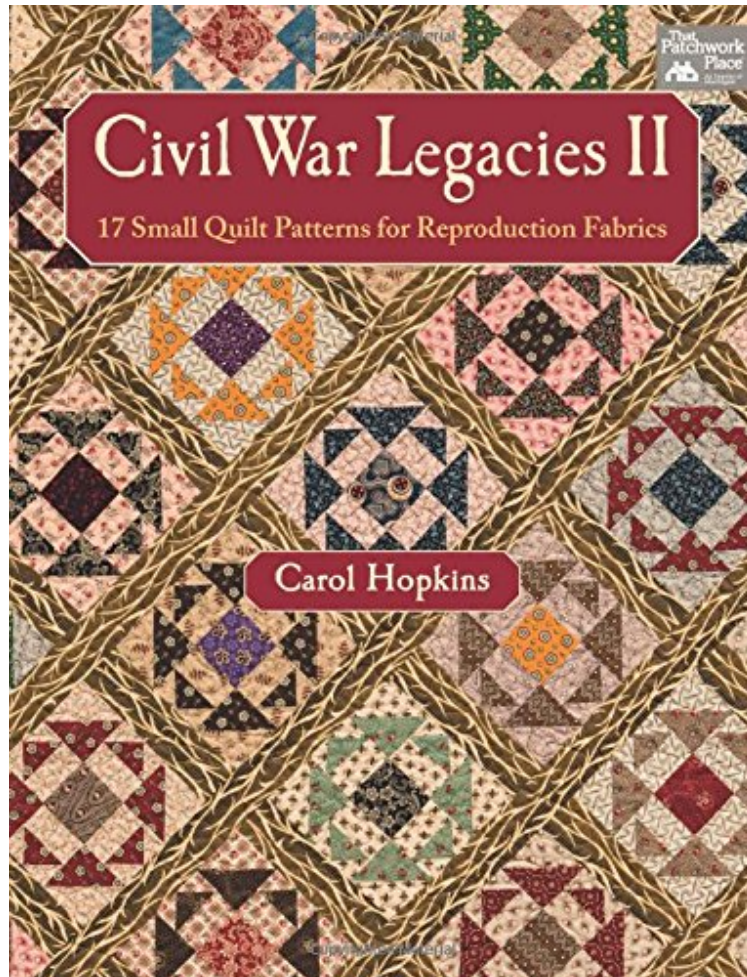


(Read now) Civil War Legacies II: 17 Small Quilt Patterns for Reproduction Fabrics

## Civil War Legacies II: 17 Small Quilt Patterns for Reproduction Fabrics

Carol Hopkins

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#217974 in Books 2014-03-04Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 11.00 x .25 x 8.50l, .0 #File Name: 160468382180 pages | File size: 64.Mb

**Carol Hopkins : Civil War Legacies II: 17 Small Quilt Patterns for Reproduction Fabrics** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Civil War Legacies II: 17 Small Quilt Patterns for Reproduction Fabrics:

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. The Legacy Continues With Traditional Blocks and Perfect Print CombinationsBy SLS~ ~ ~ ~Short(ish) Version:Carol Hopkins' second entry in her Civil War Legacies series gives repro fabrics their rightful center stage position. These 17 downsized quilts demonstrate Hopkins' flawless ability to combine colors and prints. The largest quilt is 51 inches square; the smallest is 16.5 by 19.5 inches. Several block sizes are as small as 2 or 3 inches.The book positively glows with color and pattern. Scrappy is the key word here, with "triangles" a close second. (There's only one project that does not use triangles.) Traditional blocks such as the

"Snowball Block" are transformed into the petite "Grandma's Porch", along with background comments by the author. You'll need a ruler with 1/8th-inch markings for many of these 17 projects. Quarter-inch seams are used, with FINE cotton thread. A huge Civil War repro stash is recommended. For example, "Hard Crackers" is a simple bar construction, but the instructions call for 210 (total) assorted light, medium, and dark prints. (Certainly, a few repeats can be snuck in there.) Very similar in overall look and style as Hopkins' earlier book *Civil War Legacies: Quilt Patterns for Reproduction Fabrics*. But that's not a bad thing for quilters who could look all day - or all year - at such a fine array of Civil War repro quilts and fabrics. Carol Hopkins admits to amassing quite a few yards of repro fabric and she knows how to use them. This is a nice follow-up to her first volume. Next time - in Volume III ? - I'd like a sneak peek at her studio. ~ ~ ~ ~ Long, Long Version (Optional Reading): Taken by themselves, Civil War repro fabric prints can be majestic. But joined together, they may get all blend-y and bland. In small quilts, their resplendence can disappear altogether. Thankfully, modern quilters have a bounty of books available to guide us - such as Carol Hopkins' second volume of *Civil War Legacies*. Just take a look at the "Thorns and Roses" quilt on the cover. In my hands, the overall finished product would look uniform and muddy. But Hopkins successfully pulls out each distinct print with surprising color choices such as violet and orange. (You know, the colors we tend to look past in the shops.) They're all reined in by a brown thorny sashing - a print I'm attracted to, but clueless as to how to use it for best effect. Hopkins is not only a print combo color master; she's a wizard at scaling down. Traditional blocks such as "Cake Stand" or "Shoo Fly" finish down to an economical 4 inches or 3 inches, respectively. Not exactly miniature, by any means. But very manageable on a lap, in a hoop, or on a regular sewing machine. Some blocks finish to a diminutive 2 or 3 inches. The smallest quilt is "Dear Friends" at 16.5 by 19.5 inches. It's a "Broken Dish" pattern with eighty 2-inch half-square-triangle units. These pieced units may flummox the beginner when it comes to joining them into straight, flat rows. Not only is it difficult to keep those triangle points sharp, but seaming together 8 pieces of fabric at those points can create pesky bulk. Hopkins directs us to press the row seams open. The largest quilt is the cover quilt "Thorns and Roses" at 51 inches square. This would be a great project to use your stash's ornery colors like Poison Green and orange. One of my favorite quilts is "Gettysburg Sun", featuring indigos and golds, with grey/green sashing. An abundance of triangles make the sun block shine. It's a fittingly somber design, yet quietly radiant. Another pleasing quilt is "Lauren's Hat Pins" with its soft floral setting squares and use of stripes. Hopkins' precedes each project with an explanation as to how each quilt and its name came about. Some are poignant, and each reveals the author as a warm soul who just loves life, fabric, and quilting. And there are triangles everywhere! And so many resulting difficult points to match up. "Small Joys", at 17.25 by 21.75 inches, is the only quilt that does not use triangles. The challenge with this one is the block size: 2.25 inches square. It's a simple construction, but it demands perfect and consistent seam allowances. Hopkins calls for "exact" -inch seams, versus the "scant" that I am used to seeing in instructions. \* (I achieve a scant -inch seam by clicking my needle to the right by one position.) The point is, do what you need to in order to make each and every finished block match the instructions. Fine-weight cotton thread is recommended. (But not specified; I'd love to know exactly what Hopkins uses.) This might be thinner than what you usually use. The idea here is that it adds less bulk along the folds, making for a more accurate block. (\* Ah, I bet THIS is why she directs us to use an exact -inch SA. The finer thread takes up less space in the SA. Thicker thread treads into the extra space allowed by a "scant" -inch SA.) Many of the quilts require a ruler with eighth-inch marking. If you don't have one, it really is worth investing in. Especially if you're fond of small and miniature quilts. The lovely "Lilies For Connie" and the blend-y "Baskets for Betsy", among others, use 1/8-inch cuttings. And lest you think that small-scale means faster or easier, consider that each block will still require the same number of cuttings and pressings as its larger counterpart. "Lilies for Connie" is a handy 43.5 by 53.5 inches, yet it contains almost 900 pieces to handle and join. I waited a long time for *Civil War Legacies II* to arrive, and it was worth it. (I want a third now, of course.) There are similarities in look and feel to the first volume, but I'd say Volume 1 focused on layouts while this Volume II draws attention to the blocks themselves. Both employ scads of CW repro prints that I look at over and over. I wonder about the people back then who handled and looked upon the original printed fabrics; were they in awe of each print like we are today? Did they marvel or just make do? And did they have Hopkins' seemingly innate ability to combine them into something worthy of a third volume in this series? 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. *Civil War Legacies II: 17 Small Quilt Patterns for Reproduction Fabrics* By D L Woodbury This book was everything I expected it to be, and more. Carol Hopkins did an awesome job creating this follow-up book to her *Civil War Legacies: Quilt Patterns for Reproduction Fabrics*. Each small quilt pattern contains highly detailed step by step instructions with clear and concise color diagrams to accompany excellent close-up photographs of the finished little quilt. The patterns would also be nice worked up out of your scrap bin, or in any period reproduction fabric (like the 1930's, Gilded Age, patriotic, and etc.) If you like miniature quilt work, this book would be a wonderful addition to your quilting library. I highly recommend the book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Always Satisfies By Sandra D. Biacchi Carol Hopkins always satisfies with her quilt books

In this follow-up to her best-selling *Civil War Legacies*, Carol Hopkins presents another outstanding collection of charming projects. Each engaging quilt is ideal for scraps and 1860s reproduction fabrics. Choose from 17 traditional

patterns with something for every skill level Be inspired by Carol's "To Add Interest" tips regarding fabric selection Create quilts with timeless appeal; these small patterns make beautiful wall hangings, doll quilts, and gifts

Are you into creating miniature quilts, well this book may be for you. This book is comprised of 17 projects made from scrappy reproduction prints. This is Carol Hopkins second book on Civil War Quilts. Carol Hopkins has designed many quilts using reproduction fabrics. Most of the quilts are small, approximately 28 inches by 34 inches, block sizes average 3 inches. Two quilts are of medium size, 51 inch square, and 44 inch square, respectively. Each quilt has detailed instructions on how to piece the blocks. A brief introduction related to the Civil War describes the quilt pattern in each chapter. With no previous experience in making miniature quilts, I decided that I would review this book and create a miniature quilt. I chose the "Bonnet Ties" quilt pattern. The quilt measures 27 inches by 33 inches, and the blocks are 3 inches by 3 inches. This was also the first time I constructed the pinwheel block. Fabrics used in my version of the quilt were from the modern trend versus the reproduction fabrics used in the book. The vibrant modern colours gave the quilt a different feel about it. Lesson[s] learned during the quilt making process is that miniature quilts take much longer to complete than bed size quilts, and there is no room to make mistakes! After all blocks were sewn together, the quilt came to life. The attributes of vintage quilts change when using modern fabrics instead of reproduction fabrics. So, if you would try a hand on miniature vintage quilts with a modern flair, this book may be for you! --Vancouver Modern Quilt Guild, June 2014

About the Author Carol Hopkins' interests revolve around sharing her love of teaching and learning. In her daytime job as a professor of literacy and language education at Purdue University, she prepares future elementary teachers to teach struggling readers. During evenings and weekends, when she's not spending time with her husband, three adult children, and grandtwins, she pursues her 34-year passion for quilting. Through her pattern business, Carol Hopkins Designs, she markets quilt patterns that she has designed for eighteenth- and nineteenth-century reproduction fabrics.