

MPQG BOTM October 2021

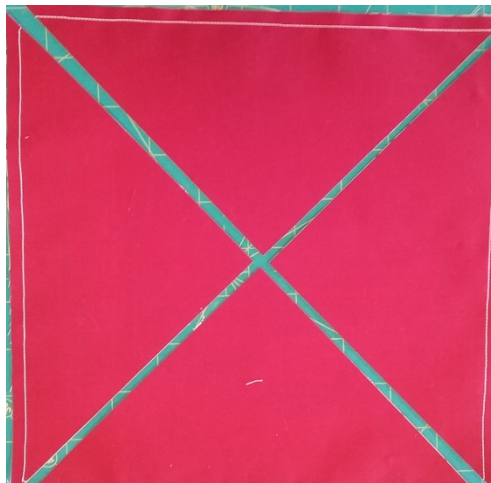
Disappearing Pinwheel

This block takes a classic pinwheel and turns it into a new block. If you have a rotating cutting mat, using it will make the cutting easier.

1. Cut 2 10" squares in contrasting colors
2. With right sides together, stitch all four sides of the squares

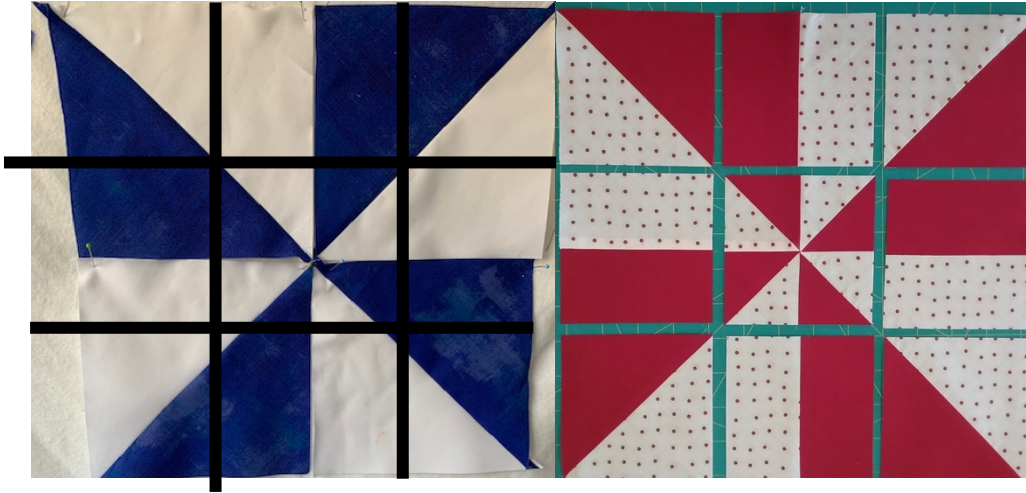


3. Cut diagonally, making 2 cuts



4. Press the resulting $\frac{1}{2}$ square triangles open. Press to the dark
5. Arrange the $\frac{1}{2}$ square triangles to form a pinwheel, stitch together, press to the dark.

6. Cut pinwheel into 9 squares (like a 9-patch). If you started with 10" squares, your cuts will be $2 \frac{1}{8}$ " from the center seam. Please cut straighter lines than I was able to draw ;-)



7. Turn the middle square on each side 180 degrees



8. Sew the nine patch together and press. Sew the three rows together. It works best if you press the top and bottom rows all to the left and the center row to the right. Pin the intersecting seams to sew the three rows into a nine patch.

There is a helpful tutorial on making this block at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FpUY4cwBj4>

Turned Corners



This block uses three fabrics.

Fabric A – cut 1 piece 9" square

Fabric B – cut 2 pieces 10 x 2" and 2 pieces 14 x 2"

Fabric C – cut 2 pieces 1 x 13" and 2 pieces 1 x 18"

Attach the 10 x 2 pieces to opposite sides of the 9" square.

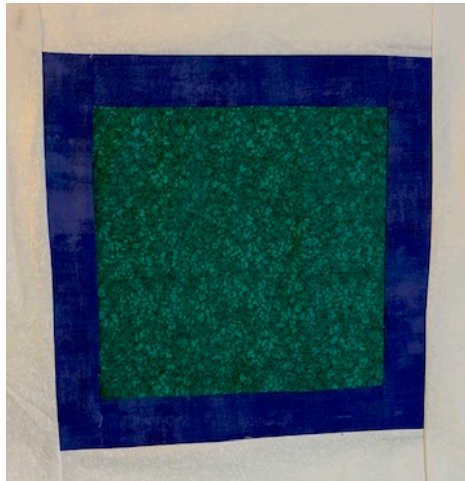
Attach the 14 x 2 pieces to the remaining 2 sides of the square

Press toward center

Attach the 1 x 13 pieces to opposite sides of the pressed square

Attach the 1 x 18 pieces to the remaining 2 sides of the pressed square. Press toward center.

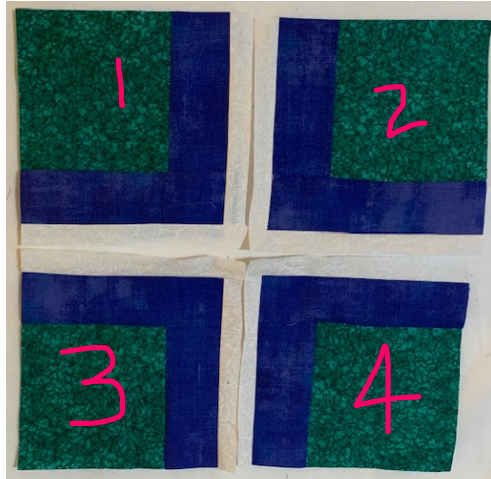
You will have a square with double framing.



Cut the square in equal quarters



Rotate the quarters 180 degrees so that fabric C is in the center of the block



Sew the quarters together. 1 to 2, and 3 to 4. Press the seam between 1 and 2 to the right and the seam between 3 and 4 to the left. Sew the two units together. Press and trim to 12"

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December 2021

Wonky Winter Solstice Star

Since ancient times, cultures around the world have had a festival on or near the winter solstice. The observances typically invoke light in some form – fire, candles, stars. So, whatever your traditions, this star will bring light and hope.



Cut 8 4 ½" x 4 ½" squares from your 'background fabric(A)

Cut 5 4 ½" x 4 ½" squares from one or more of your other fabrics (B)

Make the points.

- Take one of your background squares and two of your other squares
- Position one of the point squares (B) on the background square at an angle, right sides together. I used scraps, but your pieces will be larger if you cut squares.

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January 2022

Interlock



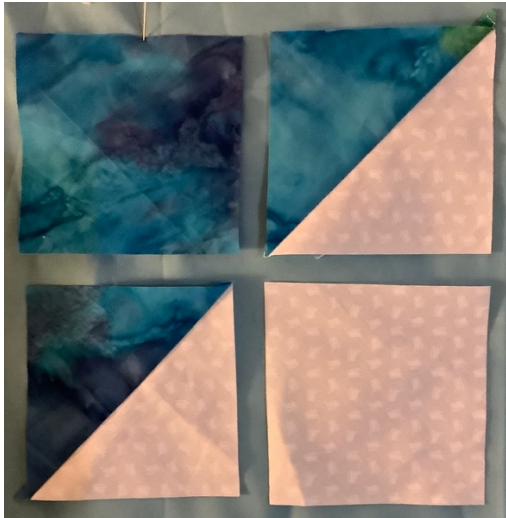
1. Cut an 10.5 by 10.5" square from each of two contrasting fabrics.

Tip: Steps 2-5 are the same as the Disappearing Pinwheel

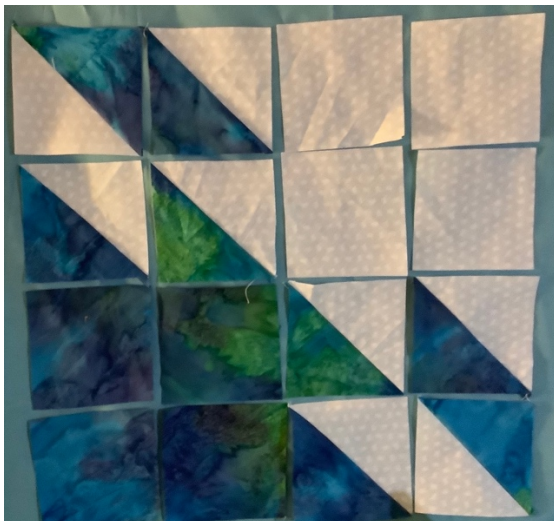
2. Put the two squares right sides together
3. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ inch around all 4 sides of the square.
4. Draw lines corner to corner on the lighter square.



5. Cut along the diagonal lines. Press the resulting $\frac{1}{2}$ square triangles open. Trim to 7" square.
6. Cut each $\frac{1}{2}$ square triangle into quarters, midway from each edge. You will have 16 small ($3\frac{1}{2}$ ")squares.



7. Arrange the small squares as pictured below



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8. Sew the squares into rows. Press the first and third rows to the right and the second and fourth rows to the left.
9. Sew the rows together, taking care to line up the seams. Press
10. Trim the block to 12x12.

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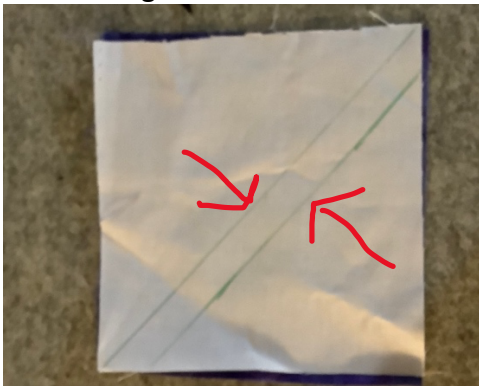
February 2022

Disappearing Shoo Fly



Use two or three contrasting fabrics

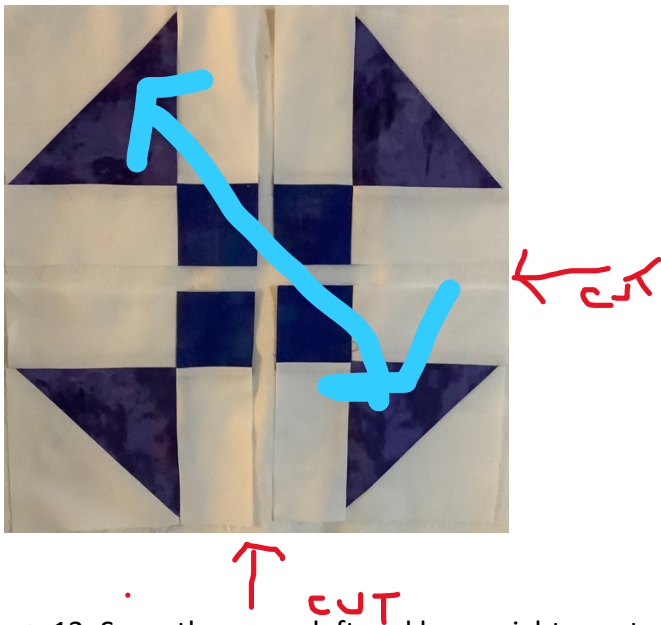
1. Cut 4 $4\frac{3}{4}$ " squares from your light fabric; Cut 4 squares $4\frac{3}{4}$ " x $4\frac{3}{4}$ " and 1 square $4\frac{1}{2}$ x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " from your dark fabric
2. Match the dark squares with the $4\frac{3}{4}$ " light squares
3. Draw a diagonal line across each of the matched sets, corner to corner.



4. Draw another line $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the first line.
5. Sew along both lines.
6. Cut between the two sewn lines. Set aside the smaller $\frac{1}{2}$ square triangles.
7. Press the 4 larger $\frac{1}{2}$ square triangles open.
8. Line up the squares into a 9-patch with a dark square in the center and $\frac{1}{2}$ squares in the corners (dark fabric touching the center square). Place the remaining light squares in the N, S, E, W positions.
9. Sew the rows together. Press the top and bottom rows toward the center and the middle row outward.
10. Sew the rows into the 9-patch. Press



11. Cut the resulting square in equal quarters, with a top to bottom and a left to right cuts.



- 12. Swap the upper left and lower right quarters.

13. Sew the quarters together. Press and trim to 12"



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March 2022

Greatblock



From a dark fabric, cut:

2 – 2.5" x 7.5" strips

2 – 2.5" x 10.5" strips

From a light fabric, cut:

3 – 2.5" x 7.5" strips

2 – 1.25" x 10.5" strips

2 – 1.25" x 12" strips

From the 2.5" x 7.5" strips, make a strip set, alternating colors. Press to the dark.



Cut the strip set across the stripes into 3 2.5" strips
 Lay the newly created 2.5" strips out vertically on your work table, leaving space between the rows to lay the two dark 2.5" X 10.5" strips vertically in between.
 Assemble as shown.



Sew together and press to the solid.

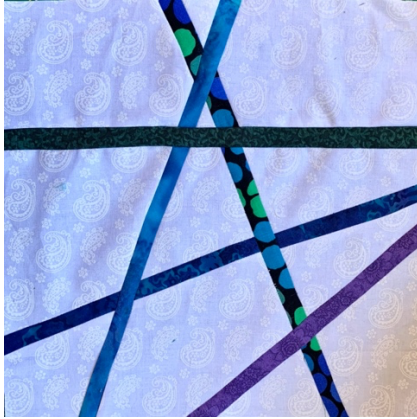
Attach 1.25" x 10.5" strips to opposite sides of the block. Press.
 Attach 1.25" x 12" strips to the remaining sides of the block. Press.



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April 2022

Random sticks



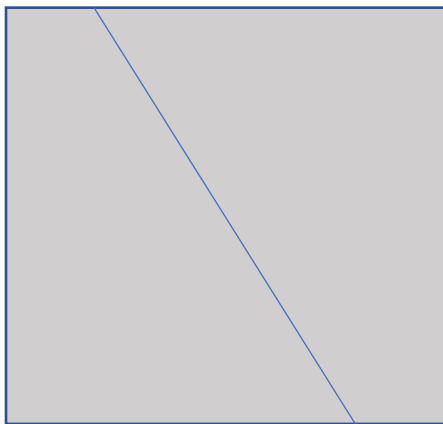
I apologize in advance to those of you who like precise instructions. This block is improv – try it, it's fun!

Cut one 13" x 13" square from a 'background' fabric

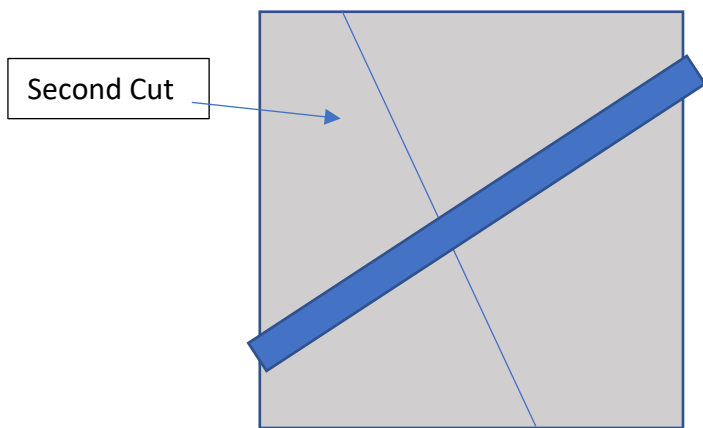
Cut 1" x 17" strips from four different fabrics. You can use scraps from the other blocks or something new entirely. Use fabrics that contrast with the background. My photo has five inserts, not four as in these instructions.

Cut the block in two pieces, intersecting opposite sides. Whatever angle and placement appeals to you. Stay out of the outer inch of the block as we will need to trim.

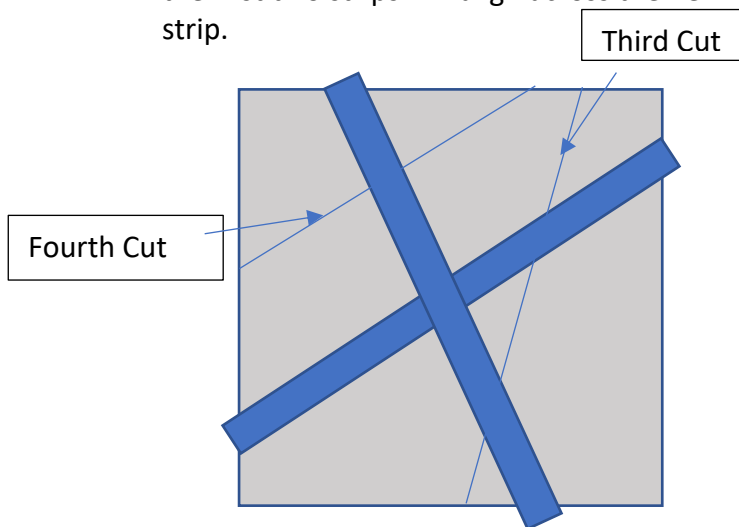
Insert one of the strips into the gap you created. Sew and press.



Turn the block and do it again



The third and fourth cut can be either opposite sides or adjacent sides. Do what looks good to you. If you have all the strips intersect in the same spot, you may have trouble pressing flat, as you will have a lot of fabric in one place. Insert the third strip. Ideally, the first two strips will align across the new insert. Press and repeat with the fourth strip.



Trim the block to 12"x12"

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May 2022

Angular Spiral



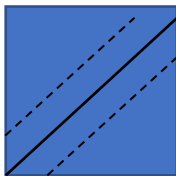
This is a modern interpretation of an old block. It contains a quarter square triangle and uses a partial seam to complete.

Use two contrasting fabrics

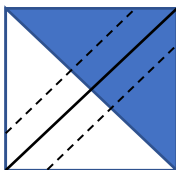
Cut a $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " square from each fabric

Cut 2 $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles from each fabric.

- Pair the squares RST. Draw a diagonal line corner to corner on the back of the lighter fabric. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " on both sides of the drawn line. Cut along drawn line. Press to the dark.

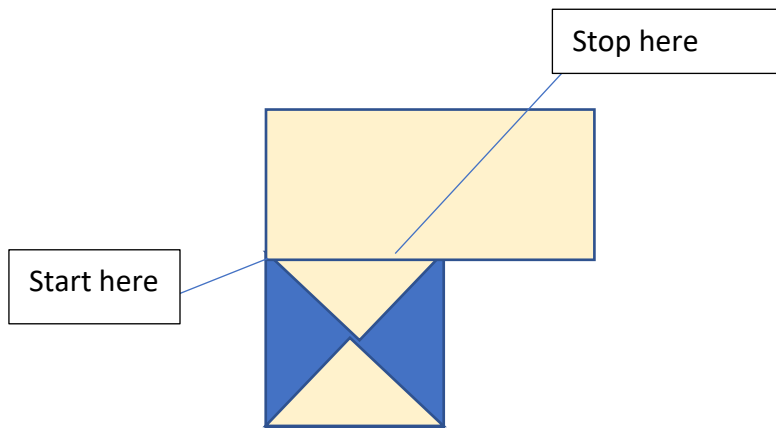


- Pair the two HSTs alternating the colors. Draw a diagonal line perpendicular to the seam line. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " on both sides of the drawn line. Cut along the drawn line. Press open. Trim to square if needed.



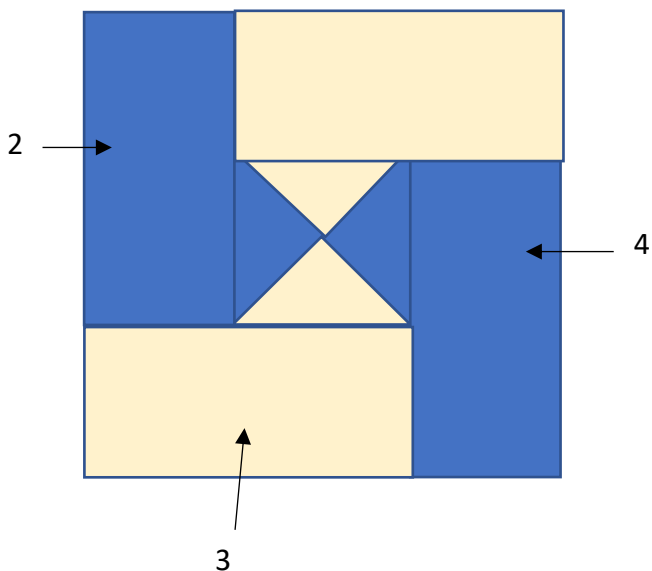
- Set one of the quarter square triangles aside for another block.

- Sew a rectangle to the center, matching colors. Don't complete the seam. Finger press to the outside.



If the idea of sewing a partial seam gives you heartburn, there are many demonstrations on the web. Here's one of them: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDKNtqYCiEs>

Attach the remaining rectangles. Complete the partial seam. Press to the outside and trim to 12"



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June 2022

9 Rails



This is a simple 9-patch variation using strip sets.

Select four fabrics

Cut $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF strip from each fabric

Sew strips together. Press to one side.



Cut the strip set into (9) 4.25 x 4.25" squares

Arrange the squares alternately. Sew each row, press
Sew the rows together. Press. Trim.

That's it!

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July 2022

Big T Origami

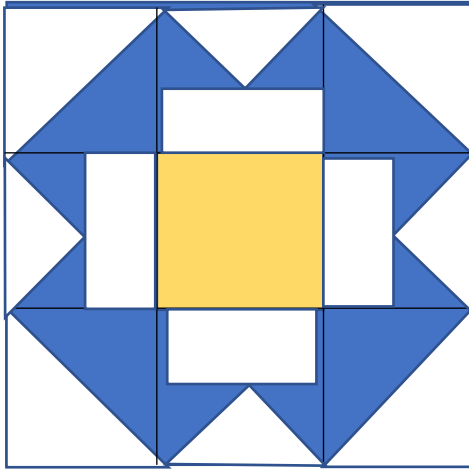


We have Jenny Doan to thank for this block. Her tutorial is at <https://www.missouriquiltco.com/pages/big-t-origami-quilt-tutorial>

- Use two fabrics, plus a contrasting background fabric
- Cut a $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ from one of the fabrics
- From the other fabric, cut 2 $5' \times 5''$ squares and 8 $2\frac{1}{2}''$ squares
- From the background fabric, cut 2 $5''$ squares and 8 $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ rectangles
- Match a colored $5''$ square to a background $5''$ square.
- Draw a diagonal line
- Sew $\frac{1}{4}''$ on both sides of the diagonal
- Cut along the diagonal.
- Repeat with the other pair of $5''$ squares
- Press to the light, you will have 4 half square triangles,
- Trim to $4\frac{1}{2}''$ square
- Place a colored $2\frac{1}{2}''$ square at one end of a white rectangle. Sew diagonally across the colored square. Trim outside the stitching line.
- Repeat at the other end of the rectangle. Make sure the colored fabrics overlap in the center
- Press to the dark – you have made flying geese!

- Sew your flying goose to a background rectangle. To preserve the 'beak' of the goose, make your seam go exactly through the intersection. Press.

Assemble:



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August 2022

Pinwheel Star



Color choice will make this star low or high volume. I think it looks like those pinwheels on a stick kids used to play with. Use 2 colors for the star and one for the background. **Please note that the photo shows the reverse placement of the long and short pieces than the diagrams. It doesn't matter which direction it goes, just be consistent.

Color A – cut (4) 2.75" x 4.25" pieces

Color B - cut (4) 2.75" x 6.25" pieces

Background – cut (8) 2.75 x 2.75" pieces; cut (4) 4.25 x 4.25 pieces

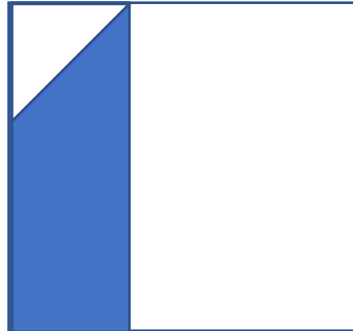
1. Snowball the color A pieces with small background squares. Place small square aligned with one end of the rectangle RST. Sew diagonally upper left to lower right. Trim off excess triangles, press open. Repeat to make 4 units



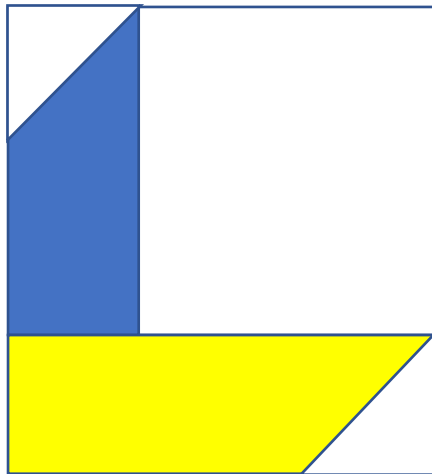
2. *Snowball the Color B rectangles. Sew the square upper right to lower left. NOTE: This is the opposite of the Color A units. Trim and press. Repeat to make 4 units.*



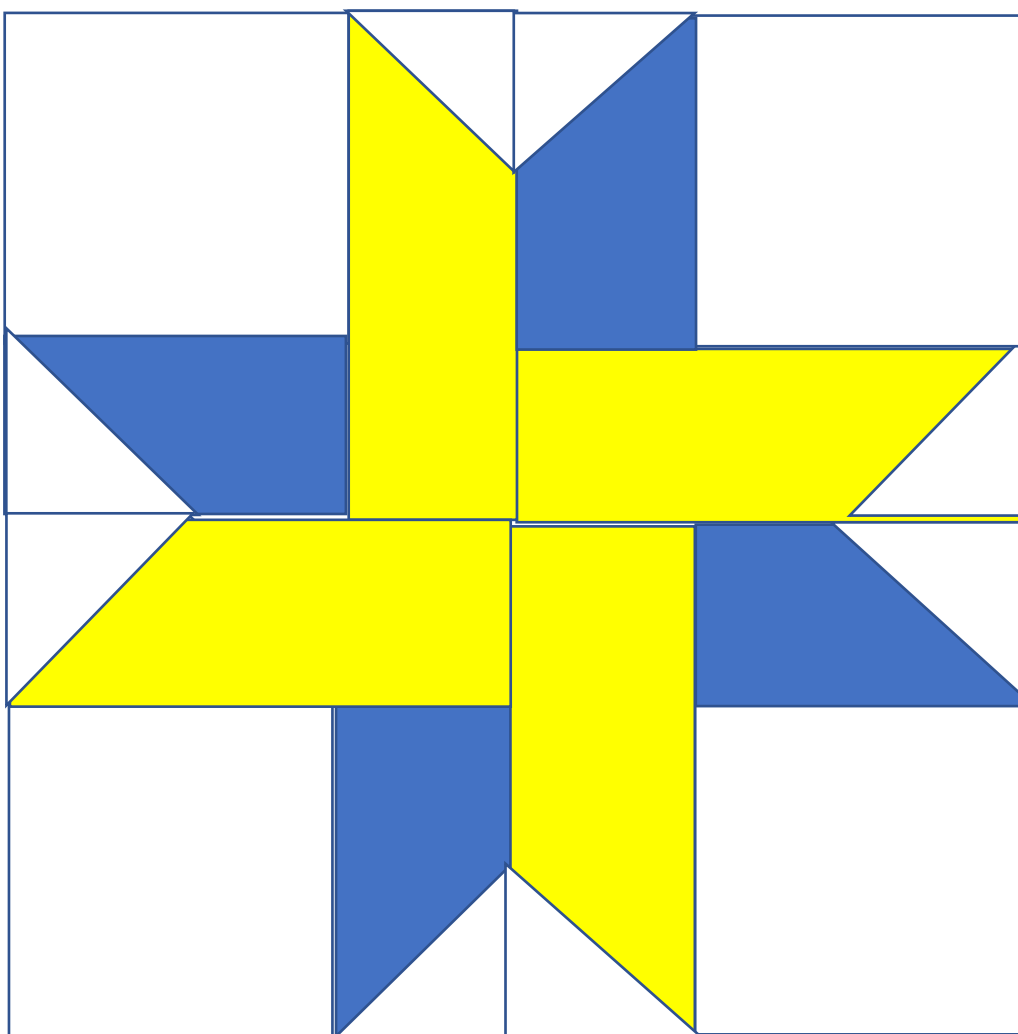
3. *Place a small rectangular unit on the 4. square RST with the long, colored edge next to the edge of the large square. Stitch and press.*
4. *Repeat with the remaining 4 large squares and small rectangular units.*



5. *Place a 2.75 x 6.25 unit on the rectangle made in Step 3 RST . Stitch and press*



6. *Do this 4 times.*
7. *Trim to 6.25" x 6.25" taking care to protect the points.(I just evened up the sides with the points and did the more aggressive trimming on the 2 other sides)*
8. *Assemble as show below. Sew together. Press.*



MPQG BOTM

September 2022

Half Square Puzzle



We have the Modern Quilt Guild (MQG) to thank for this block. If you like this kind of block, I recommend joining MQG. You can join either the local chapter (SBAMQG.org) or the National guild (themodernquiltguild.com). You can get a wide variety of effects depending on the color placement. My sample used four fabrics

Color A – cut (1) 9 x 9 square; cut in half diagonally

Color B - cut (1) 9 x 9 square; cut in half diagonally

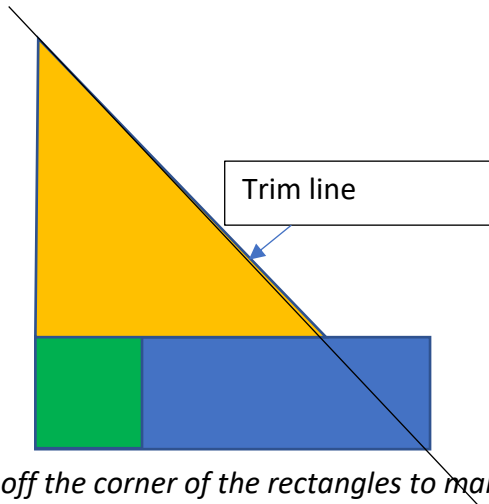
Color C - cut (2) 4.5" x 9" rectangles

Color D – cut (2) 4.5 x 4.5" squares

1. Sew small squares to rectangles. You will have two units like this:



2. Sew one triangle to each rectangle set.



3. Trim off the corner of the rectangles to make a triangle again. Each of the shorter sides should measure 12.25:
4. Place your two triangles RST and sew along the hypotenuse (the long side, for art majors)
5. Press and trim to 12" square

Yes, you have 2 left over triangles. Sew them together and stash them in your spare parts box for later.