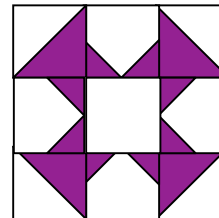


A Dandy Block of the Month – August, 2008

Let's make this beginner's block in purple and white/off-white prints. Use careful $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams, and press the seams as you go to help you make a block measuring exactly $12\frac{1}{2}$ " square (unfinished).

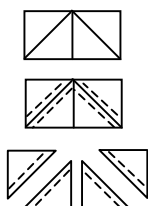


Cut:

Purple: one $4\frac{7}{8}$ " x $9\frac{3}{4}$ " rectangle and eight $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares

White: one $4\frac{7}{8}$ " x $9\frac{3}{4}$ " rectangle and five $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares

To piece the block:



1) On the wrong side of the $4\frac{7}{8}$ " x $9\frac{3}{4}$ " rectangle of white fabric lightly draw a straight line $4\frac{7}{8}$ " from the short edge dividing the rectangle in half and forming two squares.

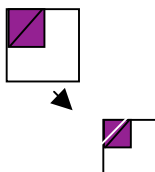
Then draw two diagonal lines through the center of the two squares as shown.

2) Place the white rectangle right sides together with the purple $4\frac{7}{8}$ " x $9\frac{3}{4}$ " rectangle. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from both sides of the marked diagonal lines as shown.

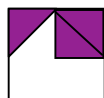
3) Cut the sewn rectangles apart on the previously marked lines as shown, creating four half-square triangle units. Press the seams toward the purple fabric. Each of the four completed half-square triangle units should measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square.



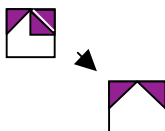
4) Lightly mark a line on the diagonal of the wrong side of the eight $2\frac{1}{2}$ " purple squares.



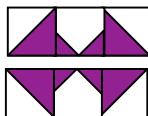
5) Place one of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " purple squares on top of one of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares, right sides together, with the marked diagonal line positioned as shown. Sew on the diagonal line. Repeat with three more of the background fabric squares. Trim the fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewn line as shown. Press the seam toward the purple fabric. Repeat this to make four units.



6) Using the units created in Step 5, place one of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " purple squares, with the marked diagonal line positioned as shown, on top of the unit, right sides together. Sew on the marked line. Repeat with the three remaining units from Step 5.



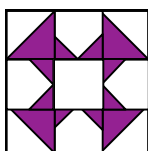
7) Trim the fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewn line as shown. Press seam toward the purple fabric. The four completed units should measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square.



8) Using two of the half-triangle squares and one of the units completed in Step 7, piece the top and bottom rows of the block by sewing the units together as shown. Press the seam allowance toward the half-square triangles. The resulting units should measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $12\frac{1}{2}$ ".



9) With the remaining two units from Step 7 and the remaining $4\frac{1}{2}$ " white square, piece the center row of the block as shown. Press the seam allowance toward the white square. The resulting unit should measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $12\frac{1}{2}$ ".



10) Piece together the three rows as shown to complete A Dandy quilt block. Press the seam allowances toward the center row of the block. The finished block should measure $12\frac{1}{2}$ " square.