

Block of the Month: February 2020

* Heart Block*



Let's stay traditional for February and think Valentine. Pull out your red, pink or purple scraps to make this fun heart block. It will teach using the traditional Half Square Triangle (HST) method as well as the Quarter Triangles made with HST.

Materials Needed

Red, Purple or Pink (Main)

- (1) 5 1/2" square
- (2) 4 1/2" squares
- (2) 5" x 2" rectangle

Red, Purple or Pink, lighter or darker than above

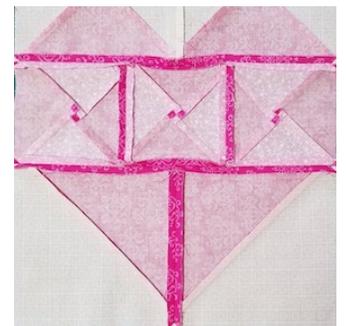
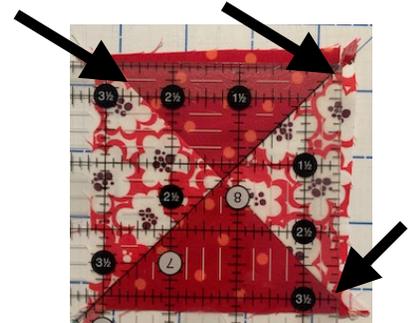
- (2) 4 1/2" squares

Background (light)

- (1) 5 1/2" square
- (4) 2" squares

Instructions

1. Make the two Half Square Triangles: Take the 5 1/2" red square, place the 5 1/2" light square on top (right sides together), mark a diagonal line on the top square. Sew 1/4" from the drawn line on both sides. Cut on that line. You have two squares. Press squares to the dark side. Trim each HST to 5" square.
2. Make the Quarter Square Triangles (you will end with four, but will only need three): Make four Half Square Triangles from the two main and two secondary 4 1/2" squares as described in #1. Press to dark but **DO NOT TRIM**. Place two HST on top of each other, right sides together, with the seams nesting so that opposite fabrics are facing each other. Draw a diagonal line perpendicular to seam. Sew 1/4" on both sides from that drawn line. Cut on that line. Open and you have two Quarter Square Triangles/Hour glasses. Press seams to the light so the seams all spin around the center. There is less bulk that way and many of the diagonal seams nest when joining the blocks and rows. Repeat with the other two HSTs. Trim each unit to 3 1/2" (see pic), using the diagonal lines on your ruler. (Bring the fourth QST to share or use it in your next scrappy quilt.)
3. Take the red rectangles and add the 2 1/2" background squares to two corners - flip and sew method. (Draw a diagonal line on each of the small squares. Place squares as shown in picture, right sides together, sew on the line. Press to dark. Trim excess fabric. Repeat.
4. Assemble block in rows: Sew HST units from #1 together per pictures. Then sew together the three hourglass units as shown. Last sew the rectangles units together on the short side. Press seams open to reduce bulk. Sew together the three rows. Press seams open.
5. **Block should measure 9.5" x 9.5"**. If it needs trimming, trim at the top.



Remember, we appreciate DIFFERENT blocks. If you make multiple blocks, please use different fabrics. This BOM is due at the guild meeting on **February 3, 2020**. More info on the BOM at www.mpgg.org/block-of-the-month.htm