



**1. How did you and Moda get hooked up? and how long have you been designing fabric?**

*I opened the door at French General one day, five years ago, to find Cheryl Freydburg, Lissa Alexander and Joanna Figueroa standing in front of their red convertible rental car, asking if they could come in. I think I might have told them I was busy eating lunch and they said, "Oh, but we're from Moda" and I said, "Why didn't you say so, come right in!!" Within minutes, I was pulling out every idea I ever had for a fabric collection and by the time they all left, an hour later, we had decided that French General was going to design a line of French-inspired 19th rural prints using lots of red, red and more red! I've always been thankful I opened the door that day!*

**2. Do you work out of your home or do you have a separate design studio?**

*We converted our garage at home to my studio/archives/sewing room where I play with fabric and tinker on the sewing machine. We also have a retail shop, which we have run for 15 years, where I can go and spread out all of my inspiration and ideas on big tables and work with some of our sewers to come up with fresh inspiration and ideas.*

**3. What keeps you current with trends in color, design and projects?**

*I work with some pretty amazing family and friends that are more in touch with trends than I am. My comfort level is rooted in the past, so most of my ideas come out of digging through flea markets, brocantes or vide greniers in the South of France every summer.*

**4. Where did you find inspiration for this line?**

*The Josephine Collection was inspired by the home and garden that belonged to Napoleon's wife, Josephine de Beauharnais. Bought for a mere 300,000 francs, it was a run-down manor house, just outside of Paris, in need of extensive renovations. Josephine filled the garden's at Malmaison with rare and exotic plants and animals. Our new collection of fabric, in shades of deep reds and rich browns, is filled with fantasy florals and old French flower designs...what I imagine might have been found in Josephine's garden.*





# Josephine

## FRENCH GENERAL

**5. When you design a new line do you have projects in mind, and are you amazed at what quilters do with your fabric.**

*When I design a line of fabric I am always aware of what quilters have said they would like from me...a large floral print, a strong border print, small ditsy prints and a variety of neutral and red shades. I try to add all of these elements as well as something different to each collection. Lately, I have been hearing from quilters who want me to incorporate more greens and yellows into our collections...so I am working on a new palette as well as a whole collection of small petite prints.*

**6. How do you translate an idea into a fabric line?**

*I usually begin designing a collection with a concept or idea that interests me. For Josephine, I was very interested in what French gardens looked like in the early 19th century. I was inspired by the decor, landscaping and rose garden that had been created by Josephine.*

**7. Deadlines ? do you fear them or do they motivate you to create?**

*I love and hate deadlines. Love them because they keep me organized and hate them because they can keep me awake at night. I think I create out of necessity, I do it every day because it keeps me busy...if I wasn't creating I would be bored to death!*

**8. What gets your heart racing? The beginning of the design process or holding the fabric for the first time?**

*I enjoy the whole process of designing fabric. I love the beginning when the seed of an idea has been planted and I get to go to the studio and start looking through my piles and piles of antique document fabrics. I pull as many pieces that I feel will fit into the group, then I edit the collection down to 9 prints - always trying to follow my formula of large floral, border, and small prints.*

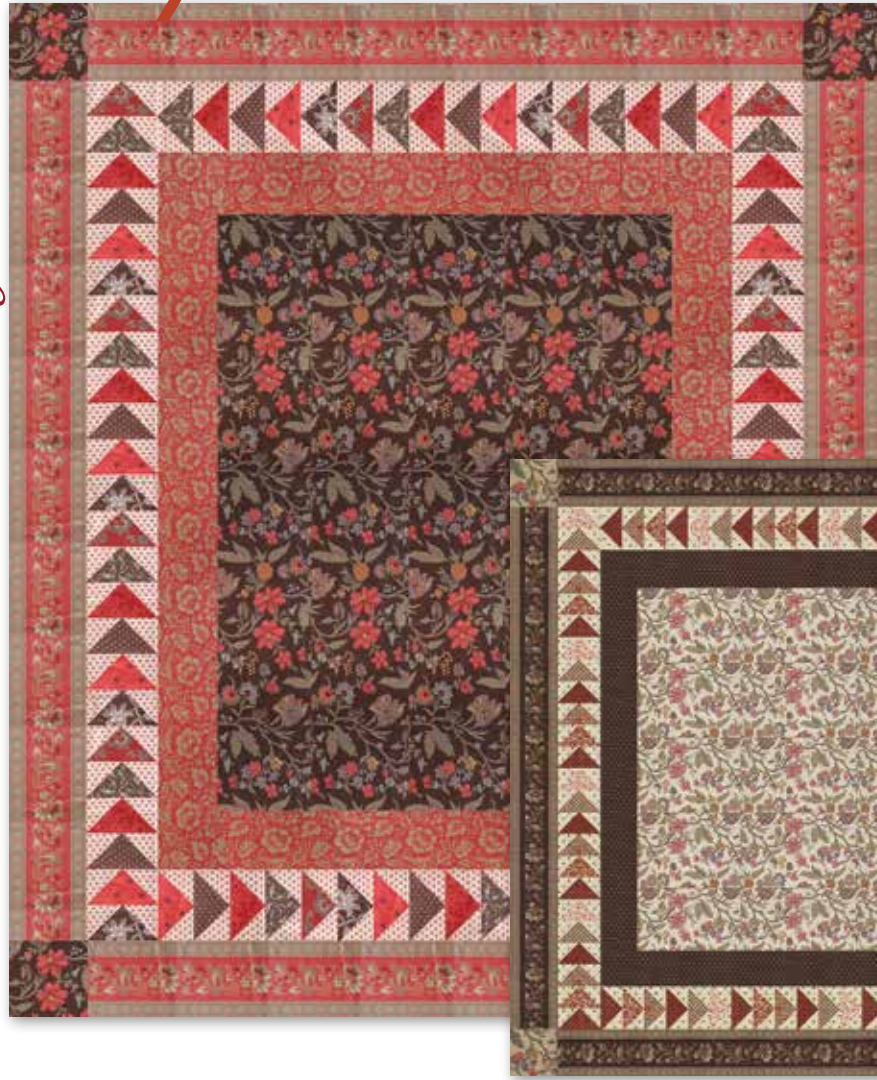
*There is nothing like seeing your fabric for the first time, even after 15 collections with Moda, I still love the day when the box of sample yardage arrives. I unpack it all and then just sit with it, opening up each piece and imagining what type of project we can make with it.*





# Josephine FRENCH GENERAL

2 Colorways



■ FG JS01  
 ■ FG JS01G  
*Josephine*  
 Size: 73" x 85"

*Josephine was the first wife of Napoleon and the first Empress of France. Her home, Chateau de Malmaison, had an impressive rose garden, owing to her passionate interest in roses which she collected from around the world.*

*Our new fabric collection, **Josephine**, was designed with the Empress in mind and includes a variety of beautiful flowers and botanical prints as well as the bee, considered one of the oldest emblems of the sovereigns of France.*



No 13656 14\*  
Oyster



No 13655 18  
Oyster



No 13654 20\*  
Pearl



No 13657 20  
Oyster



No 13653 17\*  
Oyster



No 13658 15  
Oyster



*"I create because it's fun and keeps me living an interesting life. I create every day because it keeps me busy. I like exercising my creative brain - it's like exercising a muscle - if I use it everyday it becomes stronger."*

FRENCH GENERAL

*moda*



**No 13659 39  
Oyster**



**No 13650 15  
Oyster**



**No 13652 20\*  
Oyster Old Brown**



**No 13659 36\*  
Pearl**



**No 13651 17  
Oyster**



**No 13654 23  
Oyster Rouge**



**No 13652 19\*  
Oyster Rouge**



**No 13653 16  
Pearl**



**No 13657 17\*  
Pearl**



**No 13650 14\*  
Pearl**



**No 13651 16\*  
Pearl**

Floral stripe repeats 8 times  
measuring approx 3 3/4" wide



# Josephine



No 13652 17  
Pearl



No 13655 17  
Pearl



No 13654 16  
Rouge



No 13656 12  
Rouge



No 13659 32\*  
Rouge



No 13657 14\*  
Rouge



No 13658 12  
Rouge



No 13650 12  
Rouge



No 13651 13\*  
Rouge



No 13652 14\*  
Rouge



No 13654 13\*  
Warm Red



No 13656 11  
Warm Red



No 13652 12  
Warm Red





No 13650 11\*  
Warm Red



No 13651 11  
Warm Red



No 13659 30  
Warm Rose



No 13658 16  
Antique Tan



No 13653 15\*  
Old Brown



No 13654 17\*  
Old Brown



No 13655 16  
Old Brown



No 13659 34\*  
Old Brown



No 13650 13\*  
Old Brown



No 13651 15\*  
Old Brown



9. How would you describe yourself in one sentence?

*I am thankful everyday that my life's work is filled with color, beauty and love.*

10. My Idea of a great vacation trip is?.

*A textile tour of India - staying in old palaces and visiting villages where they still block print fabric.*