

Frolic with Robin Pickens

by Linzee McCray @seamswrite

Robin Pickens laughingly admits that her house belongs to “a quilt lady.”

“You definitely know when you walk in,” she says. Though her home sports a neutral palette, Robin introduces color via quilts and pillows: there are quilts hanging on walls in her foyer and bedroom, along with baskets of quilts under her stairs.

Eight years ago, all this would have come as a surprise to Robin, who was working as a freelance graphic designer for television. Nearly 20 years before that, Robin and her mom took a quilting class together, which whetted Robin’s appetite for fabric and fabric design. In 2015, she decided to enter the Fabric8 contest co-sponsored by Moda and Spoonflower and won. Her first line, Poppy Mae, came out in 2016 and she’s created 15 lines since, including her popular Thatched basics. Now she’s thrilled to share her newest line, Forest Frolic.

Robin is always looking for a flower to feature that ties into the season her fabric will arrive in stores and the focus of Forest Frolic is the Indian Blanket, an orange and yellow Southwestern wildflower. “The petals have such interesting patterns and I mixed them with mushrooms for a woodsy feel,” she says. “I was excited to challenge myself by using a warmer, earthier palette.” Fall foliage and acorns continue the theme. “I always like to mix birds in, too—they seem so innocent and sweet and busy—and besides, my name is Robin!”



Creative Challenges

Forest Frolic also includes two prints on Mochi Linen and five new colors of Thatched: Mocha, Cinnamon, Copper, Caramel, and Buttermilk. “I love to experiment and challenge myself, and these new substrates and colors give me the chance to do that,” she says.

In late 2019, Robin challenged herself in another way: she bought a longarm from a woman in San Diego, then rented a 15-foot truck and with her husband drove it back to their Los Angeles home, where it had to be moved into her studio through a window. The classes she planned to take were curtailed by the pandemic, so she learned as much about longarming as she could on her own, eventually taking virtual classes in 2021. Now she’s quilting about 95% of the quilts she makes and feeling excited about

the possibilities. “When I started designing fabric, I didn’t realize I’d also get to design quilts,” she says. “Thinking about how the fabric will look in a quilt is such a great, creative exploration and now getting to think about the threads and designs to use on a quilt top takes it to the next level.”

Quilts—All Day, Every Day

The addition of the longarm means that it’s easy to tell that a “quilt lady” lives in Robin’s house. Though she was able to contain the longarm in her studio, “I’ve kind of spilled into the rest of the house,” she says. Waiting quilt tops drape over dining table chairs and embroidery projects nestle on the coffee table in her family room. When her daughter moved out to go to college Robin took over her room and now that her son has done the same, she’s intending to use his room, too. “We don’t have any more kids to kick out” her husband jokes, whenever Robin thinks about where to stash more fabric, patterns, threads.



RPQP AQ148 Acorn Quartet 41" x 41"
Light colorway also available
Pictured on front cover.

KIT
48740



PS48740 Traveling Leaves
Mini Wall Quilt or Pillow 20" x 20"

Despite the additional chaos, Robin couldn’t be happier with the direction her life has taken. Her skills grow with each quilt she makes and she loves to travel, share her quilts, and lecture and she’s inspired by watching quilters use her fabrics in ways she never imagined.

“If you had said to me in 2015 when I entered the competition that this would be my life, I would not have been able to picture it,” says Robin. “It wasn’t where I thought I’d be going but I’m so glad—it’s better than what I could have imagined and I feel really thankful for that. Quilters are great people, I love fabric and the feel of it, and I love working with Moda. I can’t imagine anything I’d rather be doing.”

For more from Robin visit her website, robinpickensinc.com and follow her on social media @robinpickens.

Forest Frolic

ROBIN  PICKENS

Are you ready for the explosion of warm and spicy Autumn colors? Enjoy Forest Frolic with glorious blooms of Indian Blanket flowers, striped in red and gold. These wild blossoms are a firewheel of color. The oaks give plump acorns to our bird friends while leaves paint the trees with orange and red colors. All along the forest floor, sunlight filters through the branches and dances on mushrooms with dotted caps. This is Forest Frolic, a new autumnal line from Robin Pickens.

JULY DELIVERY

moda
FABRICS + SUPPLIES®



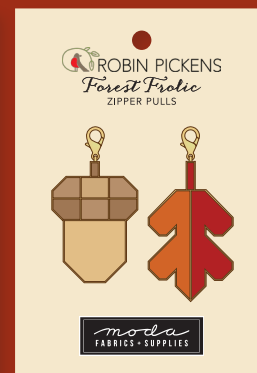
RPQP SB149 Starlit Bears Light Version 60" x 60" LC Friendly
Dark Version also available



RPQP BS150 Leaf Press 48" x 50"



RP100 Mushroom
Zipper Pulls Mul 3
Size: approx 1" x 1.5"



RP101 Acorn
Zipper Pulls Mul 3
Size: approx 1" x 1.5"

RPQP FT152 Forest Treasures
Pillows 18" x 18" & Table Runner 60" x 16" PP Friendly



RPQP OGS151 Oak Grove Square Dark Version 72" x 72"
Light Version also available



MOCHI LINEN CANVAS

30% Linen / 70% Cotton



32911 11



48740 12L



48743 12L

Mochi Linen Canvas are not included in the assortments and precuts.

Forest Frolic

ROBIN  PICKENS

48626 202 BUTTERMILK



48740 12*



48745 12*



48742 12*



48744 12*



48743 12*



48741 13*



48745 13



48745 19



48744 19*



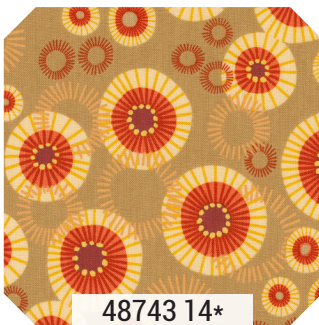
48742 18*



48742 14*



48740 14



48743 14*



48745 14

48626 204 CARAMEL

NEW! Thatched Coordinates

8  New Thatched Coordinates Included with Collection!

moda
FABRICS + SUPPLIES®

JULY DELIVERY

Forest Frolic

ROBIN  PICKENS



48743 18*



48741 18*



48740 16*



48741 17



48742 16*



48744 16*



48743 16*



48741 15*



48740 15*



48744 15*



48743 15*

48740

Asst. 15

Asst. 10

Low Cal 10

AB

F8

JR

LC

MC

PP

PS

KIT

JULY DELIVERY

•30 Prints •100% Premium Cotton •2 Mochi Linen •30% Linen / 70% Cotton
 New Thatched Coordinates ARE included in the assortments & precuts. JRs, LCs, MCs & PPs include 30 skus plus two each of 48740, 48743-15 & 16 and 48744. Assortments & Precuts do not include Mochi Linen.

48626 208 COPPER

48626 206 CINNAMON

48626 205 MOCHA

NEW! Thatched Coordinates