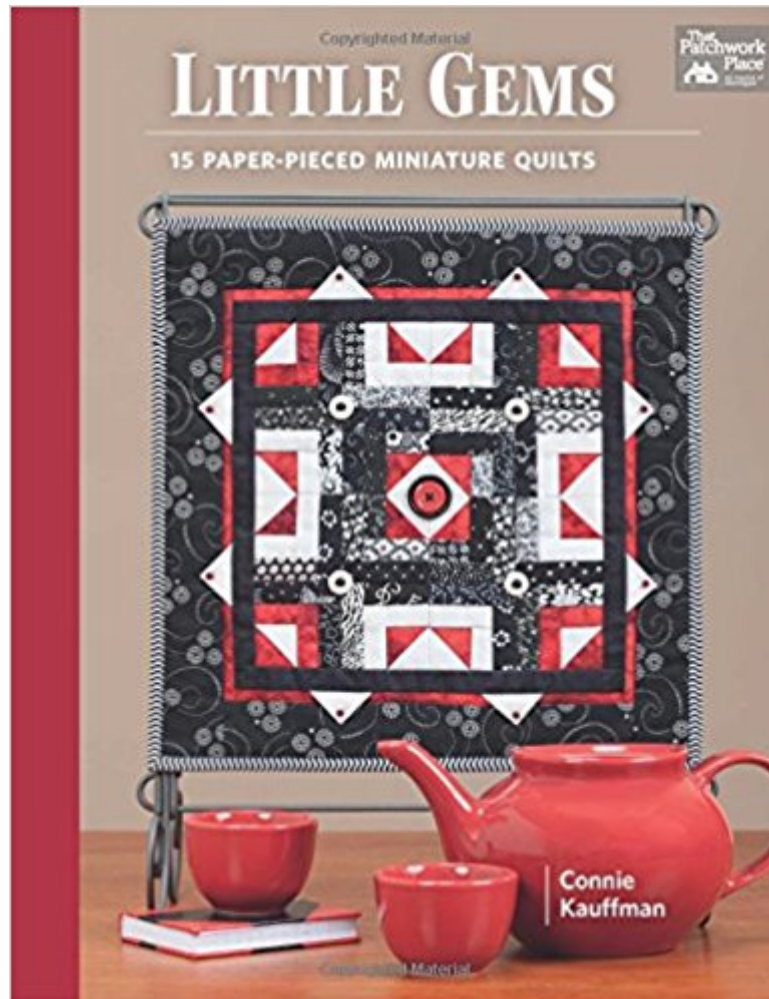


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Little Gems: 15 Paper-Pieced Miniature Quilts



Synopsis

Little Gems - Softcover The perfect start to any project. These are a great way to add extra design to whatever project you want to add it to.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I ordered the Kindle version at less than half the price of the print book, so I was concerned about how to print the paper pieced patterns. Not to worry -- there's a link embedded in the ebook that downloads the patterns to your computer as a .pdf file. Easy, peasy. As for the patterns, they're all gorgeous. Not a loser in the bunch. I plan to make them all. Usually, I'm happy if 3 or 4 patterns in a book or magazine appeal to me. These are all winners. Trust me.

Little Gems is a must-buy/must-make collection of diminutive beauties that all measure 12"x12". As an added bonus, they are paper-pieced, primed for embellishing, and perfectly sized for ready-made hangers and display stands. Author Connie Kauffman shows off her handiwork on delightful display stands from a company she identifies in the book. The book is very instructive with nicely sufficient text and drawn diagrams. Kauffman reminds us why even experienced quilters need to keep reading the "techniques and basics" sections of all these quilt books. If we're lucky (or diligent) we'll discover a nugget such as this one: use 50- or 60-weight thread to reduce bulk. You'll improve your accuracy in piecing and matching points with a thinner thread. The question that *always* must be answered for miniature quilts is: what is the seam allowance? Traditional miniatures have an

1/8-inch SA, while more recent designs have the user-friendly 1/4-inch SA. This info tends to be buried in the text. Fortunately, because we're talking about paper-piecing here, the SA is clearly marked on each paper pattern. The seam allowance is our familiar 1/4 inch. A few noteworthy observations: COLOR; lots of triangles; tons of opportunities for yo-yos, charms, and buttons; COLOR; unusual borders; crafty edgings; COLOR. I want to make each of these cuties in exactly the same colorways that Ms. Kauffman used for the book. And if I can ever break away from doing that, each of these projects would be ideal for playing with value/tone/shading, different prints, and alternate fabric genres. Most of these 15 projects will take on another look - but be just as striking, possibly more so - done up in 30's retro prints or jewel-tone sateens. Little Gems moves to the top 3 of my favorite miniature quilting books. Rated: must buy.

I just made one of the projects in Connie's book, called Serenity, and I love it! As Connie suggests in her book, I picked fabrics at random as I was putting the blocks together. If you have never tried paper piecing, Connie gives you lots of details on how to do it at the beginning of the book so, by the time you choose which of the 15 projects you want to make, you will feel very confident you can do it. I used the Foundation Papers by Martingale which made the whole process a breeze. I am already picking my next project from this book! A must-have in your quilting library, particularly because she gives you ideas of how to enlarge patterns to make bigger quilts, too.

I am not a paper piecing fan but for those that are this is a book full of miniature quilts. There are 15 different projects and are all sized 12" x 12". They are made for hanging in a small frame that stands on your table or shelf but one is a table mat. The book starts out with an overview of how to do paper piecing and includes how to finish and even put a hanging sleeve on the back. There are tips set off in boxes with a cute flower on one edge. The projects have graphics, well worded instructions and provide the templates. The patterns use hour glass, diamonds, half-square triangle, square-in-a-square, yo-yos and strips to make the blocks. If you like working with smaller pieces, these small quilts could become a quilt-as-you-go blocks. Then all you would have to do is make more and put them together for a throw, lap quilt or even a bed quilt. "I received a free or discounted product in exchange for providing an unbiased review."

A definite "must have" book for those who love to quilt, especially paper-pieced! Easy to read and understand makes creating these miniatures such a joy. The step-by-step instructions makes it so simple. Even beginners will be able to quilt one of Connie Kauffman's lovely designs. There are 15

of her miniature gems in this book, wow! Can't wait to try to see how many of these I can create!

A very well written book by Kauffman for paper piecing small projects and using scrap fabric. Her explicit paper piecing instructions and accurate foundation patterns are wonderful. I love the tip boxes as well as hints to make several of the projects larger if you would like to. And her ideas to use buttons on the 'Little Gem's, great ideas.

Little Gems is a definite must have for a quilter's library. It has easy to follow directions for the miniature quilts as well as directions to enlarge. The use of embellishments really add to the overall appearance of the Little Gems the author has designed. Great ideas to help use your scraps.

The patterns are unique and I can't wait to start one of the projects. I love paper-piecing and Connie's instructions are so easy to understand. I have fabric waiting for the "Playing with Plaids" quilt.

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