

Fall Mystery Quilt — 2004

Brooklyn Quilters' Guild

Description

This mystery quilt is an original design.

This will make an approximately 40" square quilt, before borders, a perfect center to be extended by adding an interesting border.

It can be made with few or many fabrics. The quilt has a lot of "background" color, which can be divided up into several related fabrics or kept more simple. It can be made with a dark or light background. The sewing directions will be for the dark, but these can easily be reversed.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at Marcydsign@aol.com.

Have fun! And send me a picture of your finished quilt.

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Basic Sewing Instructions:

Seams should be 1/4".

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Choosing the Fabrics

DARK 1 (D.1)

3/4 yard

This should be your darkest fabric. Use a solid, tone on tone, small to medium print fabric. It should not be too multicolored, busy or large in pattern.

DARK 2 (D.2)

1/2 yard

This should relate strongly to D.1 in color or tone. It could be the same color as D.1, but a step lighter in value, or an analogous color on the color wheel. Use a solid, tone on tone, small to medium print.

BRIGHT 1 (B.1)

Fat quarter

This is an accent fabric and should be one of your brightest fabric. Use a solid, tone on tone, or small to medium print fabric --nothing too busy, but definitely a bright.

BRIGHT 2 (B.2)

Fat quarter

This should relate well with B.1, or lay next to B.1 on the color wheel. Use a solid, tone on tone, or small to medium print fabric --again, nothing too busy. This is the quilt's second accent fabric. It should look good next to B.1.

For an extra twist: The very center square of this quilt is made from a B.2 combination. If you have a 4" scrap of another fabric that blends well with B.2 and goes well with the quilt, there is an opportunity to add it here. You can fussy cut it to show it off to its best advantage.

MEDIUM-BRIGHT 1 (MB.1)

Fat quarter

A medium-strong, bright color. This should relate well to the other fabrics you are choosing for the quilt. It is used sparingly, but it is important color for the quilt. A bright variation of a dark color could work well. Use a solid, tone on tone, or small print fabric -- nothing too busy.

MIDDLE-TONE 1 (M.1)

1/2 yard

Choose a medium-value or medium-dark value tone (should look really good next to D.1). A medium to medium-large size print could work well here. A solid, tone on tone, or small print fabric would also be great.

LIGHT NEUTRAL (N.1)

1/2 yard

A pale, light-toned fabric, lightest in the quilt. Should look good with D.2. This will give the quilt sparkle. Use a solid, tone on tone, or small to medium print fabric, nothing too busy.

If you have questions, feel free to email me at marcydesign@aol.com
Cutting instructions to come soon.
Have fun picking your fabrics!!!
-Margaret Marcy Emerson

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Cutting the Fabrics

DARK 1 (D.1)

3/4 yard

- Cut (11) 4" squares. — For Steps 4+14+19
 - Cut (16) 3 3/8" squares. — For Step 2
 - Cut (24) 3" x 5 1/2" rectangles — For Step 6 + 9
 - Cut (1) 1 3/4" x 7 1/2" strip — For Step 13
-

DARK 2 (D.2)

1/2 yard

- Cut (8) 3 3/8" squares. — For Step 1
 - Cut (1) 3" x 7 1/2" strip — For Step 13
 - Cut (4) 1 3/4" x 3 1/2" strips and (1) 1 3/4" x 12 1/2" strip — For Step 13
 - Cut (1) 1 3/4" x 15" strip, (8) 1 3/4" x 3 1/2" strips and (8) 1 3/4" x 5 1/2" strips — For Step 18
 - Cut (12) 2 1/4" squares — For Step 14+20
 - Cut (3) 2 1/4" x 19" strips — For Step 3+17
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BRIGHT 1 (B.1)

Fat quarter

- Cut (2) 2 1/4" x 19" strip — For Step 3+10
 - Cut (2) 2 1/4" x 9 1/2" strips — For Step 10
 - Cut (1) 3" x 13" strip — For Step 13
 - Cut (4) 2 1/4" squares — For Step 14
 - Cut (8) 2 1/2" squares — For Step 19
 - Cut (1) 1 3/4" x 16" strip — For Step 18
-

BRIGHT 2 (B.1)

Fat quarter

- Cut (2) 2 1/4" x 19" strips — For Step 10
 - Cut (1) 3" square, reserved for center — For Step 15
 - Cut (2) 2 1/4" x 19" strips — For Step 17
 - Cut (1) 4" square — For Step 19
-

MEDIUM-BRIGHT 1 (MB.1)

Fat quarter

- Cut (1) 2 1/4" x 9 1/2" strip — For Step 10
 - Cut (2) 2 1/4" x 21" strips — For Step 15
 - Cut (2) 2 1/4" x 19" strips — For Step 17
 - Cut (4) 4" squares — For Step 16
-

MIDDLE-TONE 1 (M.1)

1/2 yard

- Cut (24) 3 3/8" squares. — For Step 1+2
 - Cut (10) 4" squares. — For Step 4
 - Cut (16) 3" x 5 1/2" rectangles — For Step 7+19
-

LIGHT NEUTRAL (N.1)

1/2 yard

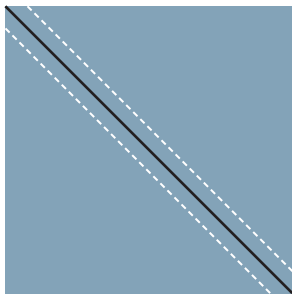
- Cut (8) 2 1/2" squares — For Step 11
 - Cut (32) 3" squares — For Step 9
 - Cut (4) 4" squares — For Step 16
 - Cut (3) 2 1/4" x 19" strips — For Step 17
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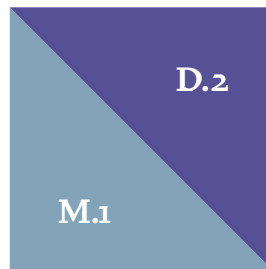
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Step 1

- Take (8) $3\frac{3}{8}$ " squares of **D.2** and (8) $3\frac{3}{8}$ " squares of **M.1**.
- Lay one **D.2** square on top of a **M.1** square, right sides together. With a pen, chalk, pencil or any other marker, draw a line from corner to corner, across the diagonal on the back of each pair. (You may mark either fabric of this pair, whichever is easier to see)
- Sew a *scant* $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each side of the diagonal line.
- Cut in half along the drawn line between the stitching. Press towards dark. Clip tails.



Marking and sewing lines



Face of new square after sewing

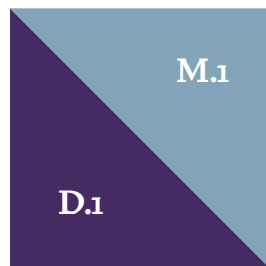
Label for Block A
and hold until step 12

Step 2

- Take (16) $3\frac{3}{8}$ " squares of **D.1** and (16) $3\frac{3}{8}$ " squares of **M.1**.
- Using the technique in Step 1, lay one **D.1** square on top of a **M.1** square, right sides together. Draw a line from corner to corner, across the diagonal, on the back of each pair.
- Sew a *scant* $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each side of the diagonal line.
- Cut in half along the drawn line between the stitching. Press towards dark. Clip tails.



Marking and sewing lines



Face of new square after sewing

Label (16) for Block B, step 6
Label (16) for Block F, step 19

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Step 3 – Four-Patch

- Take (1) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 18" **B.1** strip and (1) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 18" **D.2** strip.
- Sew, right sides together, press towards dark.
- Cut this new double-strip crosswise into (8) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " strips.
- Using the new strips, sew (2) strips together, flipping the second strip of each pair 180° – so like-colors are diagonal to each other, matching seams, make a four-patch. Press seams open lightly. You will need (4) four-patches.



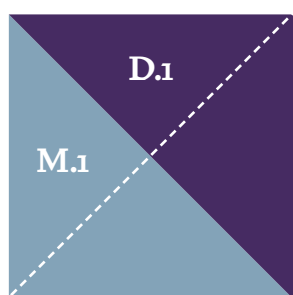
Label for **Block B**

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Step 4

- Take (8) 4" squares of **D.1** and (8) 4" squares of **M.1**
- Using the technique from Step 1, lay one **D.1** square on top of a **M.1** square, right sides together. Draw a line from corner to corner, across the diagonal, on the back of each pair.
- Sew a *scant* 1/4" on each side of the drawn diagonal line. Cut in half along the drawn line between the stitching.
- Press (8) towards **M.1**. Clip tails. Cut in half again along the opposite diagonal, creating (16) half **D.1/M.1** triangles. Label and save for Block F, step 20.
- Press the remaining (8) lightly towards **D.1**. Clip tails. Cut in half again along the opposite diagonal, creating (16) half **D.1/M.1** triangles. Hold for step 5.



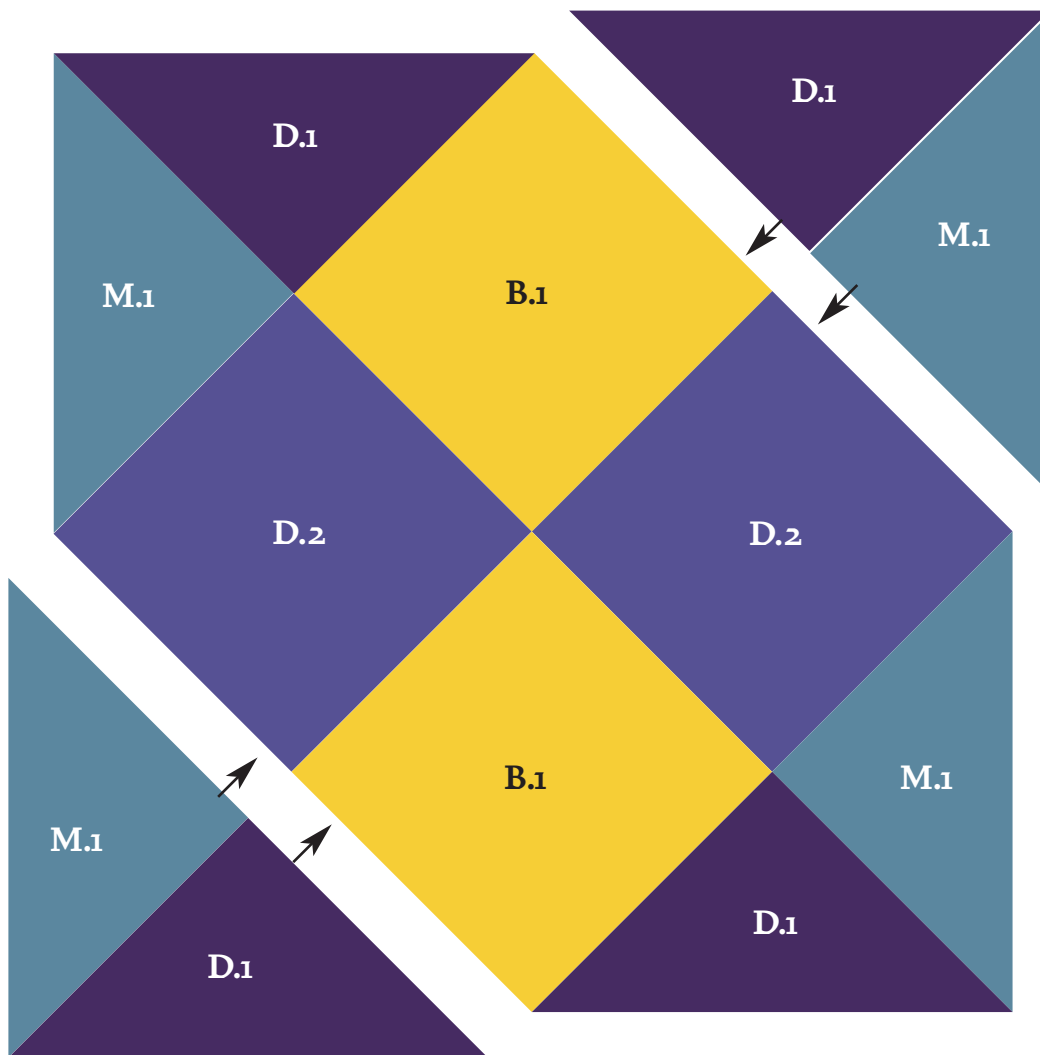
Cutting line

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Step 5

- Take the (4) four-patch squares from **Step 3** and the (16) **D.1/M.1** triangles from **Step 4**.
- Position a **D.1/M.1 triangle** along the side of a four-patch, making sure that the **D.2** four-patch square is diagonal to the **D.1** side of the triangle. Match seams, sew. Repeat on the opposite side of the four-patch. Continue with the final two sides. *NOTE: You may want to repress open the seams of the two triangles that match up with the pressed-open seams of the four patch.*
- Press final seams towards outside of block. Clip tails.



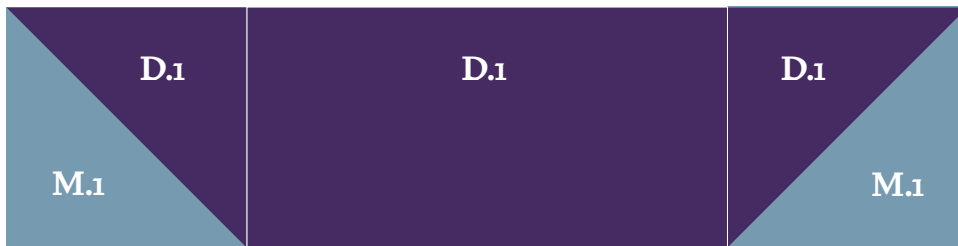
Label for **Block B**

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Step 6

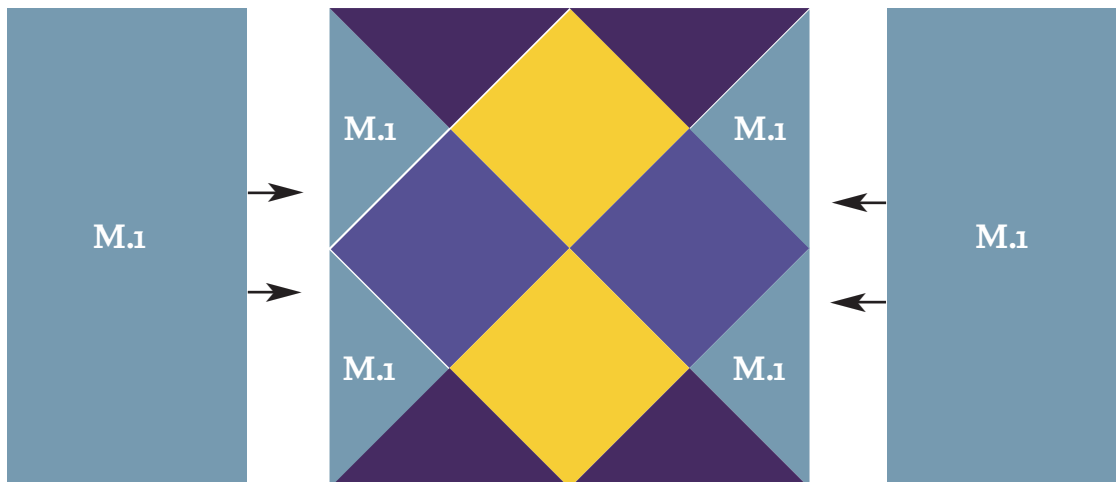
- Take (8) of the 3" x 5 1/2" **D.1** rectangles.
- Take (16) of the **D.1/M.1** double-triangle squares you made in **Step 2**.
- Sew one **D.1/M.1** square to the end of each **D.1** rectangle, orienting blocks as shown.
- Press in towards center rectangle.



Label for **Block B** and hold for Step 8

Step 7

- Take the (8) 3" x 5 1/2" **M.1** rectangles.
- Take the enhanced four-patch block from **Step 5**.
- Sew one **M.1** rectangle to two opposite sides of the four-patch blocks, orienting blocks as shown.
Note: The **M.1** rectangle should abut with the **M.1** triangles in the four-patch block.
- Press towards outside of block.



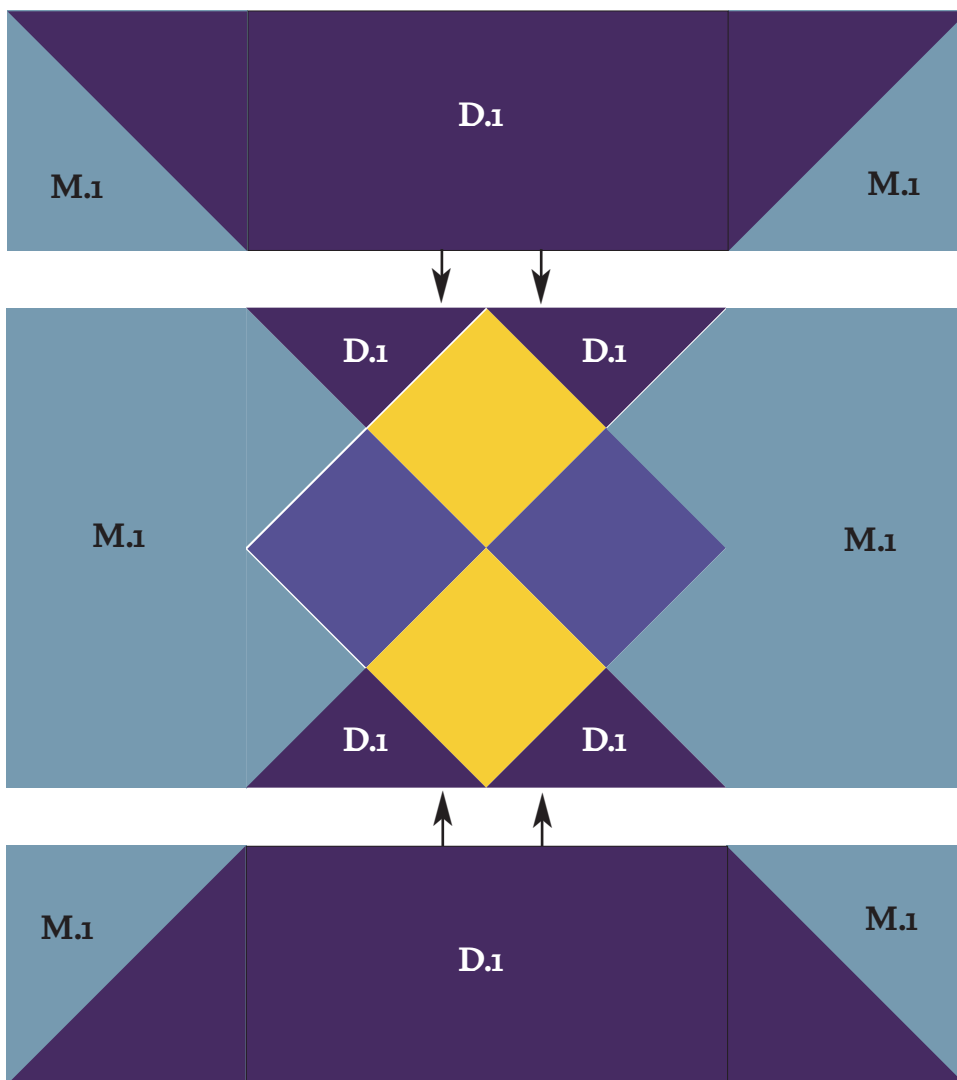
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Step 8

- Take the rectangle strips from **Step 6**.
- Matching seams, sew to opposite sides of the block as shown.
Note: the **M.1** fabric should match up with the **M.1** fabric in the center block.
- Press towards outside. You should have (4) of these blocks.

You have now finished Block B

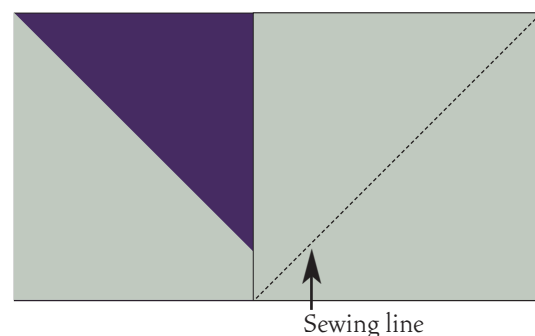
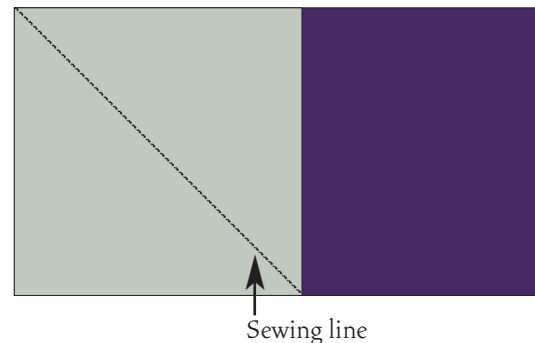


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Step 9 – Flying Geese

- Take (16) 3" x 5 1/2" **D.1** rectangles.
- Take (32) 3" **N.1** squares.
- Draw a line lightly, in pencil or chalk, across the diagonal on the back of the **N.1** squares.
- Lay a **D.1** rectangle face up. Position a **N.1** square face down on the **D.1** rectangle along the left edge, with the diagonal running from the top, outside corner down towards the center. Pin to hold in place.
- Stitch along the drawn line. Finger press open.
- Repeat on the right side of the rectangle — Positioning with the diagonal line running from the top outside right corner down towards the center.
- Holding the first **N.1** triangle open, stitch along the drawn line from the top corner to the center. Press outside towards **N.1**.
- Trim the extra **N.1/D.1** triangles off approx. 1/4 inch away from seam, being careful not to cut into the block. Save these clipped triangles for use in step 14.
- The new block should measure 3" x 5 1/2".



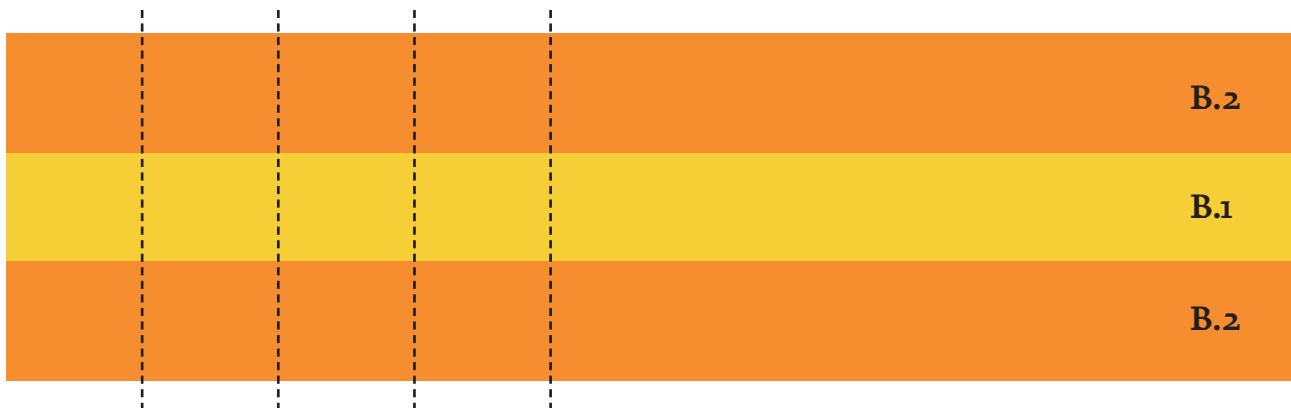
Label for **Block A**

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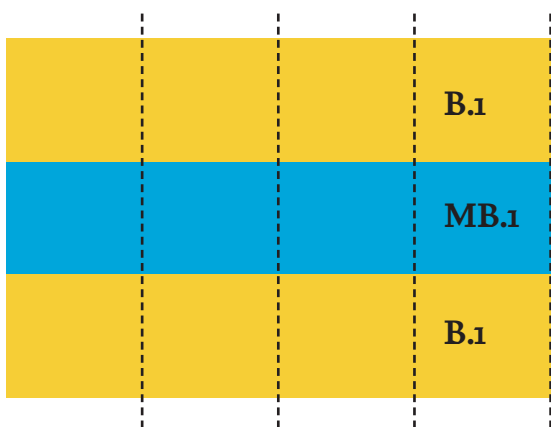
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Step 10 – Nine-Patch

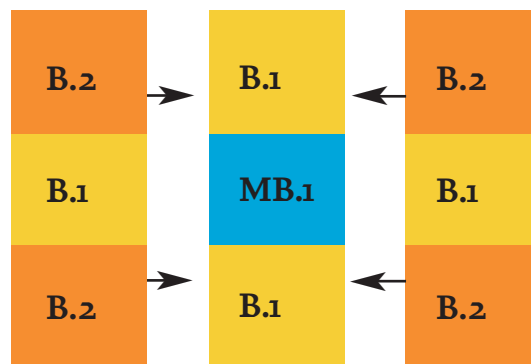
- Take (2) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 18" strips of **B.2**; and (1) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 18" strips of **B.1**
- Sew an 18" **B.2** strip to an 18" **B.1** strip to another 18" **B.2** strip. Press towards **B.2**.
Cut crosswise into (8) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " strips. This is **Strip A**.



- Take (1) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 9" strip of **MB.1**; (2) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 9" strips of **B.1**
- Sew a 9" **B.1** strip to a 9" **MB.1** strip to another 9" **B.1** strip. Press towards **MB.1**.
Cut crosswise into (4) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " strips as shown. This is **Strip B**.



- Sew (4) nine-patch blocks using the new strips as follows: **Strip A — Strip B — Strip A**
Press seams toward outside.



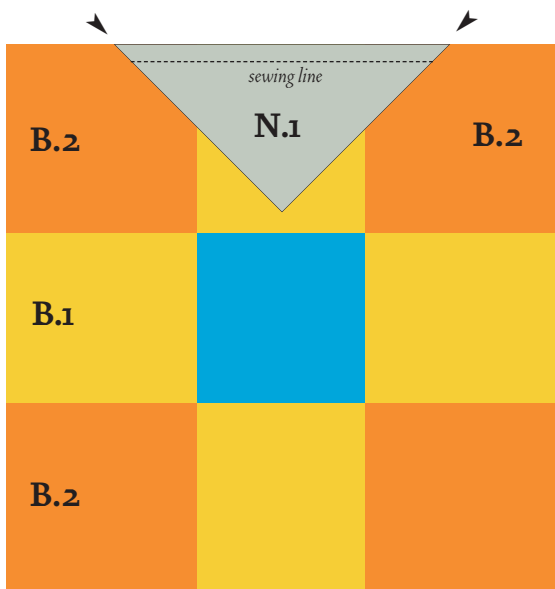
Label for **Block A**

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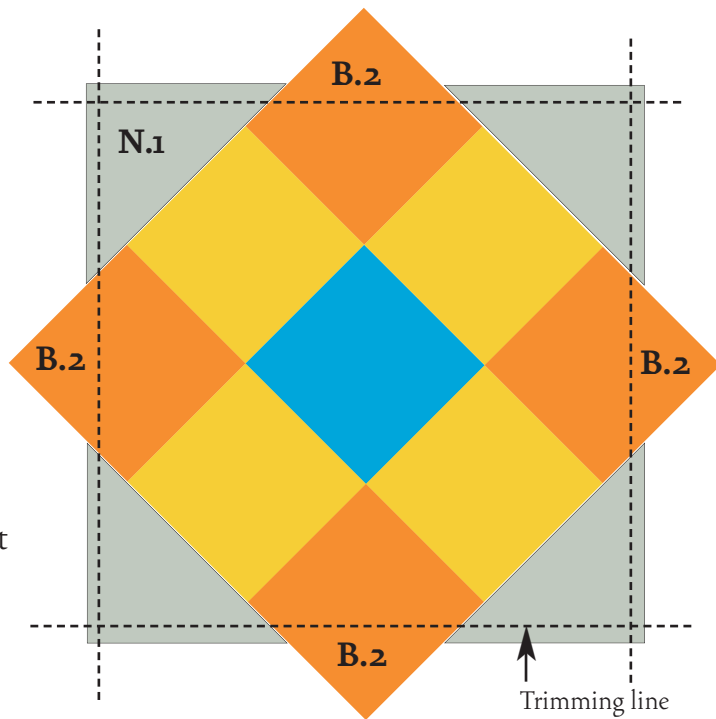
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Step 11 – Nine Patch

- Take the (4) nine-patch blocks.
- Take the (8) $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares of your neutral (**N.1**) fabric — or you can use the **N.1** scraps from Step 9 if they were cut straight and large enough. (They should nearly equal half a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square)
- Cut the (8) $2\frac{1}{2}$ " **N.1** squares in half across the diagonal (if using them).
- With right sides together, position along the outside, center edge of the nine-patch, the long side of a **N.1** triangle. Letting tails of the triangle run over into the **B.2** block as shown. Sew along the complete edge of the **N.1** triangle to the nine patch. Repeat on all sides.
- Press towards outside.



- Using an Omnigrid square or other transparent ruler, very carefully, measuring from the center, trim off the **B.2** corners, making a new $5\frac{1}{2}$ " square block. Press towards outside of block.



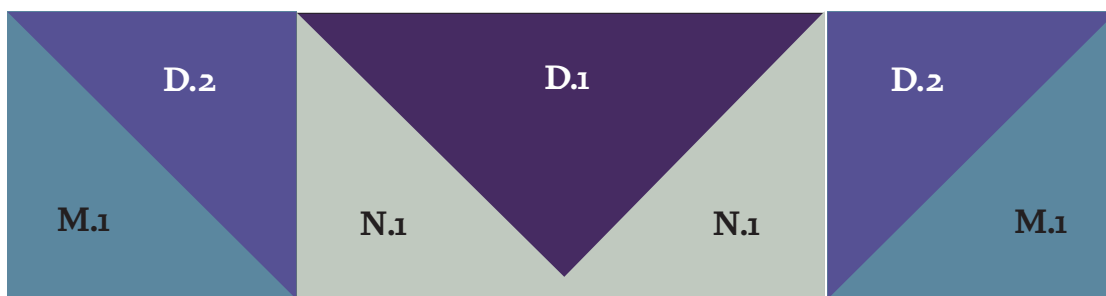
Label for **Block A**

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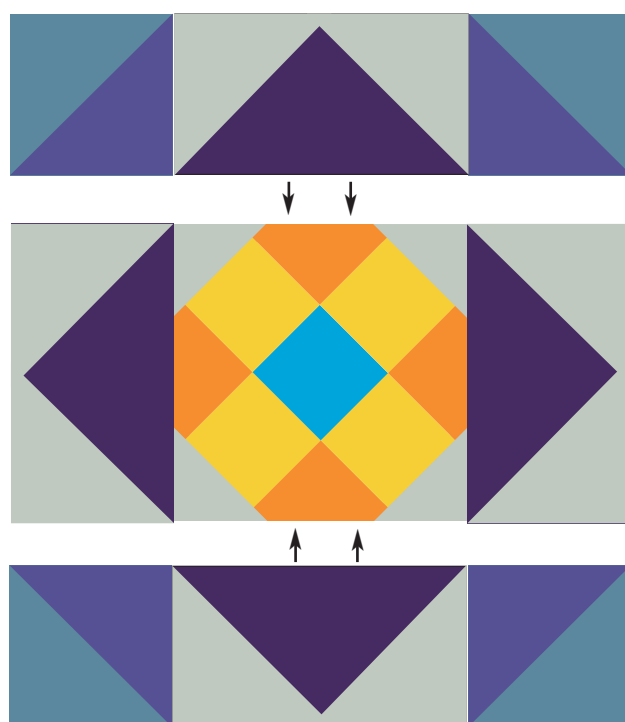
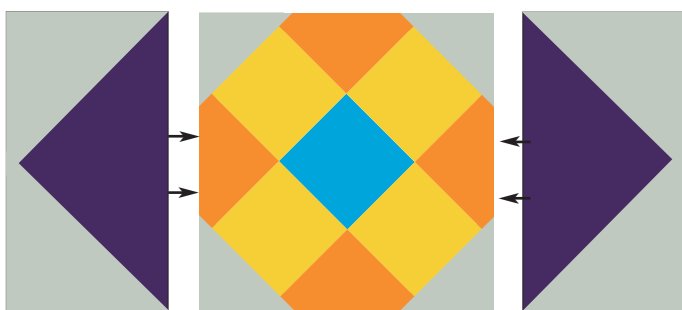
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Step 12 – Flying Geese/Nine-patch

- Take the (16) Flying geese from **Step 9** and the revised nine-patches from **Step 11**.
- Take the (16) **D.2/M.1** double-triangle squares you made in **Step 1**.
- With the long edge of a **D.1** flying geese block positioned up, sew a **D.2/M.1** square to each end. Positioning one **D.2** side of the square to the **N.1** side of the flying goose, with the second **D.2** side facing up as shown. Make (8) of these rectangle strips. Press towards center.



- Using the remaining (8) flying geese, sew the long **D.1** side to the opposite sides of a revised nine-patch block.



- Sew the new flying geese strips to the remaining two sides, carefully positioning the long **D.1** side towards the revised nine-patch as shown. Press towards outside. You should have (4) of these blocks.

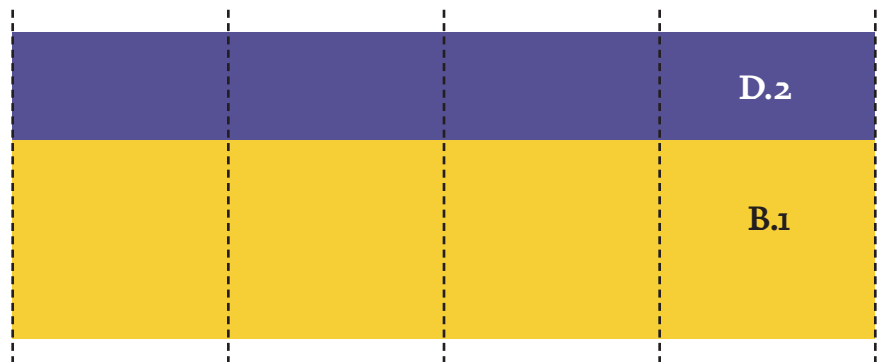
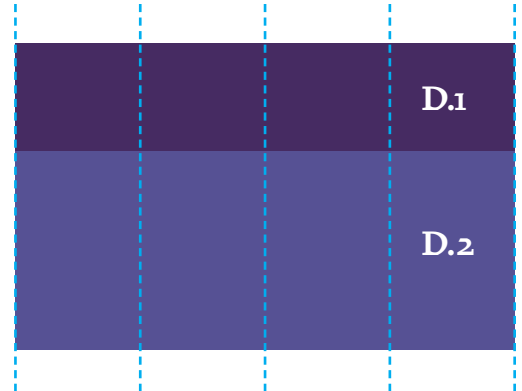
You have now finished Block A

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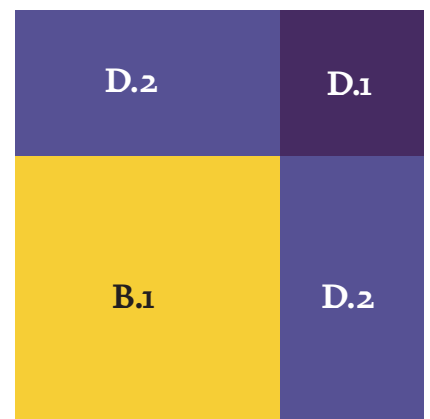
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Step 13

- Take (1) $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x 7" **D.1** strips
 - Take (1) the 3" x 7" **D.2** strips
 - Take (1) 3" x 12" **B.1** strip
 - Take (1) $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x 12" **D.2** strip
- Sew the $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x 7" **D.1** strip to the 3" x 7" **D.2** strip.
Press towards **D.2**.
- Cut crosswise into (4) $1\frac{3}{4}$ " strips.
- Sew the 3" x 12" **B.1** strip to the $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x 12" **D.2** strip.
Press towards **D.2**.
- Cut crosswise into (4) 3" strips.



- Sew the 3" **B.1/D.2** strip to a $1\frac{3}{4}$ " **D.1/D.2** strip, positioning the **D.1** square in the corner, and matching the sides of the **D.2** strips to the larger **B.1** square. Press away from the **B.1** strip.
You will need (4) of these small blocks.



Label as **Section 1**, for Block C

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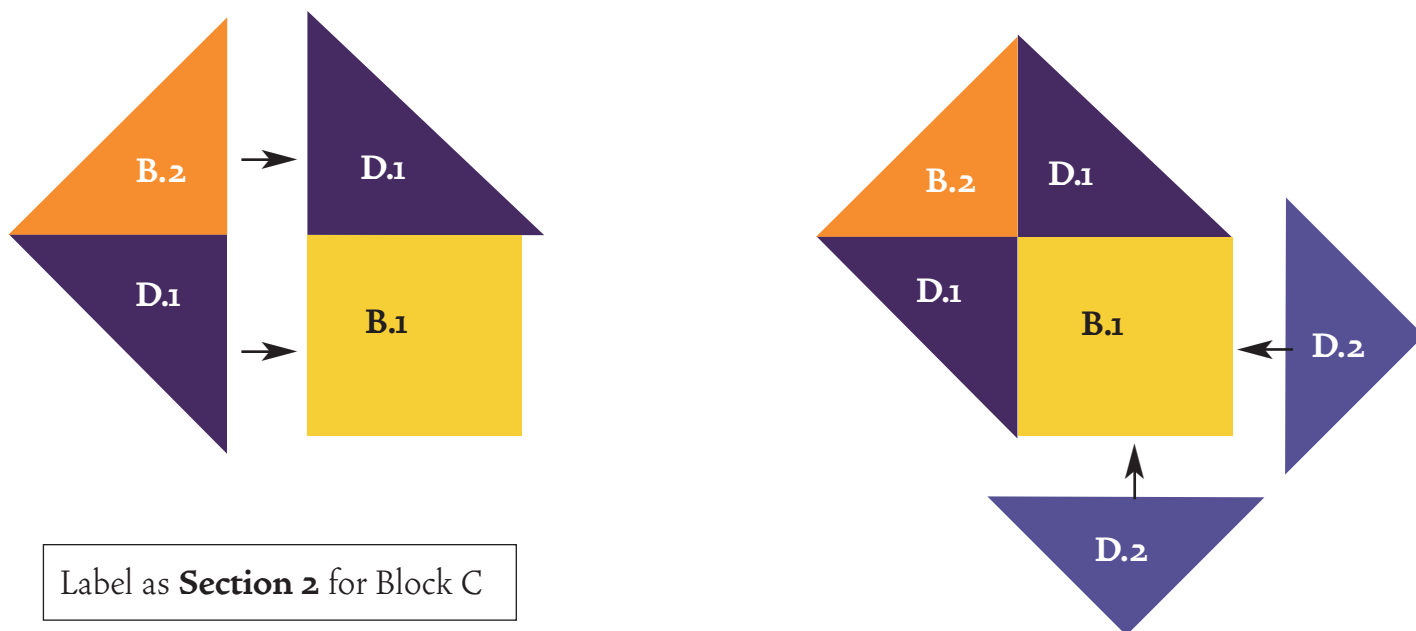
Step 14

- Take (1) 4" square of **D.1** and (1) 4" square of **B.2**
- Take the **D.1** scrap triangles from the flying geese blocks.
- Take (4) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " squares of **B.1** and (4) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " squares of **D.2**

- Using the technique from Step 1, lay the 4" **D.1** square on top of the 4" **B.2** square, right sides together. Draw a line from corner to corner, across the diagonal on the back of each pair. Sew a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each side of the drawn line.
- Cut in half along the drawn line between the stitching. Press lightly towards dark.
- Cut each square in half again along the opposite diagonal, creating a half **D.1/B.2** triangle.

- Using the **D.1** scraps from the flying geese blocks, sew a **D.1** triangle onto a **B.1** square. Matching the **B.1** edge with the 90° corner of the **D.1** triangle, letting tail hang off. Press towards dark.
- Sew this **D.1/B.1** piece to a half and half **D.1/B.2** triangle. Press open.

- Cut the (4) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " squares of **D.2** in half along the diagonal.
- Sew the **D.2** triangles onto the remaining sides of the **B.1** square to make a rectangle. Press towards dark. Make (4) of these blocks. Center and trim to a $4\frac{1}{8}$ " x 3" rectangle as needed.

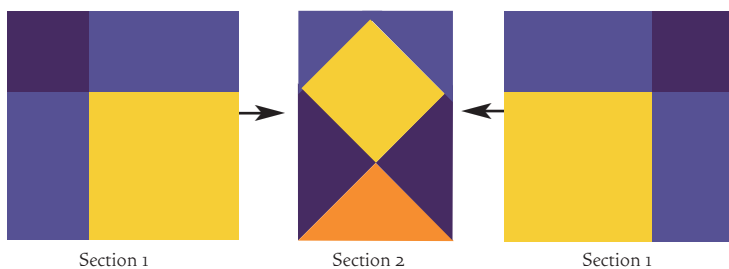


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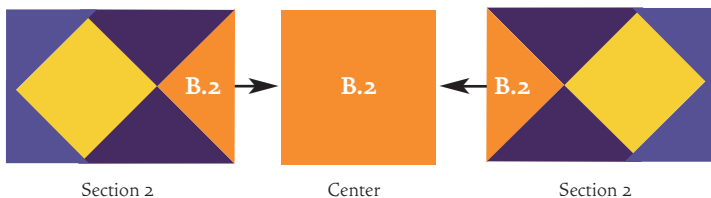
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Step 15

- Take (1) 3" square of **B.2**, (or the special piece you reserved for your center)
- Take the (4) blocks from Step 13.
- Take the (4) blocks from Step 14.
- Sew **Section 1** to **Section 2** to **Section 1**, matching fabric **D.2** as shown. Press seams towards the outside, away from section 2. Make (2) of this combination.



- Sew a **Section 2** to the **center square (B.2)**, then to another **Section 2**, matching the **B.2** fabrics together as shown. Press seams towards the center. Make (1) of this combination.



- Sew these three new strips together, with the center square strip in the middle. The **D.2** fabric should be positioned running along the outside edge as a border. Press seams open.



You have now finished Block C

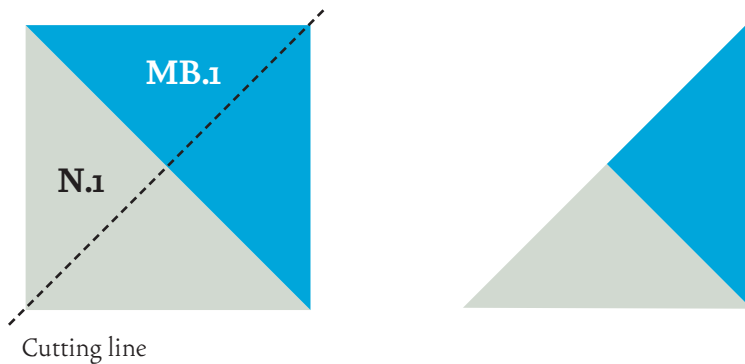
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Step 16

- Take (4) 4" squares of **N.1** and (4) 4" squares of **MB.1**
- Using the technique from Step 1, lay one **N.1** square on top of a **MB.1** square, right sides together. Draw a line across the diagonal, on the back of each pair.
- Sew a *scant* 1/4" on each side of the drawn diagonal line.
- Cut in half along the drawn line between the stitching. Press towards **MB.1**.
- Cut each square in half again along the opposite diagonal, creating a half-dark and half-medium triangle.

Label for **Block D**

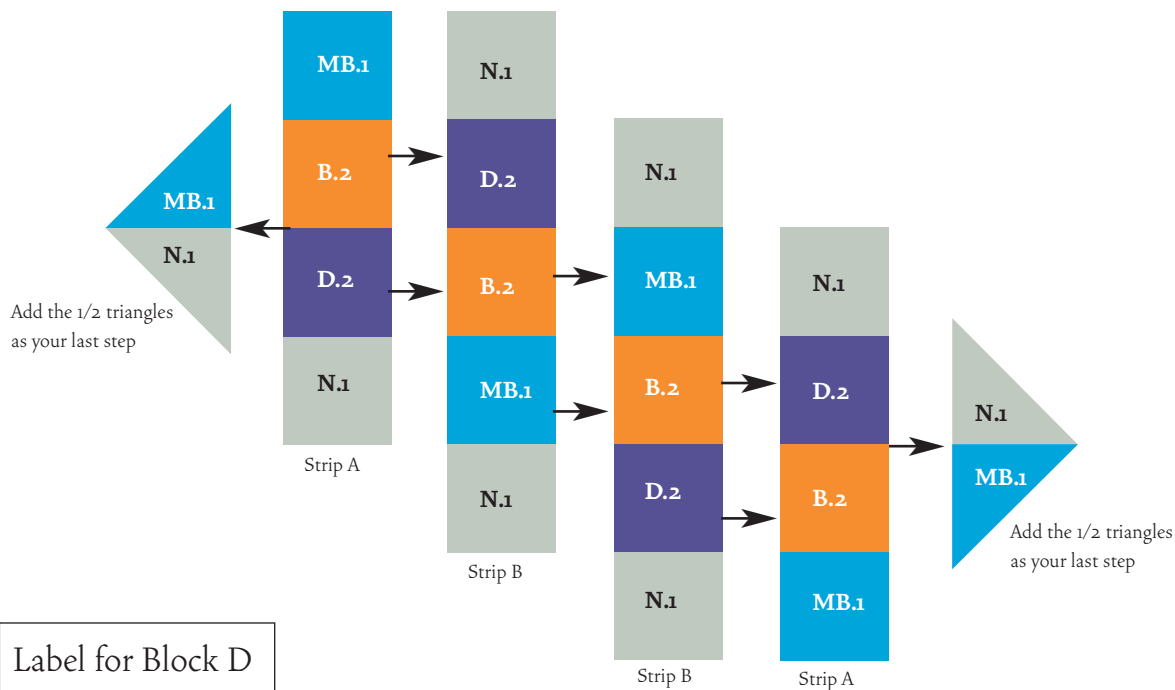


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Step 17 – the “Zig Zag” block

- Take (2) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 18" **B.2**, **D.2**, and **MB.1** strips and (3) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 18" **N.1** strips.
- Take the **MB.1/N.1** triangles from **Step 16**.
- Sew (4) of the $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 18" strips together in this order: **N.1** – **D.2** – **B.2** – **MB.1**.
Press towards **N.1**. Cut crosswise into (8) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " strips. Call these **strip A**.
- Sew (5) of the $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 18" strips together in this order: **N.1** – **D.2** – **B.2** – **MB.1** – **N.1**.
Press towards the **N.1/D.2** side.
- Cut crosswise into (8) $2\frac{1}{4}$ " strips. Call these **strip B**.
- Sew **strips A** and **strips B** in the order shown, matching seams. Note: the ends of the strips will be stair-stepped and the blocks uneven along the selvage end. Also, the **B.2** square in the strip steps down one square each time.
- Sew the **MB.1/N.1** triangle onto each end matching up with the **B.2/D.2** squares in the strip as shown.



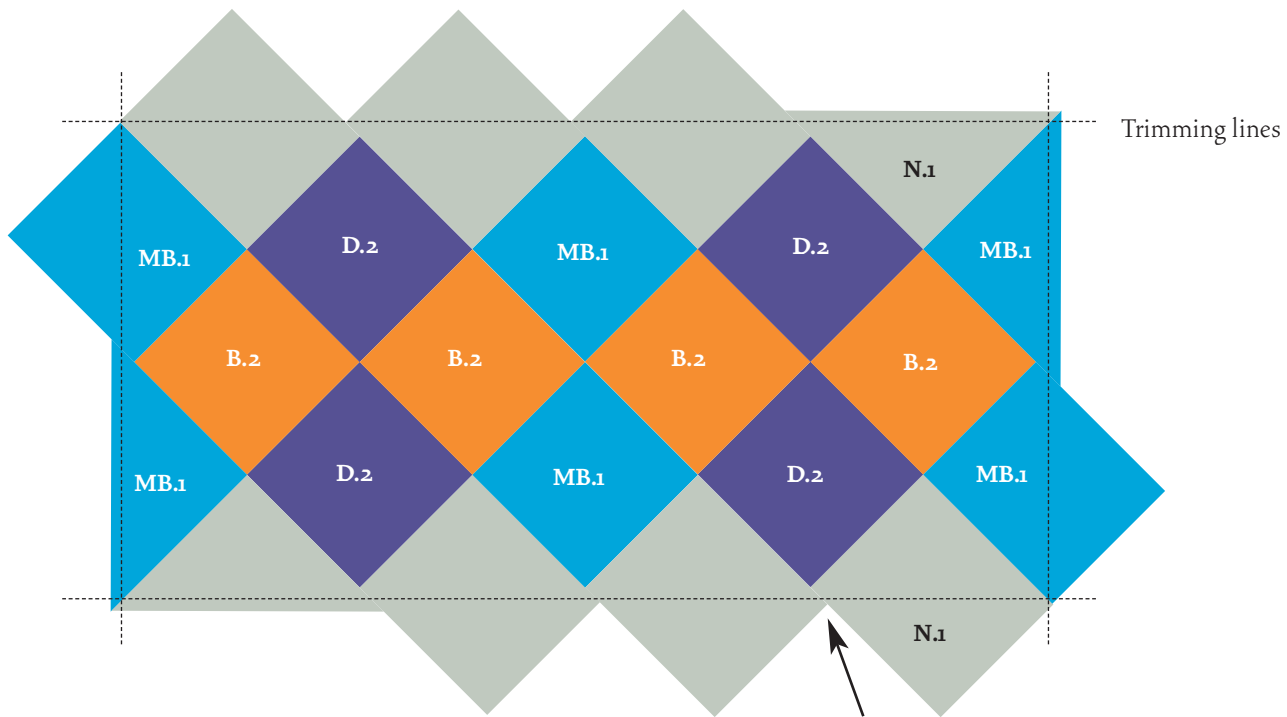
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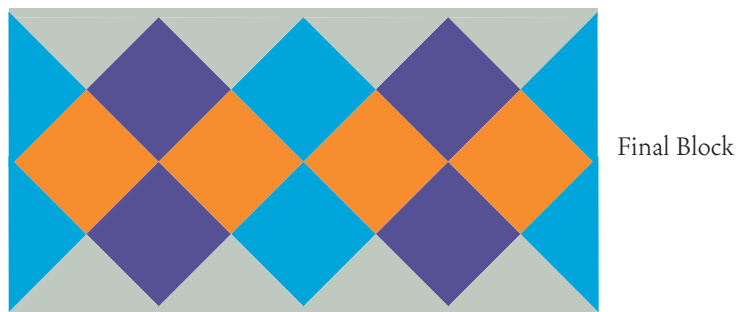
Step 17, *continued*

- Very carefully, measuring from the center of the **B.2** squares, trim the jagged edges to make a rectangle as shown. The rectangle should measure $5\frac{1}{2}$ " wide and $10\frac{1}{2}$ " long. Make sure that you maintain a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance outside the "points". You will need (4) of these blocks.

You have just completed Block D



Make sure that you maintain a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance outside the "points".

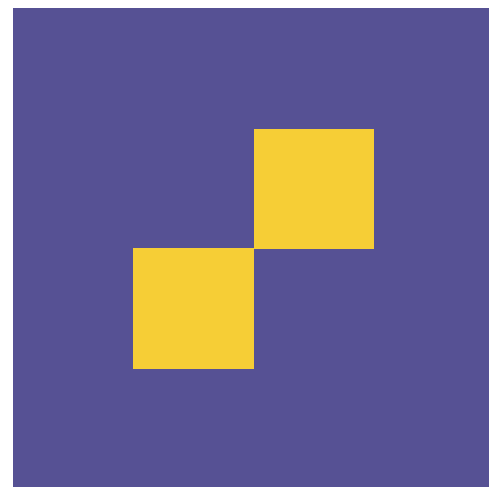
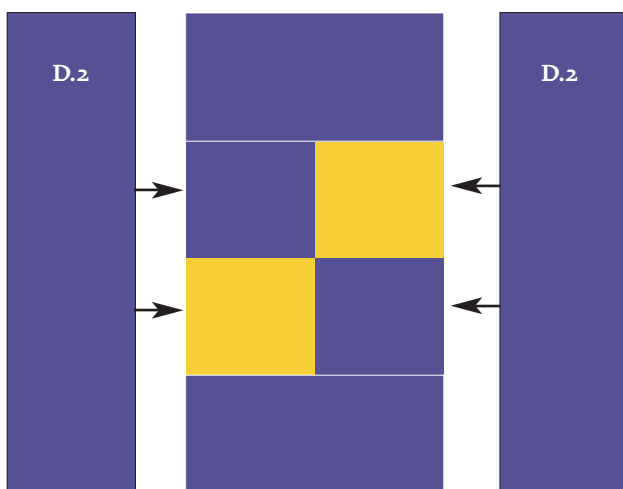
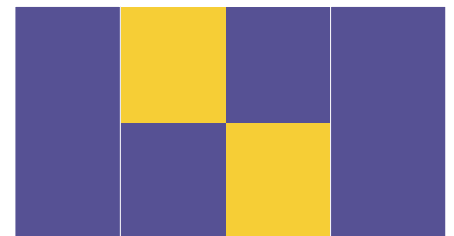
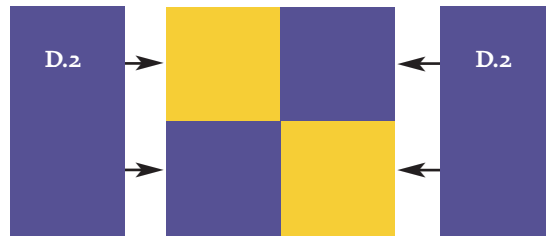
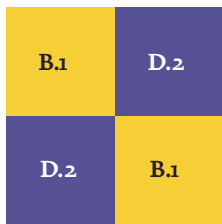


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Step 18 – Four-Patch

- Take (1) $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x 14" **B.1** strip and (1) $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x 14" **D.2** strip.
- Sew, right sides together, press towards dark. Cut this new double-strip crosswise into (8) $1\frac{3}{4}$ " strips.
- Sew two strips together, flipping one 180° , so that like-colors are diagonal to each other, matching seams, to make a four-patch. Press seams to either side. You will need (4) four-patches.
- Take (8) $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x 3" strips and (8) $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " strips **D.2** strips.
- Sew (2) 3" **D.2** strips to opposite sides of a four patch. Press towards outside.
- Sew (2) $5\frac{1}{2}$ " **D.2** strips to the remaining sides of the block. Press towards outside. Repeat to make four blocks. Press towards outside.



You have just completed **Block E**

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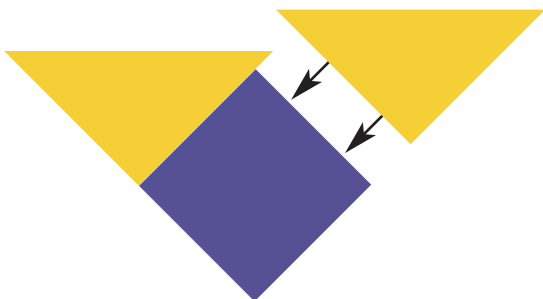
Step 19 – Rectangle Block F

- Take (16) of the **D.1/M.1** double-triangle squares you made in **Step 2**.
- Take (8) of the 3" x 5 1/2" rectangles of **M.1**
- Sew one **D.1/M.1** square to the end of each **M.1** rectangle, orienting blocks as shown.
- Press seams towards center rectangle.



Label for **Block F**

- Take (8) of your **D.2** 2 1/4" squares.
- Take (8) of your **B.1** 2 1/2" squares. Cut them in half along the diagonal.
- Sew a **B.1** triangle to the **D.2** square, letting the extra "tail" hang off the end.
Press towards **B.1**.
- Sew a **B.1** triangle to the adjacent side of the same **D.2** square as shown.
Press towards **B.1**.

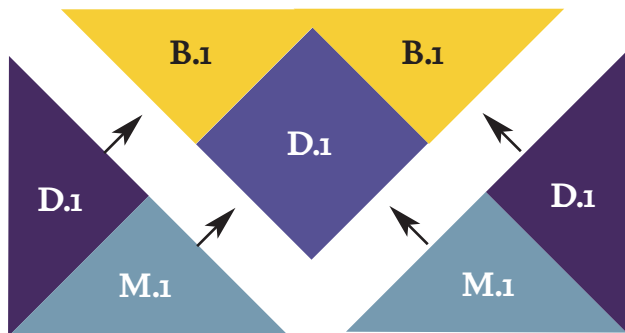


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Step 20 – Completing Block F

- Take (8) **D.1** / **M.1** double-triangle squares from **Step 4**. Matching the seams, sew one triangle to each side of the new **B.1** / **D.2** triangle. Press away from the **B.1** fabric.



- Sew a 3" **D.1** square to each end of this block. Press towards outside.



- Sew this new strip to the strip from **Step 19**, positioning as shown. Press away from the **B.1** fabric. Make (8) of these rectangular blocks.



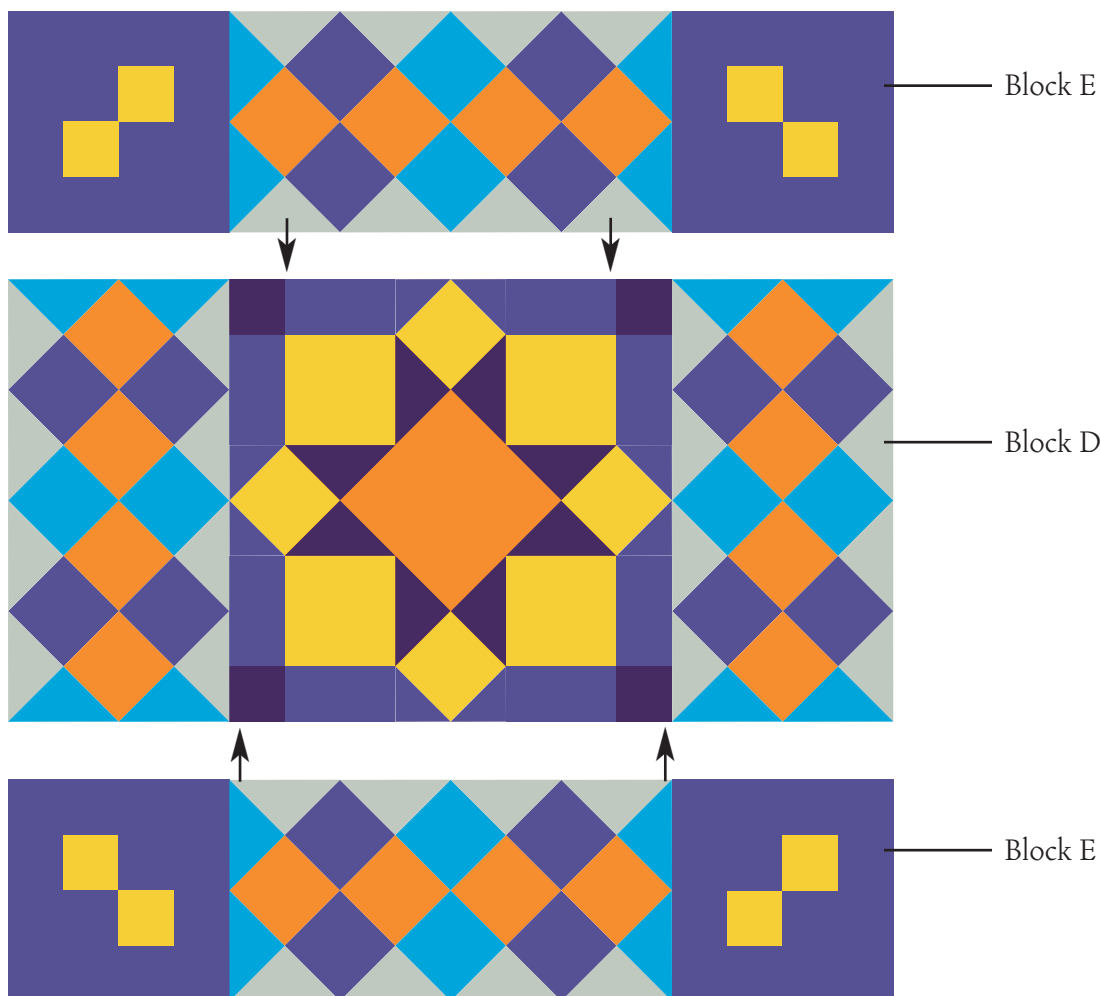
You have completed **Block F**

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Step 21— Putting it all together

- Take **Center Block C** and (2) of your zig-zag **D Blocks**. Sew one **Block D** to each side of the **Block C**. Pin and sew carefully to preserve the points in the C and D blocks.
- Take the remaining (2) zig-zag **D Blocks** and the (4) **E Blocks**.
- Sew one **E block** to each side of the (2) remaining **D Blocks**. Make sure to orient the direction of the **B.1** squares within the E Blocks as shown. Press seams toward the **E** Blocks.
- Sew the new **E /D/E Block** combinations to each side of the **D/C/D Block** combination. Align the seams of blocks with each other. Pin and sew carefully to preserve the points in the blocks. Press seams open.

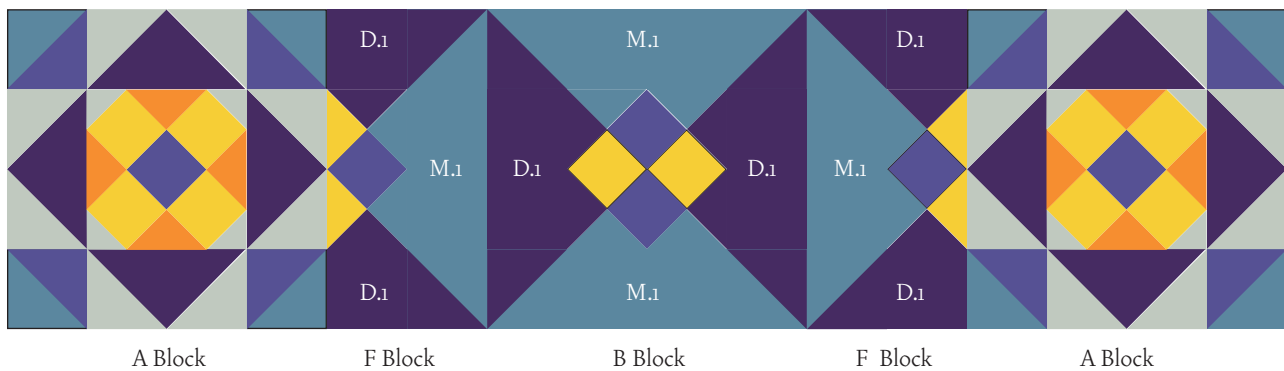


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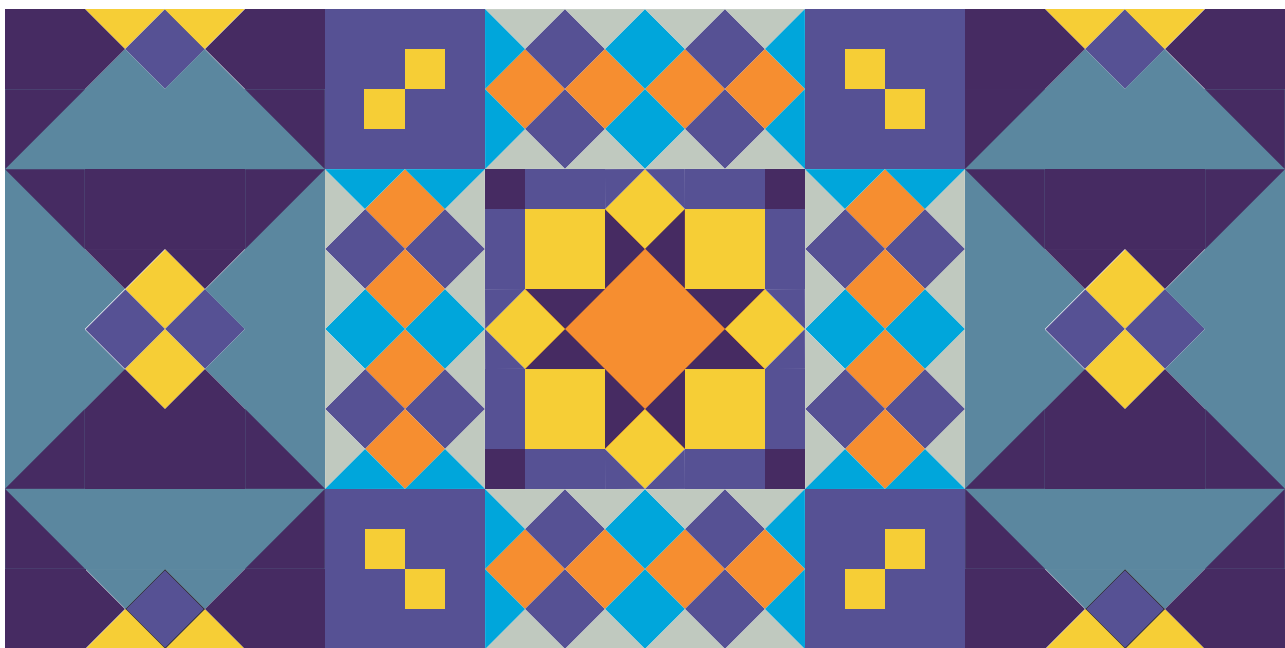
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Step 22— Putting it together

- Take the (4) **B Blocks**, the (4) **A Blocks**, and the (8) **F Blocks**.
- Sew one **F Block** to each side of a **B Block**, matching the **D.1** side of the **B Block** with the **M.1** side of the **F Block** as shown. Repeat with all (4) **B Blocks**.
- Sew one **A Block** to each side of (2) of the **F/B/F Block** combinations as shown.



- Sew the two remaining **F/B/F Block** combinations to opposite sides of the center block combination from **Step 21**. Make sure to align the seams of blocks up with each other. Pin and sew carefully to preserve the points in the **F blocks**. Press seams towards outside.



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Step 23— Putting it all together

- Sew the final **A/F/B/F/A Block** combinations to the opposite sides of the center block combination. Making sure to align the seams of the blocks together. Pin and sew carefully to preserve the points in the blocks. Press seams open.

Congratulations, you are finished! Enjoy and send me a picture.

