

Block of the Month: September 2019

* Scotty Dog*

August 26 is National Dog Day. And most people love dogs. So, here are instructions for a Scotty Dog (easy enough - squares, HSTs and a QST - but you can handle it). Make your dog in any color you want: Traditional black or grey or be blue! Block inspiration: <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/scottie-dog-quilt-block-pattern-2821217>



Note: Half square triangle (HST) unit pieces are oversized; so trim to size where indicated.

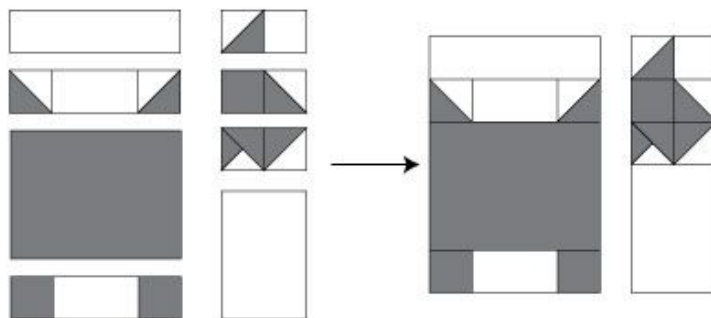
Materials Needed

Grey, black, purple, blue, maybe orange - any color goes - for dog body

- (1) 6-1/2" x 8-1/2" rectangle
- (3) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" squares
- (4) 3" x 3" squares
- (1) 3-1/2" square

Background - light

- (1) 4-1/2" x 6-1/2" rectangle
- (2) 2-1/2" x 4-1/2" rectangles
- (1) 2-1/2" x 8-1/2" rectangle
- (1) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" square
- (3) 3" x 3" squares
- (1) 3-1/2" square



Instructions

1. Make Half Square Triangles (HSTs) with (3) 3" x 3" dog body squares and (3) 3" x 3" background (BG) squares: Draw a diagonal line on the back of light squares. Place right sides up on dark square. Sew 1/4" from line on both sides. Cut on line. Press triangle squares to dark side. **Trim to 2.5" HST**. Six HSTs units created. Five units needed for this block. Lay out as shown in picture.
 2. Make a HST with both 3-1/2" squares. Follow direction from #1. Draw diagonal line. Sew 1/4" from line both side. Trim on line, Press to dark side. **Trim to size 3" HST!!!**
 3. Make Quarter Square Triangle (QST): Use HST unit created in #2, 3" HST and draw diagonal line perpendicular on the back. Place right side down on top of last 3" x 3" dog body square. Sew 1/4" from drawn line on both sides. Cut on line. Press to dark side. Two units will be mirror images. Use the one as shown in drawing above. Trim to 2.5" square lining up the 45 degree line on your ruler with the seam line and center. (The other quarter square triangle is not needed.)
 4. Layout all units per drawing above and sew as shown together. Press as you go to dark side or open.
 5. The **final block will be 12.5 x 12.5"**
- (Note: There will be three units extra that are not needed: 2.5" HST, 3" HST, 2.5" QST)

Remember, we appreciate DIFFERENT blocks. So if you make multiple blocks, please use different fabrics. This BOM is due at the guild meeting on **September 9, 2019**. More info on the BOM at www.mpgg.org/block-of-the-month.htm

Block of the Month: October 2019

* Stripy Pumpkin*



Get into the Fall Spirit by making a pumpkin using your stripy scraps of orange.

Materials Needed

Pumpkin - Orange

(6) different fabrics: 2" x 8" strips

Brown Stem

(1) 2" x 2-1/2"

Background (BG)- light

(6) 2" x 2" squares

Green Leaf

(1) 2 1/2" x 4-1/4" rectangle

(1) 2-1/2" x 4-1/4" rectangle

Instructions

1. Layout the six orange strips in the order that is most pleasing to you and sew them together on the long side with 1/4" seam. Press seams open. Trim unit to **9-1/2" x 7-1/2"**.
2. Take the four 2" background squares and mark a diagonal line on the back of each. Then place a square on each corner of the pumpkin unit - right sides together. Stitch & Flip: Sew on the diagonal lines.
3. Flip unit and press toward the dark side. Then trim the extra fabric using scissors - about 1/4" from the seam.
4. Leaf: Using the Stitch & Flip method, mark a diagonal line on each of the remaining two 2" background squares. Place a square in opposite corners on top of the green leaf fabric - right sides together. Sew on the marked line. Flip. Press to the dark side. Trim off the excess material.
5. Sew top row as shown: Stem to 2-1/2" x 4-1/4" rectangle; leaf to other side of stem. Press seams to stem.
6. Sew this unit to the pumpkin unit. Press seams open.
7. The **final block will be 9.5" x 9.5"**

Admire and make another if you enjoyed it!

Contact kathrin.brown@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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Block of the Month: November 2019

* Tree*



Pull out two fabrics that contrast well - one for the background and one for the tree, plus a scrap for the trunk and challenge yourself to do some accurate 1/4" piecing. The block can be trimmed down if you are off a bit.

Materials Needed

See diagram below:

Background

Tree Fabric

Trunk

Instructions

1. Using a small stitch length (2), make strips with the tree pieces / trunk piece and background pieces shown in the diagram. Press seams to the tree or open.
2. (Note: Mark the center of the trees so strips are lined up from center, not edges.) Sew strips together as shown in the drawing. Press seams to the background or open.
3. The **final block will be about 11" x 11.75"**. **DO NOT trim block**, let the winner trim to her desired size.

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11" x 1.5"		
5.25" x 1.5"	1.5" x 1.5"	5.25" x 1.5"
11" x 1"		
4.5" x 1.5"	3" x 1.5"	4.5" x 1.5"
11" x 1"		
3.75" x 1.5"	4.5" x 1.5"	3.75" x 1.5"
11" x 1"		
3" x 1.5"	6" x 1.5"	3" x 1.5"
11" x 1"		
2.25" x 1.5"	7.5" x 1.5"	2.25" x 1.5"
11" x 1"		
5.25" x 2"	1.5" x 2"	5.25" x 2"
11" x 1.5"		

Remember, we appreciate DIFFERENT blocks. So if you make multiple blocks, please use different fabrics. This BOM is due at the guild meeting on **November 11, 2019**. More info on the BOM at www.mpgg.org/block-of-the-month.htm

Block of the Month: January 2020

* Scrappy Court House Steps in Blue and Light*

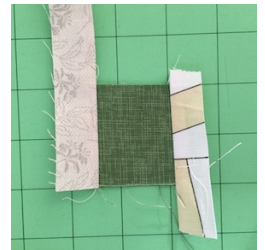


What colors have we not used in a while and fit the season? Blue and Light as in Winter Blues. Here is a block that Bonnie Hunter just posted a tutorial for. So, check it out on her website if these instructions are unclear. <https://quiltville.blogspot.com/2019/10/crooked-courthouse-steps.html#more> But make sure you make the size requested here!

Materials Needed

Go into your scrap bin and pull these:

- (1) 2" square for the center - bright green
- (8) strips of light fabric (white, cream, palest blue) sized 2" to 8" long and 3/4" to 2" wide
- (8) strips of blue fabric - sized 3" to 10" long and 3/4" to 2" wide



Instructions

1. Starting with the green center square, add the shortest light fabric pieces to two opposite sides. Press away from center. Trim length as needed to match with center square. (pic 1)
2. Sew the two shortest blue strips to the opposite two sides. Press away from center. Cut off any extra to create a square - it's not important to have it even or square — it's improv. (pic 2)
3. Continue building in this manner to two opposing sides with each color, pressing away from center, trimming where necessary until four (4) strips have been added to all four sides.
4. Ideally, your last strip is wider than 1/2" so that it won't be cut off when squared up or get lost in the seam allowance when sewing to another block.
5. **Square up your block to 9.5" x 9.5"**



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Remember, we appreciate DIFFERENT blocks. If you make multiple blocks, please use different fabrics. This BOM is due at the guild meeting on **January 6, 2020**. More info on the BOM at www.mpgg.org/block-of-the-month.htm

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

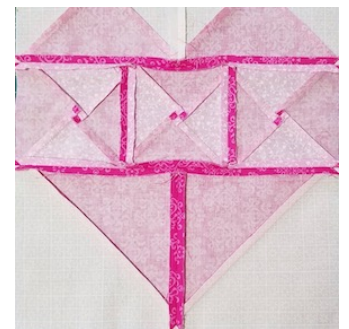
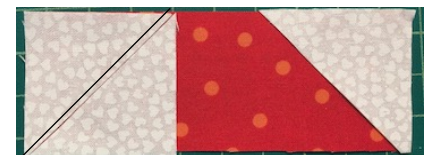
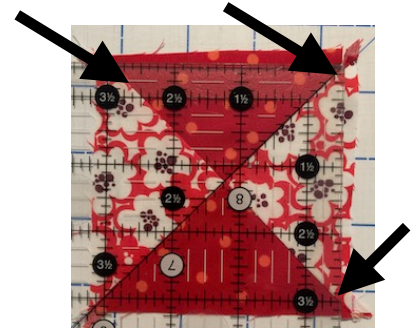
- (2) 4 1/2" squares

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.mpqg.org/block-of-the-month.htm

Block of the Month: April 2020

* Butterfly Block*



Here is an easy block to make before the next guild meeting and while you finish your show quilts and sew on sleeves. It's a modified block from Missouri Star Quilt Company which has a tutorial [here](#).

Materials Needed

Butterfly Wings

(3) 2" x 21" strips - use three different but coordinating fabrics - bright batiks are a great choice

Background

(8) 2" x 2" squares in light to white

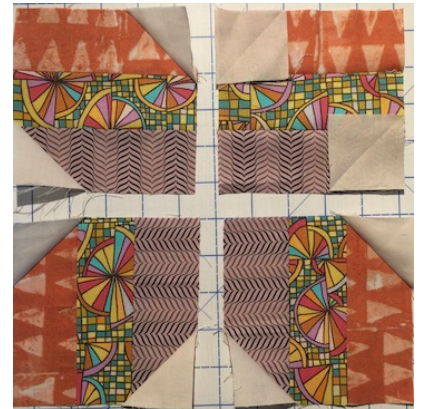
Butterfly Body

(1) 1" x 9.5" strip in dark

Note: use 1/4" seams

ASSEMBLY NOTES:

1. Sew the three strips together on the long side with a 1/4" seam. Press seams open. The width should be 5" now. Cut four 5" squares from the wide strip. (Since it was a 21" strip, there is a bit of room to straighten the ends and have a scrap.)
2. Lay out the four 5" squares as in the photo - top two squares are horizontally and bottom two are vertically striped.
3. Take the eight 2" squares and fold in half on the diagonal and press to get a diagonal crease. Place each square onto the 5" square in the positions shown. - Pay attention here. Each square is on opposite corners and different from the other 5" square.
4. "Sew & Flip" method: Sew on the diagonal crease and press to the corner for all eight pieces. Layout the four squares and ensure the corner pieces meet according to picture. When ensured, trim excess corner fabric. Square up if needed.
5. Sew top right square to bottom right, then sew the left side. Press seams open.
6. Sew dark body piece in the middle. Press seams to the body.
7. Block should measure **10" wide x 9.5" high**. Square up if needed.



Admire and make another if you enjoyed it!

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Remember, we appreciate DIFFERENT blocks. If you make multiple blocks, please use different fabrics. This BOM is due at the guild meeting on **March 30, 2020**. More info on the BOM at www.mpqg.org/block-of-the-month.htm

Block of the Month: May 2020

* LOVE Block*

In these times we all need LOVE. This block is designed by [Joanna of Fig Tree Company](#). Please choose any one color from the **RAINBOW** for the letters (all green, blue, purple, etc.) and **GREY** for the background - scrappy is great!!!

CUTTING FOR 12" Block

For "L":

From color fabric: Cut (1) 2 ½" x 6 ½" [A] and (1) 2 ½" x 4 ½" [B].

From background: Cut (1) 4 ½" x 4 ½" squares [C].

For "O":

From color fabric: Cut (2) 2 ½" x 6 ½" [D] and (2) 2 ½" x 2 ½" squares [E].

From background: Cut (1) 2 ½" x 2 ½" square [F] and (4) 1 ½" x 1 ½" squares [G].

For "V":

From color fabric: Cut (2) 3 ½" x 6 ½" [H].

From background: Cut (4) 3 ½" x 3 ½" squares [I].

For "E":

From color fabric: Cut (1) 2" x 6 ½" [J], (2) 2" x 5" [K] and (1) 1 ½" x 3" [M].

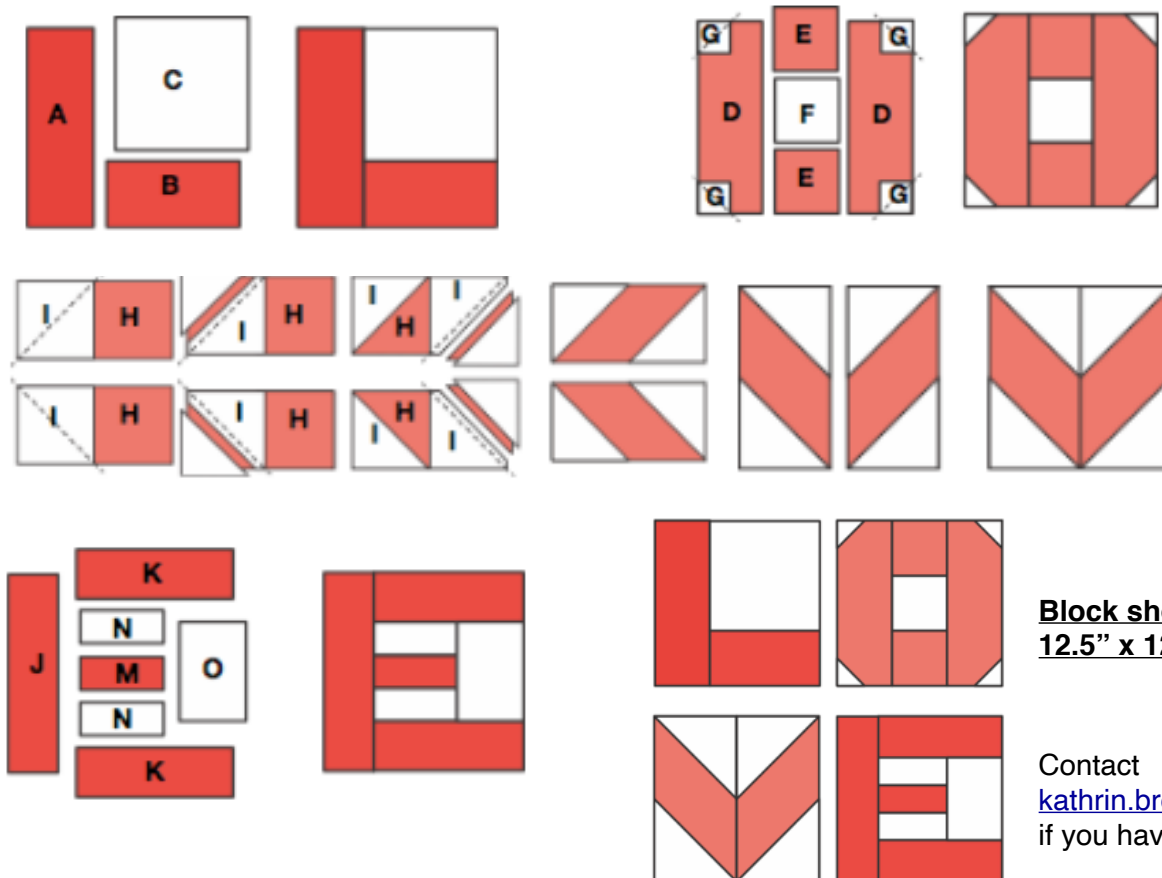
From background: Cut (1) 2 ½" x 3 ½" [N] and (2) 1 ½" x 3" [O].



ASSEMBLY NOTES:

- Use basic block assembly as well sew SEW & FLIP method for the O and V.
- Press to the color fabric when doing standard assembly.
- Press "out" to the background when doing the SEW & FLIP method.
- Note the "E" has some smaller pieces in it so take care and cut accurately and sew slowly.

Assembly Diagram



**Block should measure
12.5" x 12.5"**

Contact
kathrin.brown@gmail.com
if you have any questions.