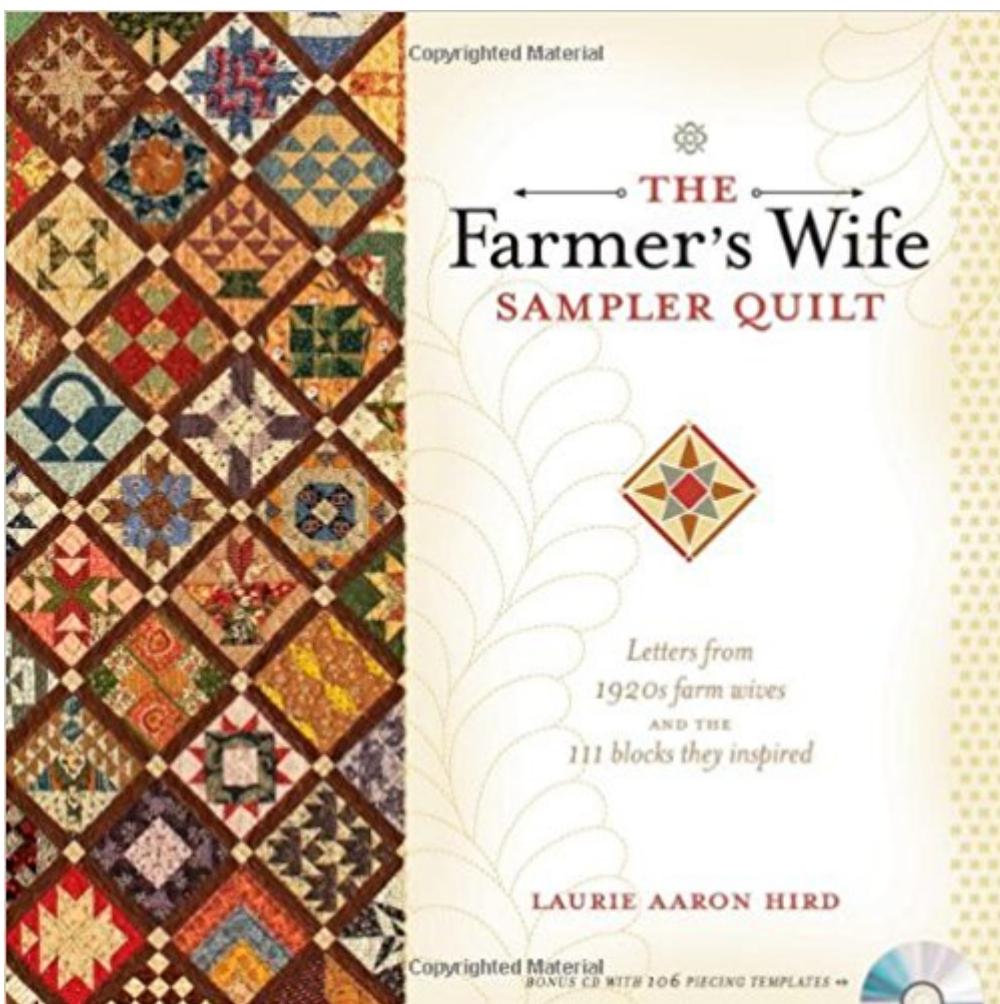


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The Farmer's Wife Sampler Quilt: Letters From 1920s Farm Wives And The 111 Blocks They Inspired



Synopsis

Be Inspired by the Stories The 1922, The Farmer's Wife magazine posed this question to their readers: "If you had a daughter of marriageable age, would you, in light of your own experience, have her marry a farmer?" The magazine at the time had 750,000 subscribers, and received over 7,000 letters. The best answers to this question are included in this book, along with the traditional quilt blocks they inspired. Laurie Aaron Hird provides everything you need to be inspired and create your own sampler quilt: 111 six-inch quilt blocks, with assembly diagrams for piecing the blocks and template cutting directions. Complete instruction for making a sampler quilt in any traditional size: lap, twin, queen or king. CD with easy-to-print, full-sized templates for all 111 blocks, and printable quilt construction diagrams. 42 letters from the 1922 Farmer's Wife contest to give you a priceless glimpse into our country's past.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Laurie Aaron Hird has been quilting for over ten years and enjoys working with reproduction and 1930's fabrics. She and her family live on six acres in the country of southwestern Wisconsin, complete with animals, gardens, woods and an orchard.

This is a nice book, not a great book. I had recently purchased two other books that were similar in

nature, but from a different author. Here is the jest of it. During the 20's a popular magazine, The Farmer's Wife, had a contest for the readers. They asked the question, "If you had a daughter of marriageable age, would you, in light of your own experience, want her to marry a farmer?" The magazine was surprised and overwhelmed by over 7,000 responses. As substantial cash reward, especially for those times, was offered to the top 68 letters. The winning letters and 111 quilt blocks inspired by them, are published in the book. I thought that the blocks would be historically accurate blocks from that time period, maybe a little insight as to why they were named what they were. I was wrong. I am not sure exactly who was inspired to choose the blocks chosen, but was disappointed when I realized that these are common blocks, just named differently. For example, the block commonly known as churn dash in this book is named Wrench. It was the same with the other similar books I purchased. My biggest complaint with this (these) book(s) is the lack of directions for the blocks. It is up to you to draft them off and make them. I like actual details. ie...cut four A pieces 2 inches by 2 inches. All the cutting directions are listed with directions for sewing each block in a separate section of the book. The best thing about this book, from a quilting stand point, is that it does come with a CD for the computer to print off templates for the blocks. If you are looking for a book from a quilting stand point, it may not be the best choice. If you are interested in history, this is a pretty good choice. The letters are reflective of the values and feelings of the time, are a truly wonderful insight in to the life and heart of actual women of the time. While the writers of these letters were not world leaders, not famous for any recognized achievement (finance, scientific) they were responsible for raising up the next generations of people that made our country what it is today. So, for that reason alone, I am happy to have this book. I am a history nut.

Ladies in my area are using this book as a guide for making their own quilts. I can't join them in their project. I just searched to find the book and became interested once I read some of the stories. I was excited once I received the book. Finding patterns and stories and how to's. This is the best quilting book I've ever seen, and I've seen a lot. I'm so glad I made this purchase. I've been to the fabric store several times picking out pieces of fabric for particular designs. I'm energized to make a quilt (or several) because of this book. I've told all the women I know who make quilts about it. I'm going to get more, but must first accomplish the plans I have in mind.

I read some negative reviews about this book due to the way the templates were stored but I have been quite satisfied. The books itself is a delightful read and a very nice book for gifting or coffee table display. Accessing the templates is commonsense, easy to do on a mac or PC. As long as

your printer is configured correctly, each template prints to scale and you can increase it by whatever amount to make a bigger block if desired. The only reason I gave it four stars instead of five is because I would like to be able to print more than one template per page, so save paper. I am confident I could do it with a wee bit of copy and paste but the jury is still out on the efficacy of that idea.

The stories are interesting but the patterns and instructions leave something to be desired. Other than the exploded diagrams in the book there are no piecing instructions for the blocks. As others have mentioned, each pattern template is on a separate page, which makes for a lot of printing if you use them. You must print from the CD; the patterns in the book aren't templates. I found the CD templates accurate for the most part, as long as your printer is set correctly. If you are an experienced quilter you can draft many of the patterns yourself and rotary cut them. But you can tell she is a "self taught" quilter, as many of the patterns aren't conventionally pieced. That being said, there are enough basic blocks that you could skip those that are challenging and still have a nice quilt. I would recommend this for an experienced quilter but not a beginner.

The book and the quilt squares are good but unfortunately all the templates and piecing instructions are on a CD. Many computers no longer have actual CD capabilities. Also, each template is on a separate PDF within the CD. There are over 106 different individual templates. I suspect however many of the templates are the same. Considering that the templates are so small I believe it would have been better to have multiple templates on a single page. It seems like a heck of a lot of wasted paper in the template format the author chose.

I don't want to give a poor rating as the book was delivered just fine. Unfortunately, much of the information is on a CD and I don't have the ability to access it. I've run into this a few times and will be more careful in the future.

Being married to a farmer myself, I knew I wanted to make this quilt and have enjoyed reading all of the letters in the book. The directions were a tad difficult to understand (unless you are a seasoned quilter...which I'm not), but luckily my sister is and she was able to find another site that simplified things considerably so it has been a fun project nonetheless. I would definitely purchase it again or as a gift for another quilter.

the cd was missing from this item. Had I known you needed to use a cd I would not have ordered it. I want a book that has all of the directions for a quilt on the page. the book was all over the place. do not recommend it at all.

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