

The 2025 Journal Quilt challenge “Man-made”

Requirements

In 2025, the requirement is to make 12 journal quilts – notionally one a month – inspired by the theme ‘**Man-made**’ (or, of course, ‘woman-made’.) 11 of these JQs can be any size you wish as long as no side exceeds 12”(30.5cm x 30.5cm). But this year we’d like one of your JQs to be a small 6” x 6” square to tie in with the QQBI’s group quilt project for Festival of Quilts in 2025 “Sapphire Street”. “Man made” is defined in the dictionary as “created by humans” or “artificial”. So you could:

- Reflect architectural styles such as art deco, gothic, post modern etc
- Be inspired by built structures such as bridges, tunnels, towers, castles
- Incorporate any techniques or materials that suit your chosen subject(s)

Each JQ must also have at least two layers, be stitched/quilted, and the edges should be finished appropriately.

JQs can be any shape or size, provided they are no larger than 12” x 12” (30.5cm x 30.5cm). There is no minimum size, except that at least one must be 6” x 6”.

How to take part in the JQ Challenge

The arrangements are the same as for previous years:

Please register your interest by emailing the JQ Coordinator, Alison Livesley, address below. Just give your name – there are no other details required. This is so that we can know how many members are taking part. Ideally, sign up in January, but there is no formal time limit and please do join in during the course of the year if that works for you. Just send an email then.

If you decide to drop out or take a break for a few months there is no need to email me again. We realise life gets in the way sometimes.

It can also be difficult to keep to a monthly schedule so we relaxed that requirement last year. It is up to you to decide when to make your JQs within the year; all you need to do to meet the Challenge is complete 12 by the end of December (unless you only started part way through). That said, keeping up momentum is usually easier with a regular schedule and we do recommend this.

There will be a monthly Facebook Album. If you would like to, do post a photo of each JQ in the appropriate album, together with a brief comment on why/how you made it. Don’t forget to add your name – unlike with a post, Facebook does not automatically include your name when you are adding to an Album.

If you don’t use Facebook, please take a good, high resolution photo of each JQ and keep these in your own album until the end of the year. Please note, you no longer need to email your photos to me on a monthly or four-monthly basis.

In December 2025, we will be inviting everyone who has taken part (whether or not you use Facebook) to select their favourite JQs of the year and email a high resolution photo of these to me, together with a short statement. We will these use as the basis for the newsletter review of the challenge and to set up a website gallery. This gives members who are not Facebook users the opportunity to share their work and for a much wider audience to see them. We also hope to have further opportunities to exhibit JQs.

I hope you enjoy this year's challenge and if you have any queries or problems (or suggestions for a future theme), do drop me an email.

Alison Livesley

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