

# Dove of Peace

By Jo Moury



[https://doyoueq.com/quilt\\_gallery/dove-of-peace/](https://doyoueq.com/quilt_gallery/dove-of-peace/)

Download the EQ project file here: <https://doyoueq.com/downloads/project-downloads/>

### **PLEASE NOTE!**

*I designed this quilt in EQ software, but the construction method I used to sew the background block ended up being a bit more improvised. If you view the EQ project file, my written instructions do not match what you see in EQ. You can print the templates for the dove but follow my written instructions for the background block.*

Welcome to your Dove of Peace journey!

While I don't have a specific pattern or cutting dimensions for you, I hope to guide you through the construction of this inspiration wall hanging. Here is a little secret... once I designed this hanging for our church, it took me a very long time figuring out how to piece it!! Just because you can draw something in EQ, that doesn't mean that is how you should piece it.

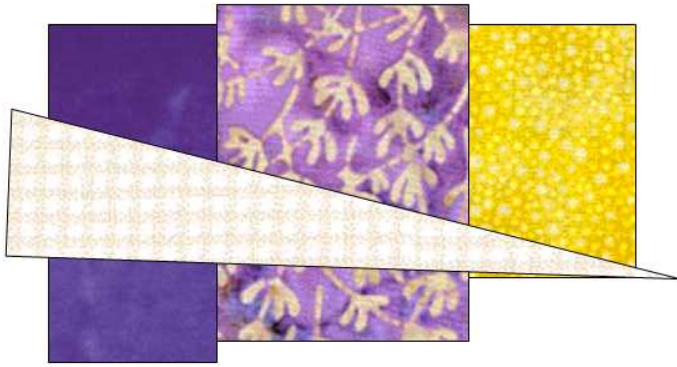
There aren't specific fabric requirements for the purple and yellow/gold batiks. This project can either be labeled a Stash Builder or a Stash Buster! The Yardage Tool in either EQ7 or 8 is going to give you a general idea of how much fabric you will need. My advice is the more varied your fabric selection, the more striking the quilt will be. I recommend batiks and strongly urge you to stay away from any print. We are looking to build texture but not draw attention to any specific shard of stained glass. As you can see, I stayed within the secondary color family of purple, occasional stepping out on either side of purple to red-violet and blue-violet. When you are selecting the yellows and golds for the center burst, be careful not to go too light. You need strong contrast for the Dove's wings to show in the yellow.

Logic says the easiest way to piece this background would be to paper piece it. Well yes, but ... First I don't paper piece (Ever). Secondly, if you did want to pp the background, you would have to either take the file to a commercial printer and have them print it to size, and this can be pricy. OR you could print the block from EQ and then tape all the pages together. Neither of these ideas made me want to turn the design from pixels into fiber.

After a lot of research and talking to a couple local quilt shop owners, here is how I solved the problem. I decided to do improvisational piecing for each strip and then cut the strip into the desired shape with the Phillips Fiber 10 Degree tool. If you haven't tried it, improv piecing is very creative and lots of fun. Basically, each strip of fabrics has two purple tones and one yellow/gold at the center.

Here is how it works, gather your scraps of fabrics. The purples should measure approximately 6 inches in width, the length varies from about 4 inches to 10 or 12 inches; the yellow burst at the center about 6 inches. For example, the strip of fabric at the very top center of the EQ drawing is 20 inches long and consists of a medium purple 4 inches long, a bright purple, 9 inches in length and a yellow 6 inches long.

You could go through the EQ drawing and replicate each strip as I drew it, but I encourage you to be creative and piece these to make you happy. Make 9 strips in this manner and you will have enough to construct a quarter of the background (in my sewn quilt, I split the background into 4 sections). Place one edge of the **10 degree ruler** on a straight edge of your strip and trim both edges.



You will see in the little picture that the edge of the ruler extends off the yellow edge. Don't worry, there is a reason for that. I don't know about you, but I wouldn't want to have 36 seams joined at the center of my quilt. There will be a small hole, about 3 inches in diameter in the quilt top until we machine applique a yellow circle over the hole.

When you look at the picture of my completed quilt, you will see 9 long shards of bright glass (in the EQ project file there are only 7... see, the construction method is improvised!). To create this effect, select a pieced strip and sew a light-colored batik along part of the length of the strip. When you trim these sections, you will want to disregard straight of grain, and simply align the ruler on the added light strip, to get the effect you want.

You will make 3 more sections in this manner and then join them together as we would any four-patch block. There are two significant differences, your block has a hole and it also has a very ragged edge. The dove will cover the applied circle, but some of the circle will be visible immediately below his wings, so I wanted the edges to be as neat as possible. I used Karen Kay Buckley's Big Circle templates to create this applique shape. Center it over the hole and stitch in place.

At this point your quilt top should measure 30 by 40 inches, have jaggedly edges, more importantly, it should lay flat. If you have ripples or puckers, now is the time to make gradual adjustments to your segments until does lay nice and smooth.

Your next step is to applique  $\frac{3}{4}$ " grosgrain ribbon to represent the cross. I later hand embellished the edge with golden metallic Bead Ribbon from Quilter's Fancy. You could use this ribbon, edge the cross with metallic embroidery thread using a Scroll Stitch or Bullion Loop. Of course, your other option would be to have he edge of your cross plain.

Remember the edges of your quilt top have a lot of bias edges. Before I sat down to applique the dove, I trimmed the edges square and added the borders. I used a 3" (finished dark blue/purple batik for the border, then added a piped edging in yellow before I bound the top. Alternately, you could add a  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch

yellow outer border and trim this to ¼ inch before you bind it. I wouldn't want to be the one who tries to sew an accurate ¼ inch border to a quilt!

Now it's time to applique the dove. (In the EQ project on the Print & Export tab, click on Layer 2 to select the dove motif, then print the Templates.) Just a word about coloring and shading. The darkest beige/cream feathers are closest to the body of the dove, these feathers are also at the edge of the wings, as they are furthest away from you. I worked the feathers in this order, the lowest row of feathers, starting closest to the body, the second row of feathers starting closest to the body and working to the wing tip, then the piece that at the top of the wings. I added batting between the body of the dove and the background to raise him off the cross. The tail was added last. Work from the outsides of the tail toward the center as you add the applique shapes. There are five little shapes that attach the tail to the dove's body. These pieces are the last shapes to be appliqued.

Congratulations! Your Dove of Peace is complete! I can't wait to see some examples in the EQ Quilt Gallery.

If you have any question, please let the folks at EQ know and they can put us in contact with each other.

*To Moury*