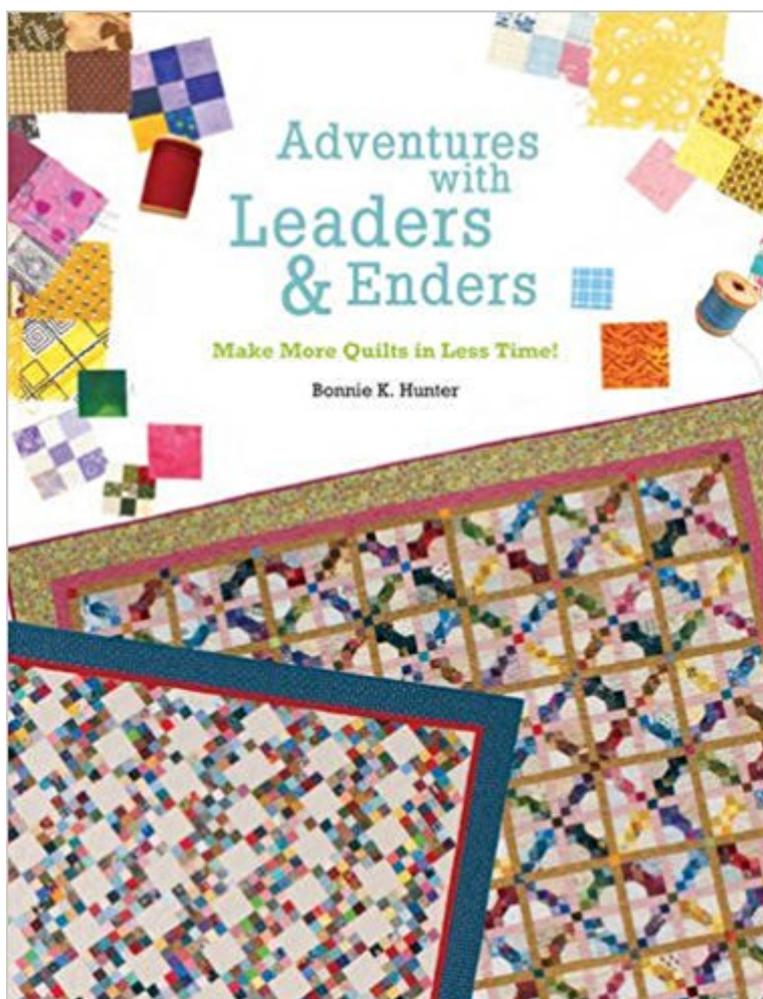


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# Adventures With Leaders & Enders: Make More Quilts In Less Time!



## Synopsis

What if you could piece quilts even faster, work on more than one quilt simultaneously and save money, fabric and thread all at the same time? Bonnie K. Hunter will show you how to put the concept of Leaders & Enders to work quickly and easily, expanding your creativity, and upping your productivity all at the same time. This book contains many ideas for getting your ever burgeoning scrap stash under control.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Leaders & Enders appeals to my frugal nature. It saves me both time and thread working on the "next" quilt. It's amazing how productive you can be if you just plan a little ahead! --Debi B., Salem, Oregon  
The possibilities are endless! The best part for me is even if I don't know what direction they will "LEAD" me, rest assured I know I'll love where they "End" up, because as part of a Leaders & Enders project, they are one step closer to becoming part of a finished quilt! --Bonnie M., Orange, Texas  
I had many L&E four patches done when a friend called to say she was forming a benefit. I had a quilt done quick as a wink, and all I had to purchase was a solid for a border. Half of the work was already done! --Lyn H., Montague, Michigan

Bonnie K. Hunter is passionate about quilting, focusing mainly on scrap quilts with the simple feeling of "making do." She started her love affair with quilting in a home economics class her senior year of high school in 1980 and has never looked back. Before quilting became her full-time career, Bonnie was the owner and designer of "Needle in a Haystack!" creating more than 70 patterns for dolls and

stuffed animals with a country primitive feel. Many of her designs were licensed through the Butterick Pattern Company, translated into seven languages and sold around the globe through fabric stores. She has been machine quilting since 1989 and professionally long arm quilting for the public since 1995. She has been featured in magazines both for her quilt patterns and articles she has written on scrap management and using that stash to its full potential. Bonnie is dedicated to continuing the traditions of quilting. She enjoys meeting with quilters, teaching workshops and lecturing to quilt guilds all over the world, challenging quilters to break the rules, think outside the box, and find what brings them joy. Catch up with Bonnie's doings through her extensive website at [quiltville.com](http://quiltville.com). You will find Quiltville's calendar for lectures and workshops, tips and tricks, technique tutorials and a long list of free quilt patterns to help you dig into your scraps.

My copy of this book arrived today and I have already put it to use. This happened to be one of the rare days in my life when I spent most of my time working on a quilt. It happened to be a quilt that I find very tedious to make and I have had to force myself to sit down and work on it. It is a promise I am keeping to one of my kids and it has to be my top priority quilt for now, even though I would prefer to be working on any number of other projects. When the mail came I stole a few guilty minutes to read through the first pages of this book about leaders and enders and how to set up a system to use your scraps. Many quilters use the "leaders and enders" idea, but may not know it by that name. If you start and end your chain piecing with a scrap of fabric that controls the thread tails and eliminates backstitching, you are using leaders and enders. The difference in Bonnie's instructions is that you plan ahead what you will use as leaders and enders from your scrap stash, sewing together two evenly cut scraps each time, rather than alternating the same few scraps until they become stiff with thread. In this way you are really working on two quilts at the same time. As you continue to use this method through a few "main" projects, you will soon find you have enough pieced units to add sashing and create another quilt. Scrap quilts are my favorite and I love having a variety of projects going at one time, so this method really appeals to me. Add to that the fact that I can't stand to part with leftover squares cut for a quilt or the corners cut off making stitch and flip snowball blocks and other blocks using a similar method. Those pieces fill and overflow several containers in my sewing corner. It was simple today to grab a bag of triangles left from a project last year that were all in coordinating colors from the "Kansas Troubles" fabric collection and start implementing Bonnie's method right away. The pile of finished half-square triangles on the corner of my sewing table just keeps growing. I can already see so many ways I will be using up my scraps as I continue to work on my "bucket list" of other quilting projects. The book includes an even dozen

patterns for very scrappy quilts made using the "leaders and enders" technique. The directions are clear and well-illustrated. And for those who may just want to make one of the quilts without working it in between other projects, she also gives directions on how to use strip piecing to create the same quilts. If you love scrap quilts and if your scraps from previous projects are taking over your stash, Bonnie's ideas to organize and start using those scraps will free up valuable storage space and allow multi-tasking quilters to step it up a notch. What's not to love about that? ETA: I have now completed two tops using the leader/ender method and I am partially through a third. This is definitely a favorite quilting find!!

I heard Bonnie speak at a quilt guild meeting in November and was intrigued by the way she handles her scraps. I wanted the book so I could follow her method. I have been cutting my scraps to her method ever since and have become obsessed with it! This book explains how to cut your scraps into usable pieces with a quilt or two in mind. It also has several patterns included to get you started. Once you have the pieces cut for the pattern you choose, by piecing four or nine patch units together, at the beginning and ending of your piecing chains for a different quilt, you will wind up with a whole separate quilt. Kind of like making one without actually making it! The patterns in the book are clear and concise and are easy to follow so you could just make them without the system. The photos of the quilts are also very good. One thing I took from Bonnie is the realization that even your scraps cost \$10 a yard so you may as well make them into a useful quilt. They are perfect for charity endeavors as well. I have other scrap quilt books but this one was more useful because of the scrap system she uses with her own scraps and the idea to make two quilts at once. The projects in this book are much easier to do than the other books I have purchased with this in mind.

Bonnie Hunter is such an amazing woman and she give so much of herself to her fellow quilters! I follow her on Facebook, and watch her live broadcasts. So much support for her followers! She has a talent and such creativity! If you are a quilter or have someone in your life who is. Bonnie's books are a welcome addition to that library! Step by step instructions and easy to follow photos. She encourages creativity, has you follow along, and also helps you think outside the box. Love all of her books! Bonnie, said it before and will say it again, you are very special and thank you for all you do!

Bonnie Hunter made me love scrap quilting. I rarely learn anything new from quilting books, and usually skip over the foreword and afterward materials to get straight to the projects, but Bonnie is full of great ideas, so I read every word she writes. Whether it's her hints and tips for saving, cutting

and using scraps, or as presented here, using leaders/enders to get a "bonus quilt" done while working on other projects, there's plenty to inspire even the seasoned quilter. Bonnie is a generous, down to earth person. I encourage anyone divided on buying this book to have a look around her blog. The mountains of information she shares for free will be a testament to the quality of the material she publishes in her books.

This book opened my eyes to the great possibilities of maximizing productivity when strip piecing quilts, or doing ANY sewing for that matter! Long ago I learned that thread "bird nests" on the underside of my sewing could be avoided by starting off the seam with a folded piece of scrap fabric. It never occurred to me that the starter fabric need not be "scrap," but could be quilt pieces! Thanks to this book I now have a quilt that is virtually making itself, while I sew purposefully on whatever project I have going. My thanks to Bonnie K Hunter, author!

If you use small fabric scraps to start and end your sewing this is the book to get. Make that blank space between your project piecing count towards something. No more "rabbit ears" for me. I'm actually using less thread and not throwing any of it away. Using those inbetween quilt piecing to actually work on another project is the ultimate scrap piecers dream. Bonnie's ideas are inspirational and her patterns are well written and easy to follow. Now to only choose which pattern to use when I have enough leaders and enders.

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