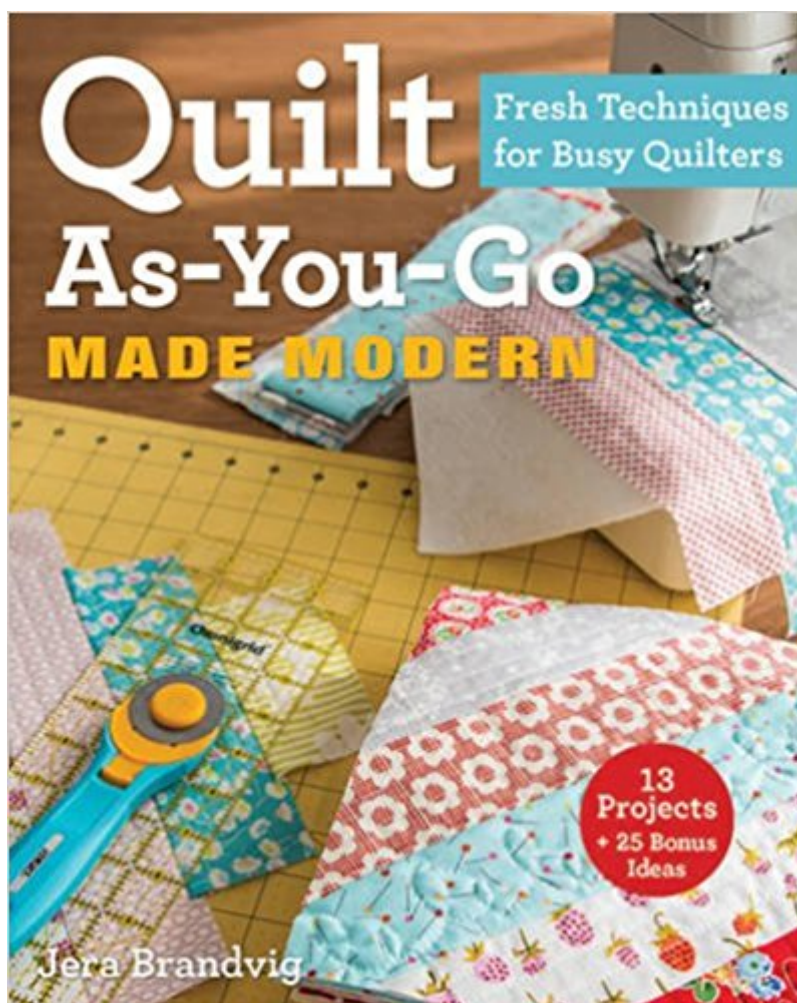


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# Quilt As-You-Go Made Modern: Fresh Techniques For Busy Quilters



## Synopsis

Do you believe rules were meant to be broken? If so, this improvisational quilt-as-you-go technique is for you. Instead of dealing with precise paper patterns and cutting measurements, you'll learn how to piece fabric onto small, manageable batting blocks. Let your creative juices flow as you quilt directly on the blocks (not the entire quilt!), whether in large abstract zigzags or small structured stitches. After the blocks have been joined, all you need to do is add backing fabric and binding, and voilà—it's finished!

## Book Information

Age Range: 10 and up

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: C&T Publishing / Stash Books (October 1, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1607059010

ISBN-13: 978-1607059011

Product Dimensions: 8.1 x 0.3 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 312 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #6,028 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts > Quilts & Quilting #1787 in Books > Children's Books

## Customer Reviews

Quilting is easier than ever with Jera Brandvig's modern spin on the popular quilt-as-you-go technique. With this method, you will learn how to piece fabric on to small, manageable batting blocks, instead of using precise paper patterns and cutting measurements. Find your creativity as you quilt directly on the blocks (not the whole quilt!), whether in large abstract zigzags or small structured stitches. After the blocks have been joined, all you need to do is add backing fabric and binding, and your work is finished! (Modern Quilts Unlimited, Fall 2014) Quilt-as-you-go (QAYG) is one of those techniques that every quilter is curious about trying, but can be daunting as the process is so different to the traditional process of making a quilt top and then quilting it. Having recently completed a QAYG quilt in record time, I'm a convert to the process, so finding this book by Jera of Quilting in the Rain was perfect timing. The book introduces the technique very thoroughly, so you can clearly understand the difference between traditional piecing and quilting and QAYG.

Then there's a great selection of gorgeous quilts that are sure to appeal to the modern quilter. A must if you've ever thought about trying QAYG and haven't had a clue where to start. (Make Modern Magazine, September 2014) This method combines patchwork and quilting together as most of the quilting is worked in small areas. The fabric pieces are sewn directly onto cotton punched wadding which is cut 1-1/2" bigger than the finished block. There is no backing at this stage, only two layers are quilted. The quilted blocks are then trimmed to the correct size. After the blocks are joined together a backing fabric is attached, with minimal quilting, before binding the edges. (British Patchwork & Quilting, February 2015)

Jera Brandvig approaches quilting as a creative art form and loves to bend the rules. She lives in Seattle, Washington, with her husband, son and two children. To learn more, visit [quiltingintherain.com](http://quiltingintherain.com).

I like her ideas. I like that all the blocks are pieced and quilted all at one time. I was hoping that she had a better solution for the backing. Putting the top together goes smoothly but then when the backing is added you are fighting the full quilt again.

I just received this book yesterday ( super fast shipping BTW-thank you !) and I really like it! Her instructions are clear ( although I would have liked to see a close-up of the clipped corners!) and she includes some cute quilt patterns to inspire you. I think this technique works best for improv quilting, but the author also explains how to make traditional blocks to use with the quilt as you go method. Overall I was very inspired to start making a quilt using this method right away...no more struggling with a giant quilt in my little home machine to get it quilted. This book would be great for anyone who has some quilting experience.

I used this technique to complete a baby quilt for a friend. In terms of the quilt I knew what I wanted to do and had all the fabric, but didn't relish the thought of machine quilting even a small baby quilt by pushing the entire thing through my machine as I've done before with other quilts. I remember either watching a TV quilting show, or reading a different book, about how to quilt in small sections, but that technique included keeping the backing seam allowances open as you quilted the backing at the same time as the front and batting, and then hand stitched the backing seams together. Something like that anyway. With "Quilt As-You-Go Made Modern", leaving the backing off helps tremendously. Of course you don't necessarily get the same quilted "look" as with traditional

techniques, but there has to be some compromises if you want the project to be simpler and faster. I sewed four 6"x6" quilt pieces together and then placed them on top of a 12"x12" cotton batting square and then quilted them using freestyle machine quilting, rather than sewing the 4 pieces directly onto the batting. This was a personal choice and had more to do with the exact placement of the pieces within the quilt as I was able to chain sew them together and keep better track of them. I used solid colors and didn't want 2 pieces of the same color to end up right by each other. Then I sewed the 12"x12" quilted pieces together, then the border with batting, and then the backing. Then I safety pinned everything together and quilted the border portion with all 3 layers together and sewed a wavy line down between each square. Yes, this included pushing the entire quilt through my machine, but wavy one direction lines are certainly easier than freestyle quilting. The binding itself probably took about as long as the rest of the quilt did as I hand stitched the back. So, not including the binding, this quilt was by far the fastest quilt I've ever sewed, and it looks just as nice and I didn't start to resent it as it wasn't around long enough. The friend I gave it to absolutely loves it and asked me about the technique so I dropped the book off at her house a few days later. Hope she starts her own project soon! This technique can be used for long rectangular pieces as well, not just squares. Diagonal pieces too. I have a diamond quilt top started that's been sitting in a storage bin for far too long that I may have another go at with this technique.

This has some very intriguing ideas for quilting your pattern onto the batting - that is correct, it is onto the batting. After you have completed the quilted squares you have to piece them together and you need to quilt (minimally) the already quilted squares onto the backing before you apply the binding. While this wasn't what I hoped (true quilt as you go includes quilting the back before piecing), it has very good instructions, especially in the area of binding including machine binding. I debated, and the excellence of the instruction leads me to give this four stars - just expect a bit more work with this particular technique - unless you want to apply her techniques and attach backing instead of just batting.

This book opened a way for my creativity to shine with little time and technique. Jera's ideas are inspiring and her tips are great and easy to learn. I highly recommend this book and her class if you are lucky enough to take it. Mostly it is a great way to feed your love of showcasing beautiful fabrics as projects go quickly! All my friends having babies will benefit from what I now know as even better crib quilts will be coming their way.

Great book, just didn't realize you still need to quilt the back of the quilt together with the top. I thought you'd be able to sew the top to the backing right sides together and not have to struggle with feeding the whole quilt through the machine to quilt the two sides together. Its an awful lot of extra work quilting each square as you go when you still have to quilt the top to the back. This method has a lot of value but it still doesn't eliminate the need to quilt the back to the front. She does say you can use tack stitches at the corner of each block where they join, like the "tying" method, but I'm not confident that would hold up in the wash with such a heavily quilted top. Also, I just wonder how secure those 1/2" sashing/joining strips are going to hold up in the wash as well. You will definitely want to have them gently cleaned I would imagine if you use the sashing/joining strip method for joining your pre-quilted blocks together. Also, when sewing to quilted squares together (the other joining method) this can be really hard on your sewing machine. You need to make sure you are using a really strong needle like a denim needle. My machine broke when I was making a rag quilt where you have to sew quilt sandwich blocks together and it cost \$200 to fix. I didn't see anything in the instructions about how to avoid that from happening. And my machine is a Bernina, a good, solid machine, very heavy weight and built for hard work.

Great book! Purchased as a gift, and they absolutely love it. There's a number of projects with lovely pictures and easy directions. Perfect read for a beginner or even advanced quilters looking for a simplified approach. I'm considering buying another copy to have on my coffee table.

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