# Making a Home for Antique, Vintage, Collectible, and Leftover Quilt Blocks 

Antique, vintage, collectible, and leftover quilt blocks are often imbued with a sense of history and nostalgia. These precious pieces of fabric can tell stories of their makers, the era in which they were created, and the families who have cherished them over the years. However, these quilt blocks can often end up tucked away in boxes or drawers, forgotten and unused.


Orphan Block Quilts: Making a Home for Antique, Vintage, Collectible and Leftover Quilt Blocks
by Tricia Lynn Maloney

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This article will provide you with creative and practical ways to give these treasured quilt blocks a new lease on life by incorporating them into unique and beautiful home decor pieces. Whether you're a seasoned quilter or a novice crafter, you'll find inspiration and guidance in the following sections.

## Types of Quilt Blocks

Quilt blocks come in a wide variety of sizes, shapes, and patterns. Some of the most common types of antique, vintage, collectible, and leftover quilt blocks include:

- Log cabin blocks: These blocks are made from strips of fabric sewn together in a log cabin style.
- Nine-patch blocks: These blocks are made from nine squares of fabric sewn together in a three-by-three grid.
- Star blocks: These blocks are made from a central square surrounded by smaller squares or triangles that form a star shape.
- Churn dash blocks: These blocks are made from two squares of fabric sewn together with a strip of fabric in the middle.
- Flying geese blocks: These blocks are made from two triangles of fabric sewn together to form a flying goose shape.


## Project Ideas for Quilt Blocks

There are countless ways to use antique, vintage, collectible, and leftover quilt blocks in home decor. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Wall hangings: Create a beautiful wall hanging by framing a quilt block or several quilt blocks together.
- Pillows: Make one-of-a-kind pillows by incorporating quilt blocks into the design.
- Table runners: Add a touch of charm to your dining table with a table runner made from quilt blocks.
- Quilts: Of course, you can also use quilt blocks to make quilts, both traditional and modern.
- Other home decor: Get creative and use quilt blocks to make other home decor items such as coasters, pot holders, and lampshades.


## Tips for Working with Quilt Blocks

When working with antique, vintage, collectible, and leftover quilt blocks, there are a few things to keep in mind:

- Handle with care: These quilt blocks are often delicate, so be careful not to tear or damage them.
- Use acid-free materials: When framing or mounting quilt blocks, be sure to use acid-free materials to prevent damage.
- Consider the size and shape of the quilt blocks: When choosing a project for your quilt blocks, keep in mind their size and shape. Some projects may be better suited for larger quilt blocks, while others may be better suited for smaller quilt blocks.
- Use your imagination: There are no limits to what you can create with quilt blocks. Be creative and let your imagination soar.

Giving new life to antique, vintage, collectible, and leftover quilt blocks is a wonderful way to preserve their history and beauty. By incorporating these treasured pieces into your home decor, you can create unique and meaningful items that will be cherished for years to come. Whether you're a seasoned quilter or a novice crafter, we encourage you to explore the creative possibilities of these precious quilt blocks.

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