

MPQG BOM April: While my Guitar Gently Weeps, by George Harrison

The song began as an experiment with a theory from the I Ching while George was visiting his parents. “While My Guitar Gently Weeps” was just a simple study based on the theory that everything has some purpose for being there at that given moment,” George explained. “I was thinking that anything I see when I open a book, I’m going to write a song about. So I opened this book and I saw ‘gently weeps.’ I shut the book and then I started the tune.” George enlisted Eric Clapton to play lead guitar on the version that made it on to the White Album, though it was very unusual for other musicians to appear on a Beatles album. The version linked below was described as, “When the teacher puts all the smart kids together..” Some of the finest musicians joined George here.

[George Harrison and Eric Clapton - While my guitar gently weeps](#)

Kathrin showed me this fun block and thought “Strings” would have something to do with the Beatles. I think it works well with this beautifully simple, yet haunting song.

[Moda Blockheads 3](#)



Strings, by Janet Clare

“I love string piecing as you can easily create really dynamic blocks full of energy. Use up all your little scraps for a fun block or take a more measured approach and have elegant stripes. What will your block look like?”

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS:

Please note: String Blocks are created in quadrants. String Quadrants are assembled using stitch and flip methods on a plain background square. String Blocks are made to be wonky and mismatched. You may create this block as wonky, or as controlled as you like. The rectangles can be cut from colorful prints for maximum scrappiness, or using a combination of low volume background prints and colored prints to alternate between light and dark fabrics as shown to the right.

Finished block size

12"

18"

<p>Base Square:</p> <p>Use either plain solid squares of fabric or muslin for the Base Squares.</p>	<p>Cut (4) 6 1/2" x 6 1/2" squares.</p>	<p>Cut (4) 9 1/2" x 9 1/2" squares.</p>
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<p>Cut an assortment of rectangles within the approximate ranges listed.</p> <p>Length and width may vary depending on your desired block appearance.</p>	<p>Ranging from: 1" – 2" wide and 4 1/2" – 10" long.</p>	<p>Ranging from: 1" – 2" wide and 4 1/2" – 14" long.</p>
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ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Blocks are assembled using a method in which you stitch assorted rectangles onto base squares by stitching, flipping and pressing until the entire base square is covered. Place (1) long A rectangle with (1) base square diagonally as shown. The right side of the A rectangle should be facing upward. Ensure that the corners of the base square are covered by the A rectangle completely before proceeding. Pin the diagonal A rectangle in place.
2. Select another A rectangle. Place the new A rectangle right sides together and edges aligned with the pinned A rectangle. Ensure that it is placed so that once it's sewn, it will cover the edges of the base square.
3. Sew the A rectangles and the base square together using a 1/4" seam, following the edges of the A rectangles.
4. Once sewn, press the last sewn A rectangle away from the center of the base square and to the corner.
5. Continue attaching A rectangles to the base square using a 1/4" seam. Always attach the new A rectangle to the raw edge of the last sewn A rectangle. Repeat until the right side of the base square is completely covered.
6. Repeat to create (4) covered base squares.
7. Turn each base square over wrong side up on the cutting mat.

8. Use a ruler to trim excess A rectangle fabric from each of the base squares. Reference the cutting chart for base square sizes for each block size.
9. Arrange (4) completed base squares in a 2 x 2 grid. Arrange for even color and print distribution.
10. Sew together as shown.
11. Trim block using the guide listed below:

12 1/2" x 12 1/2" unfinished (12" x 12" finished)

18 1/2" x 18 1/2" unfinished (18" x 18")