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# Quilters Playtime: Games With Fabrics



## Synopsis

This book revives the exhilaration and joy of playing childhood games with a medley of spirited quilt projects. These games are played at the sewing machine with thread, vibrant fabric, and an open mind. It's okay to be a rule-breaker in these games. A strict code of 1/4 inch seam allowances, impeccable grain lines, perfect color matches, and flawless points is not enforced with these playful projects. Elements of design, such as proportion and scale, balance, rhythm, and focus, will become second nature with the author's fun approach. The quilt projects include lively favorites such as Pin the Tail on the donkey, Tic-Tac-Toe, Ring Around the Rosy, and Hopscotch. Each project has three sections: the Object of the Game, Game Plan, and Your Move. All provide instructions for creating the quilts. As you are guided through making a mock-up of the game, forming your own version of the quilt becomes recreational. Each game includes photographs of several variations to inspire you. Break free from the conventional and discover creative energies that have been there all the time, just waiting to be released.

## Book Information

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: American Quilter's Society; Ill edition (February 1, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1574328263

ISBN-13: 978-1574328264

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.3 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #734,020 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #240 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts > Applique #1528 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts > Quilts & Quilting

## Customer Reviews

...By playing games with fabric, quilters can allow themselves to be spontaneous and creative, while creating beautiful quilts. Grab your scrap basket and get set to enjoy childhood classics like Tic Tac Toe, Pin the Tail on the Donkey, Musical Chairs, Pick-Up Sticks, and Tiddly Winks. Any of these fun activities makes a great game to play at quilt guild retreats or meetings -- it's easy to mix and match the free-style unblocks to make a group quilt. -Quilts with Style, August 2004

Dianne S. Hire is a nationally known author, teacher, and quilter working from her home in Maine.

I really like this book. As soon as I got it I read it from cover to cover. Her ideas to take traditional blocks and turn them on end is such fun! If you are the let bit worried don't be. The book takes it in little steps (games) and you are soon doing things with a different look. Dianne S. Hire also has a newer book called Vivacious Curvy Quilts which is the same thing with curves.

This book helps you free up your artistic style. It shows a way of being improvisational with your designing process in a fun way.

I took a workshop with Diane and just loved it, so I bought her book. It was not a disappointment. I love the creativity and the modern twist on old traditional quilt blocks like the nine patch. There are many techniques in the book to help create these whimsical art quilts. The instructions are clearly written and accompanied by lots of full color photos. This book is a great addition to my quilt library!

Very creative and thought provoking ideas! I've been a long-time quilter; and this book has been a new source of inspiration!

Love this book.

I would recommend this book to anyone looking to have a little fun and forget about all the quilting 'rules'

Wonderful book - lots of new-to-me techniques and fun projects. Can't wait to get started!

I am a quilter who absolutely loves playing with fabric and hates measuring. Dianne's book is my dream workbook--it's full of ways to play with your fabrics and learn new approaches to creating a beautiful quilt, and encourages a playful, risk-taking spirit. The book is divided into different "games," like Hopscotch, where you create a series of narrow, then wide, then narrow pieces that really do look like the hopscotch boards of our childhood; Tiddlywinks, with multicolored concentric ovals and circles arranged in patterns; Musical Chairs, with colors shifting from skewed block to skewed block in an orderly progression (until you throw in a Wild Card), and lots more. The best part is, Dianne shows you how to do each kind of improvisational piecing and then sets you free with lots of ideas

and examples, so you can create something that is totally your own. The photos in the book are of wonderfully free-spirited quilts by several different quilters, and are in a lot of color schemes, though most are bright. Dianne encourages experimentation and ornamentation--there are plenty of beads, buttons, dangles and whirligigs here--and helps you get over your fear of cutting into big pieces of beautiful yardage by suggesting you "sneak up on them" and whack them into pieces, which then can go into a gloriously jumbled scrap basket that will trigger new ideas and combinations. I just wish I would post a cover photo and a "Take A Look Inside" section of the book. If you have any interest at all in improvisational quilting, you MUST get this book.

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