

TOBE Hostess Info

Thank you for considering hosting a TOBE! Here are some things to think about:

The TOBE coordinator will work with you to determine TOBE parameters such as set size, fabric requirements, maximum number of sets, etc.

Be sure that the due date is at a time of year when you will be able to sort and return blocks in a timely manner. It sometimes takes a week past the due date for all blocks to arrive. After that, please try to have them back in the mail within two weeks.

Communicate with your participants! An occasional post on the forum reminds Onions about the project and drums up enthusiasm for the exchange. Reminders in the month before the due date are especially helpful.

If you are so inclined, posting pictures of blocks as they arrive also generates enthusiasm and may get more participants.

Reply to email questions promptly.

Email participants to let them know their blocks arrived.

If sorting is going to be delayed because of some unexpected life event, please notify participants so they are not waiting impatiently by the mailbox each day.

If you do not want your address posted in the instructions, we can have participants email you for the info. You will need to watch your email daily near the due date to be sure they get a prompt response to a request for the address.

Sorting can be complicated! The goal is to distribute blocks as evenly as possible with no or minimal duplication. Figuring it out as much as possible ahead of time saves a lot of aggravation and confusion on sorting day. This is not a job for the math or logic challenged.

Sorting takes a lot of space. If you don't have a place in your house to spread out on several tables, a large clean empty floor can work but will be hard on your knees and back. You might consider going to a public location such as a library conference room or the local fire hall.

Some people are allergic to pets, so make every effort to keep the blocks away from pet dander and pet hair.

Every hostess has her own approach to sorting, so you will have to figure out

what works for you. What makes sense to you may seem backwards to someone else. A separate file will be posted in the future with sorting tips from some experienced hostesses.

This sounds like a lot of work, and it is, but it is also fun. You get to see all of the blocks and enjoy all of the wonderful fabrics. Everyone else only gets to see a few. You will also receive some nice hostess gifts such as fabric and extra blocks.
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