



sarah fielke

Słodki

Block of the Month 2025/26

Introduction Document

Halo peeps! Welcome to our next Block of the Month project. Thank you so much for joining me, I am so very excited about making this sweet quilt with you.

Why is this quilt called something in Polish? Słodki means Sweet, and it's pronounced Swod-ki, by the way. And that is just about the only Polish word I know :) I'll preface this by saying I am NOT Polish, and that I have no Polish heritage (to my knowledge) at all. I keep a lot of sketchbooks and design idea files, and in them for such a long time has been photos and sketches I've made of Polish folk art, including vintage and antique tapestry and kilims. I started playing with some of the motifs in the tapestries, wondering if they would be pieced for quilting... and it turns out they could, with a bit of tweaking and experimenting. I had not planned for this to be the Block of the Month design at all, but the more I played and the more blocks I made, the more I knew I had to share the fun with you.

This document is like the BOM encyclopaedia. I know it seems a lot, but boil the kettle, have a cuppa and a nice sit down and **PLEASE READ ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY**. You will find that the answers to most of the questions you have about the BOM already, and also as we go along, are here in the following information. I encourage you to refer back to this document throughout the year if you're wondering about things! It will always be available at the VERY TOP of the pattern page on the website, so that if you're wondering about something, it's right there for you. We get several hundred emails and Facebook posts a month, all asking very similar questions - all the answers are already here waiting for you in the document. Having a look for your question saves you having to wait for an answer, and us a lot of man hours :)

Here's some FAQ's about how the program runs.

What happens now I've joined?

If you are a new BOM or an existing BOM/www.sarahfielke.com member:

You will receive an email within 48 hours of receipt for payment. This email is sent to **the email address you used to make payment**. This email is sent manually by Damian (my

BOM support) and will be sent to you **within 48 hours** of joining.

What happens if I can't remember my password?

You can reset your password by going to www.sarahfielke.com, click on LOG IN tab in navigation, then click on "Reset my password" on that page. You will receive an email to reset your password. *This may take up to 20 minutes to arrive in your inbox.* Sometimes this email is trapped in your SPAM folder. If you have issues with your password or need to change your subscription details, please email Damian.bom2017@sarahfielke.com - Damo handles all the subscriptions, website access, payment issues and video or pattern download questions, and will help you as soon as he is able.

Please don't send subscription or log in issues to me on Instagram or Facebook as I can't help you with them, and via social media its very easy for them to go astray. Emailing Damian directly will ensure your query goes straight to where it can be dealt with.

How do I get the patterns?

The first pattern, the August pattern, will be sent on August 1. This will be Month 1. The patterns for Słodki will come on the FIRST OF EACH MONTH.

When the pattern is released, it will be on the website for everyone to view, all at the same time. We will then email to say it is there. However, the email IS NOT the key to getting the pattern, it's just a heads up that it's been loaded. You can log in to the BOM website any time you like and access the patterns and videos WITHOUT the email, and check if the new one is there yet. It's a good idea to bookmark the website so you can find it next time you want it. The website address is www.sarahfielke.com

I will not, under any circumstance and no matter how hard you beg, release forward measurements, templates, bonus patterns etc. in advance of the release date at the end of each month. Sorry! :)

When do the patterns start to come?

Here is a table listing when all the patterns, videos and important information will be posted online at www.sarahfielkeblockofmonth.com for you.

Information	Content	Date
Welcome Notes	Includes information on BOM and FAQs	Within in 24 hours Upon signup
Notions on sale	Optional acrylic template set and notions to help make the quilt – for sale at www.sarahfielke.com	April 1, 2025

Colour Planner	A large scale, printable black and white drawing to help you colour design your quilt	April 1, 2025
Material Requirements	Includes complete fabric requirements for Słodki quilt design, fabric inspirations and colour ideas.	June 1, 2025
Notions Shipped	Orders are shipped in order by date from first to last. Please note that your order may ship EARLIER than the date given here.	First orders shipped from June, 2025
Słodki Patterns and Videos	Patterns and videos released onto website starting from August 1, 2025	Month 1 – August 1 Month 2 – September 1 Month 3 – October 1 Month 4 – November 1 Month 5 – December 1 Month 6 – January 1 Month 7 - February 1 Month 8 - March 1 Month 9 - April 1 Month 10 - May 1 Month 11 - June 1 Month 12 - July 1
BOM 2026 Quilt Competition	Opportunity for you to send in pics of your finished quilt tops from ANY of my block of the month quilt designs to go into our competition to win fun prizes	Email quilt pics to bom2017@sarahfielke.com by November 1, 2026. Voting from Nov 2 to Nov 8, 2026 Winners announced Nov 10, 2026

What do I get?

Each month you will be able to access a new part of the quilt. Obviously, looking at the sketch, this is not a quilt where you get just one “block” as such each month. Some of the months involve more work and some less to allow you to catch up. You will also have access to a video each month explaining the piece of the quilt we are working on, and any relevant tutoring for a new technique. You will have access to the patterns and videos for the foreseeable future after we actually finish, so don’t panic and don’t think you’ve “fallen behind” - everyone works at their own pace with these quilts, and people join up all through the year!

How does the notions kit work?

*****Orders for the template sets and notions kit ARE OPEN NOW*****

Please watch the notions video that you will find on the website - I talk a lot about the products I suggest and their uses in the Notions video on the website.

There will also a material requirements document containing all the fabric measurements etc for the quilt, which will be uploaded to the website on JUNE 1.

The notions kit is NOT COMPULSORY, and neither is the template set, you can buy all of it or just a few pieces as you need. The patterns will come each month with printable applique templates and instructions for cutting without the triangle rulers if you prefer. The kits are an option for those wanting to use the same notions and templates as I do, and some things to make the process easier for you. The kit is structured on my website so that you can buy everything in one go, or just add the bits and pieces you want to purchase and leave out what you don't.

I ship the kits worldwide. I structure the BOM programs like this on purpose - it's a once only postage charge on notions, instead of a monthly shipped fabric package - which makes it all cheaper for you in the long run.

All prices on the website are in AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS which are worth a lot less than US dollars, UK pounds or Euro, so the prices work out a lot cheaper for you in those currencies!

All of the notions, templates and fabrics are for preorder and will ship from June 1 onwards (although hopefully before that if Damo gets his skates on!) You will receive an email when your package is shipped. Everything will remain available all year for purchase should you change your mind and decide you need something after all.

Do I have to have the templates?

The short answer is no - you don't. All the templates will be included in each month's pattern for you to print out and make your own each month. The kit includes the circle and oval papers and peeper templates. The half square and quarter square triangles are also available. I do recommend that you get them, and that's not a sales pitch - it really does make things much easier and more accurate for you. Every circle and oval in the quilt comes with a peeper and a pre-cut cardboard circle for my circle technique, so that you have accurate appliquéd circles, and all the triangle templates make the cutting easy and accurate.

To see more about the kit please watch the Notions video.

Design FAQs for Słodki

* No! You can't see a picture of the whole quilt. Why? Because it's not finished yet! I work a few months ahead of you all. This means I can tweak and tailor the design and videos as I go to see if people have trouble with certain sections. The design will be as close to the sketch as I can manage, but I of course reserve the right to change things here and there as I go.

* All the appliqué instruction given is for my own method of hand needleturn appliqué, however all the templates are suitable for machine appliqué.

How big is the quilt?

The Słodki quilt is quite large, we its intended for a bed. As its a 12 month program, there is lots of opportunity for loads of lovely detail. At 92inch (230cm) square, it is queen size, and could easily be made into a king if you wanted to.

If you choose to alter the size of the templates I cannot be responsible for the rest of the

measurements in the quilt. I will not be giving instruction on altering the size of the quilts, or material requirements to do that.

There is a lot of hand appliqué in these quilts by the looks of things. Can I do it by machine?

Sure thing! It's YOUR quilt; you can do it however you please. All the appliqué templates are able to be used for fusible machine appliqué (or any other method of appliqué you like) if you would rather do it that way - you just need to remember to flip the templates over when you trace them, or they will be facing backwards.

Like most of my quilts, Stodki is designed as a project where the piecing is done by machine and the appliqué by hand. All instruction given will be for machine piecing and hand needle turn appliqué using my personal method. I do not give instruction for machine appliqué.

How do I get the colouring sheet, and how do I use it?

The colouring-in sheet is available to everyone right now at the website when you sign in, on the BOM 2025 webpage along with this introduction document.

This sheet is able to be printed as many times as you like for your own personal use (or for your kids to colour in!) If you have trouble with your local printer, take this page of the pattern with you and show them this -

I, Sarah Fielke, designer of this quilt and pattern, give permission for this colouring sheet to be printed and copied for personal use.

The sheet is designed to be printed at A4 or A3 size. Please watch the little video on the website for instructions about colouring the sheet digitally in a free app.

How do I get the patterns and videos?

Each month you will receive an email from us when the pattern and video is ready. The email will NOT HAVE ANY PATTERN OR VIDEO ATTACHED TO IT. The email is just a notification that the new pattern is ready for you to see at the website. You do not have to wait for the notification. You can go to the website any time you like and log in to see if the new pattern is there, or to see previous months patterns or videos.

The patterns and videos will remain available to subscribers at the website, even after the BOM has finished.

How can the patterns and videos be used?

All the information for the BOM is for your own personal use only. That means you can copy and print out pages for your own personal use to make the quilt, as many times as you like. Please do not share your subscription and password with friends or a group, as this is a breach of copyright, and also just really not cool :) If you are making this quilt as a group, EACH MEMBER of the group must have their OWN subscription.

Access to the website is trackable and those sharing one subscription among a group will

unfortunately have their access revoked.

The videos are NOT able to be downloaded, they are only hosted at the website, are encrypted and are not available for sharing or posting elsewhere.

There are lot of shops and designers participating this year and every year (hi everyone!) and I'm so glad to see you all! There have been a lot of questions as to how this BOM may be used by shops.

To clarify - you can run a class or sit and sew group for the 2025 BOM, in fact please do, I would love you to! However, EVERY member of the class or group MUST be a member of the program in their own right through my website, and therefore downloading their own copies of the patterns and videos. **It is not OK to copy the pattern and print it out for the class, or to print the pattern to kit it up.** If you want to offer fabric you are very welcome, but the members must bring in their material requirements and pattern and then you can help them out.

Śłodki is available for shops to run as a BOM program, so if you want to run a sew along etc in your store now is your chance. All twelve of my previous BOM patterns are available as stand-alone books for you to sell, or shop programs for you to run right now. Contact bom2017@sarahfielke.com for more information or to order. The BOM program has been run very successfully by shops since 2017 and we look forward to having you on board!

What can I post on social media?

You can post your quilt in progress, I really encourage it as everyone loves seeing what you're all up to, and so do I! It's lovely to share your progress with other BOM members and with your friends. Please say what the pattern is and where people can find it if they want to - so many times people see what you're making and want to play along with you.

We had such a lovely, positive, fun group of peeps on Facebook and Instagram in 2023 and it's so nice chatting to you all, seeing everyone's fabric choices and quilts evolve.

I am active on social media often and available to answer questions or give you advice here and there. Please post pictures of your quilt's progress and chat to me and the others in the program. However, please DO NOT post block measurements, templates, technique instructions, excerpts from the patterns, your password etc. on social media, your blog or other quilting websites.

The private Facebook group can be found by searching "Sarah Fielke Quilts" in your Facebook search bar. You will then send me a request to join the group and I will approve it. The group is a GENERAL group for all my sew alongs and BOMs, not for just Śłodki, so make sure and identify which quilt you are working on when you post or ask questions.

Even if you aren't really into Facebook, I do encourage you to join this group and get to know everyone - it's a really lovely, friendly and social way of meeting other quilters from many other countries (and close by too!) and sharing your stitching, and as it's private no one else on the internet can see it or see that you've been there, just us! You won't miss any information if you don't join, it's just a nice extra.

The hashtags for Instagram are #sarahfielkeBOM, #slodkiquilt and #slodkiBOM. Please tag your pics and tag me, @sfielke, so we can all see what you're up to! Feel free to check out previous year's groups too and see what amazing quilts everyone produced. #sarahfielkeBOM is the place to find them.

****Unfortunately, it must be said- it's a sad old world sometimes. Let's keep the social media experience positive peeps! It's so easy for people's feathers to get ruffled and comments that are typed often don't translate how they were meant. If you don't like something, think there is a pattern error, think someone is being mean, critical or unfair, or have another issue PLEASE (please?) contact me first before posting about it. So often things are a misunderstanding or are easily cleared up, and posting impulsive comments just makes things upsetting for everybody. I am very available, via Facebook Messenger, Instagram PM or sarah@sarahfielke.com. Please remember that I live in Australia and if you live elsewhere, sometimes I might not respond immediately because I'm asleep - or maybe travelling, teaching, eating my dinner, in the shower..... No one works 24/7, but I do my best to get back to you ASAP.**

It must also be said, I have a lot of beginner quilters, and especially beginner hand appliquérs, taking my BOM program, and I LOVE that. If you are NOT a beginner quilter, a lot of my techniques might be different than what you are used to. I have been teaching, writing and designing for over 20 years, and I have my own and sometimes quite unique way of teaching things. Give them a go! You might learn something new.

You are welcome of course to make your quilt in any way and with any technique that you fancy - I just ask please that you don't post in the BOM social media groups about how you don't use my technique and how to do the technique you are using. All it does is make other students confused and upset that they have done something wrong. It may seem like a little thing but it's actually a really big issue that I've encountered in all the previous years in the BOM, so I'm asking you all nicely please :)

Rude, overtly negative, links to other websites or teachers' videos etc. and ALL political comments of any flavour will be removed, and I reserve the right to do that, or to block anyone from the Facebook group if that very unfortunate need arises. I just want everyone to have fun!

What if I don't keep up?

Oh my lovely peeps, this is YOUR quilt! There is no pressure whatsoever from me to "keep up". The patterns are there for you to start the next part of the quilt whenever you are ready, and if you want to take two or three years to make it then you just knock yourself out! There will be people who complete the current section of the quilt within days, and people who are months "behind" - or rather, making it at their own pace. Either one is just peachy with me. As I say regularly, you aren't behind you're just working at your own pace.

Why can't it hurry up and be August 1?

I know right?? I can't wait to start either! Not too long to go peeps :) In the meantime, everyone please be safe and healthy and happy, and check out all the bits and pieces, the beautiful fabric and the colouring sheet, and watch out for the first bit of excitement - the

material requirements on June 1.

If you have questions about notions, fabric or how the BOM runs etc, you can email me sara@sarahfielke.com or message me on Instagram or Facebook. If you have questions about or issues with your subscription payments or log in, please e-mail Damo bom2017@sarahfielke.com

See you soon peeps!

Sarah xx