

Spiraling

inspired by NQM Collection Artist Sonia Grasvik

Quilt by: Becky Glasby



Featured Artist: Becky Glasby

Becky Glasby



Becky Glasby is a self-taught quilter who turned her love of quilting from a personal hobby into a professional career when she moved to Paducah to start working at the National Quilt Museum as the Director of Education.

At the museum Becky works to inspire the next generation of quilters and promote the art of quilting through: youth and adult tours, hands-on programs, off-site visits, community collaborations, the Block of the Month Club program, and coordinating the annual School Block Challenge for students across the country.

Becky enjoys sharing her love of quilting with everyone she meets, and loves encouraging creativity in other quilters.

Blog: <https://bumblebzs.blogspot.com/>

Instagram: @bumblybzs

Website: <https://QuiltMuseum.org/SBC>



Inspiration

Slow Motion by Sonia Grasvik



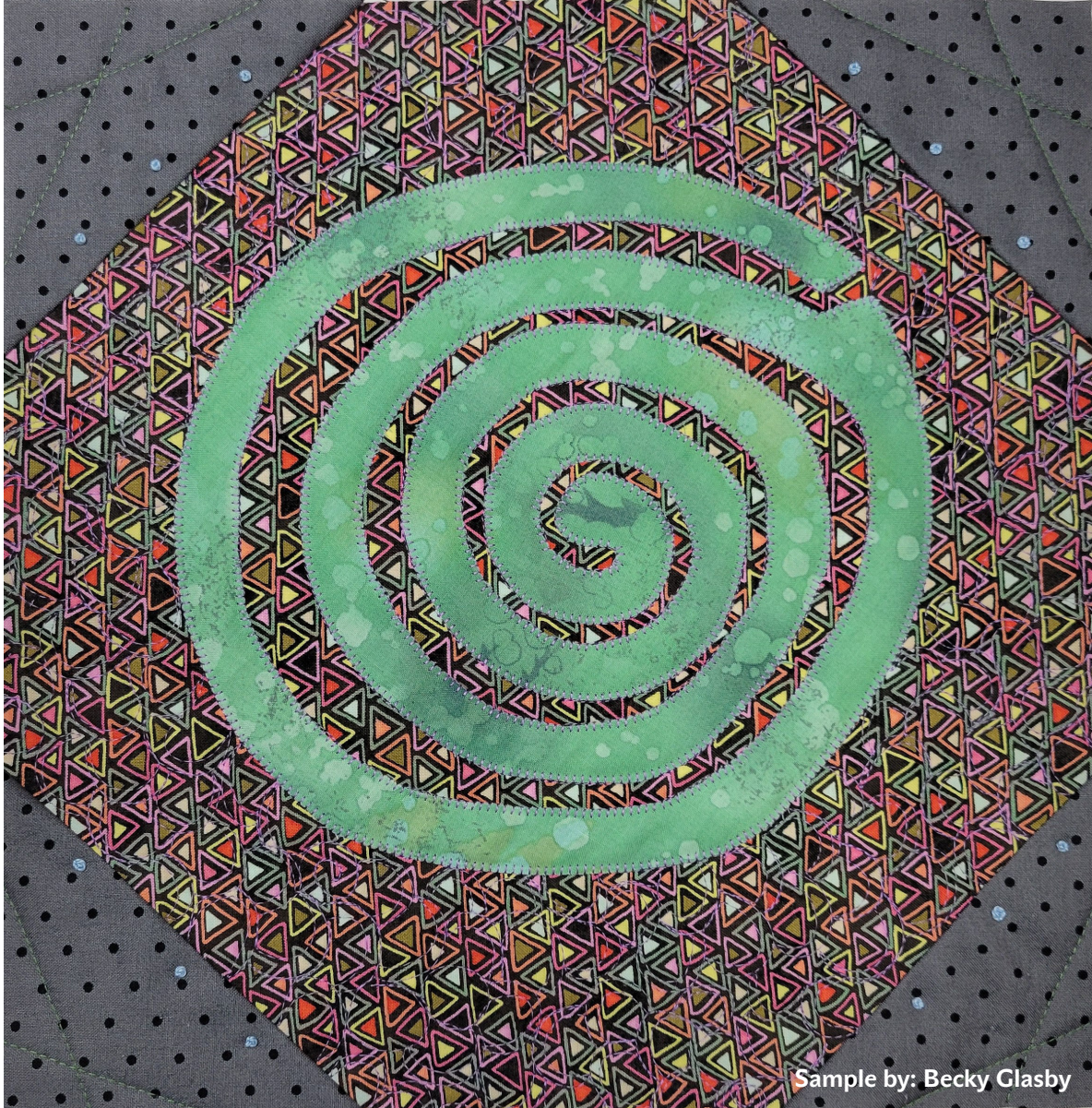
“This quilt was inspired by viewing a special exhibit of Japanese quilts. These artists are masters in the use of taupe in their work. After completing this piece I was totally humbled by their expertise. The Yo-Yos are a whimsical nod to the traditional quilts of old. The single red dot adds to the motion, keeping the eye moving around the quilt.”

Slow Motion joined the collection in 2021. It was made in 2014, using Japanese taupe cottons, pearl cotton thread, raw-edge appliqué, embroidery, and free motion quilting.

This block is a sized-up version of Sonia’s spirals. It will work well with any color palette, from busy print backgrounds to solids to neutrals so feel free to experiment with different fabrics for the spiral.



Sample Block



Supplies:

- 13" square background fabric
- 4 - 4½" squares for corners
- 10" square for spiral
- 14" square batting and backing fabric
- Embroidery thread / pearl cotton



Instructions

Photo 1



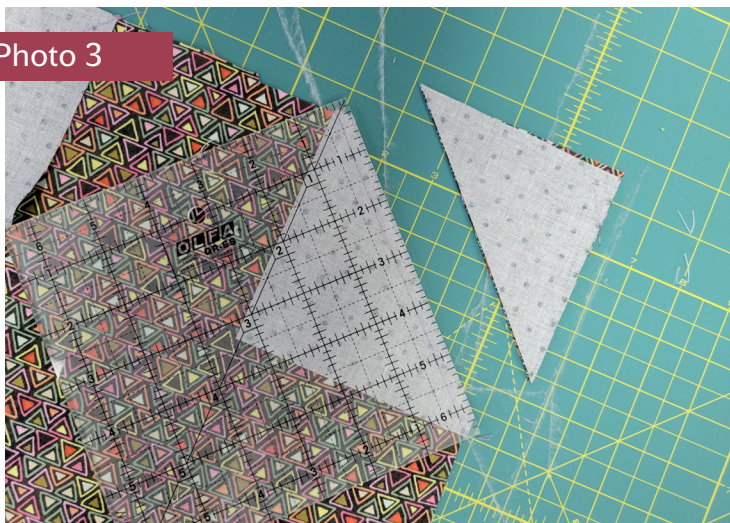
1. Cut 4 squares for the corners at $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ ". Press in half diagonally or use a marking tool to mark the diagonal line on the wrong side of the fabric (photo 1).

2. Position each square on a corner of the background fabric and stitch along the crease/drawn line. Trim the excess corner fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the stitched seam and press (photo 2 & 3).

Photo 2



Photo 3





Instructions

Photo 4

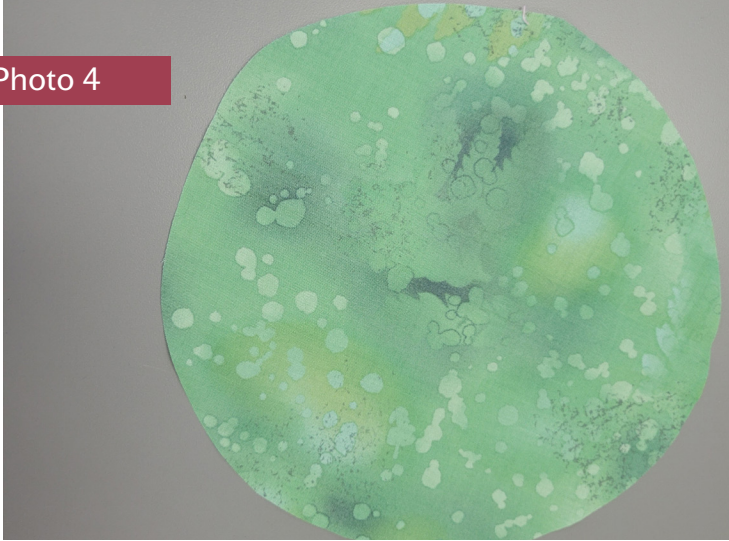
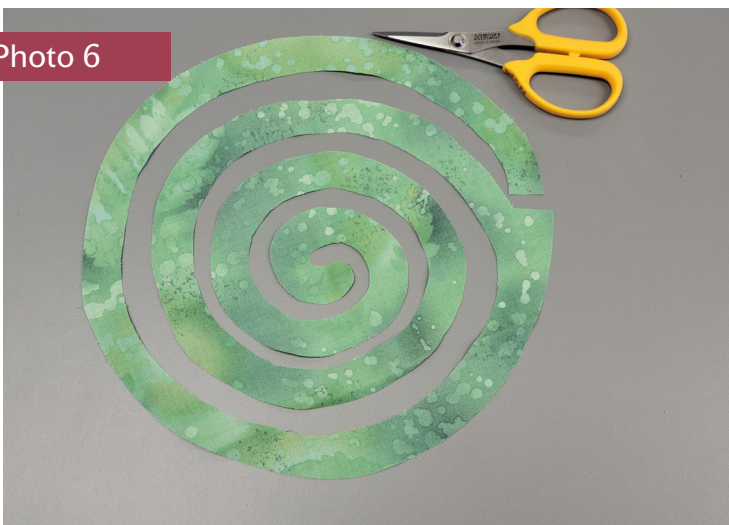


Photo 5



Photo 6

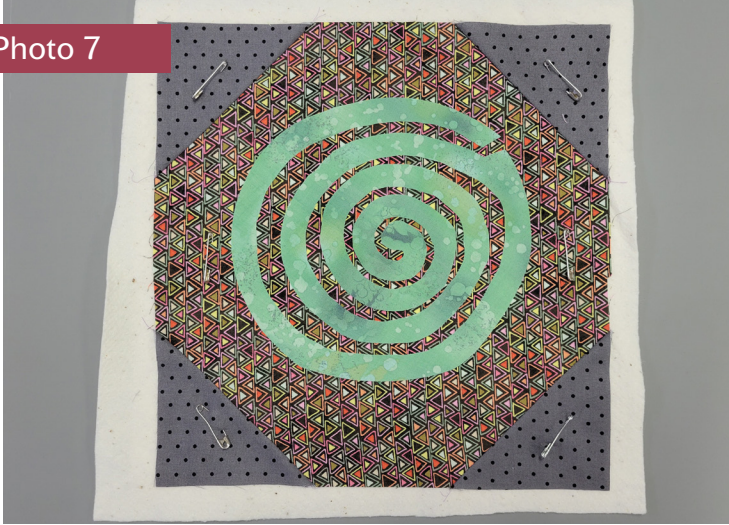


3. Baste together the background fabric with batting and backing fabric.
4. Cut a circle from the 10" square of fabric for the spiral. It doesn't need to be perfectly round, but approx. 9" in diameter (photo 4).
5. Using sharp scissors, carefully cut a spiral into the fabric circle, keeping at least 1" of thickness between cuts (photo 5). When you reach the center, leave enough room to round the end and start cutting back out of the spiral. As you cut from the center out to the edges, try to keep the spiral from getting too narrow, keeping the thickness about $\frac{1}{2}$ " - $\frac{3}{4}$ " (photo 6).



Instructions

Photo 7



6. Arrange the spiral in the center of the background and gently settle it so the fabric lays flat (photo 7).

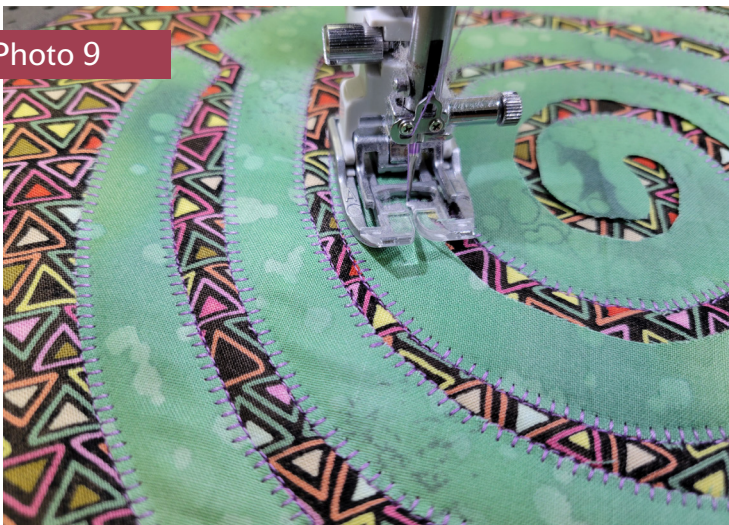
7. Starting in the center, slowly and carefully appliqué the spiral in place using a blanket stitch on the machine (or by hand) (photo 8).

8. Continue stitching all the way to the outer end of the spiral, following the edge around to stitch back down the other side of the spiral into the center (photo 9).

Photo 8



Photo 9





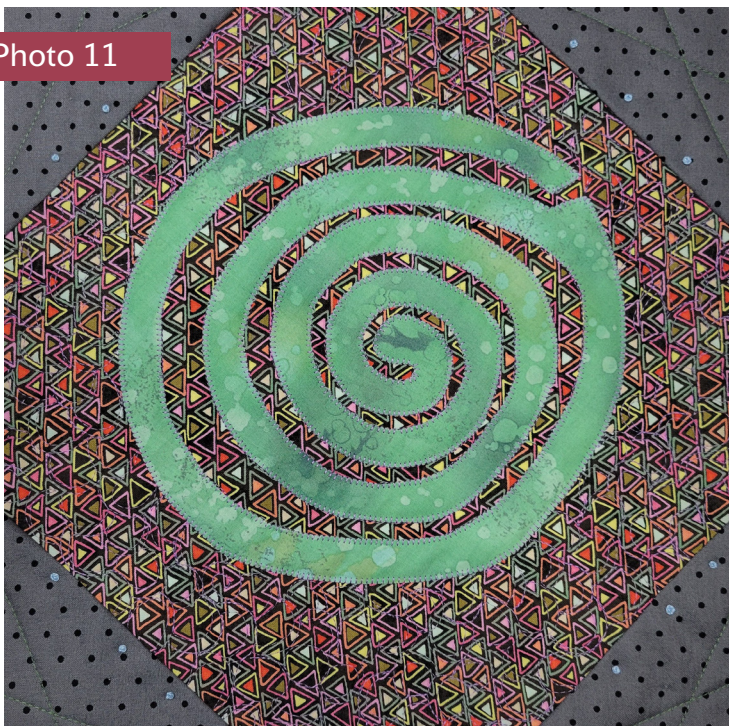
Instructions

Photo 10



9. Add quilting in the background and corners. If you have a busy background print (like the sample) a stipple would work well to blend into the print. If the background fabric is not too busy, quilting swirls or pebbles like Sonia did on *Slow Motion* will create added texture.
10. Add a touch of hand embroidery with French Knots along the corner seams if desired (photo 10).
11. Trim block to 12 ½" x 12 ½" (photo 11).

Photo 11



Finished?
Fantastic!