



April 2024 - BOM

Flowering Trees

This month's block is more of an exercise in color rather than a new technique. So we'll start with October's snowball technique, add some spring inspiration (see photos below), and play with colors.

Linda McNeely & Heidi Swanson

Dogwood, Lilac, Cherry, Redbud....

Technique = Color play and using solids as a background of the flower

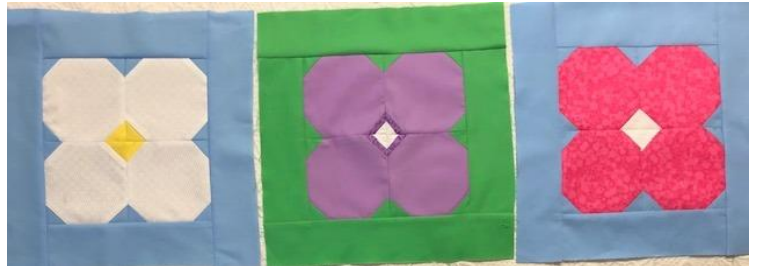
Block size is a 12 ½ " square.

¼" Seam allowance.



Fabrics & Cutting

1. Center – (4) 1.5" square
2. Flower – (4) 4.5" square
3. Background (Solid color):
 - ❑ (12) 1.5" square
 - ❑ (2) 8.5" x 2.5" strip
 - ❑ (2) 12.5" x 2.5" strip

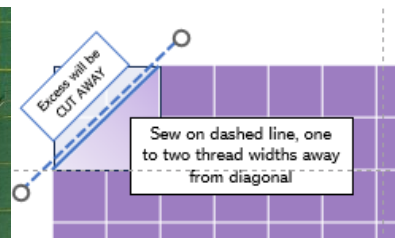


Colors: Color background with flower center. Think of the blue sky through new blossoms on trees. Inspiration is everywhere in spring!

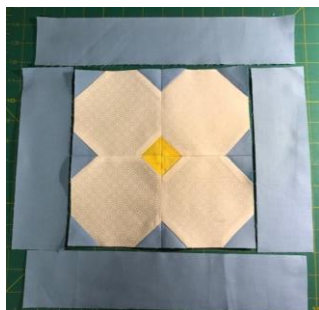
Assembly Steps

1. To make flower, snowball each of the 4.5" flower squares with (3) 1.5 background and (1) 1.5 center square. Cut the excess fabric away on each corner and press open.

Tip: Use chain piecing for the repetitive step of making each petal. See BONUS on page #2.



2. Sew the resulting 4 blocks together to form the flower with the center corners connecting and the background corners facing out.
3. Add the (2) 8.5" x 2.5" strips to each side of the flower
4. Add the (2) 12.5" x 2.5" strips to the top and bottom of the block to complete.
5. Press and trim to 12.5" square.



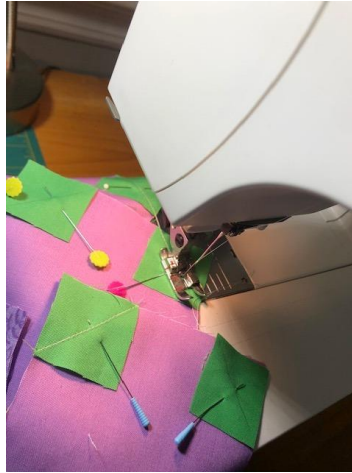
Bring your block to our next guild meeting to enter the lottery and win that month's collection of blocks! If you can't come to the meeting, you can enter by sharing your block on our BOM Facebook page by 10 am the morning of the Guild Meeting. Each completed block give you one chance to win, whether you are present at the meeting or not. Blocks will be collected from those attending the meeting in person. Everyone else will privately mail their blocks to the winner.



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Bonus – Chain Piecing

The recent *Yankee Quilter* newsletter clearly illustrated how to chain piece. It was so well done; I cut and pasted below and wanted to give due credit. The Yankee Quilter shop is close to the Connecticut retreat house so it may be familiar to you. The photos demonstrate chain piecing to make a lilac blossom, this month's BOM.



Cheryl's Tips for being more productive!

Do you chain piece?

If not, you should be! But do you know how you can take your chain piecing up a notch?

So let's say you are making HST (Half Square Triangles). With this technique, you mark 2 lines 1/4" away from the center on either side (See image 1).

Next, sew on the line drawn but don't take the piece out of the machine; keep stitching, and add your next piece. Put your next piece under your foot and keep going. Making a 'chain' of HST (See image 2).

NOW, here is the kick-it-up-a-notch part: **DO NOT CUT THE THREADS** between HST, even after you have sewn them all down one side. Leave them attached, literally by a thread, and start at the beginning again (See image 3).

Chain the second side, and watch how fast you can get that second side done!

Share your ideas and progress on our [Facebook Page!](#)

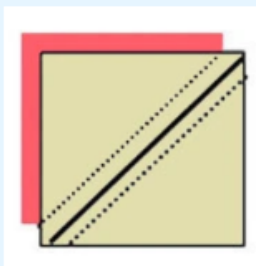


Image 1

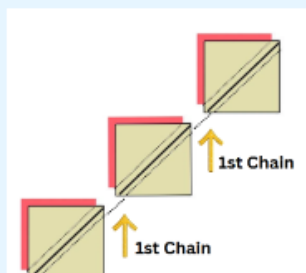


Image 2

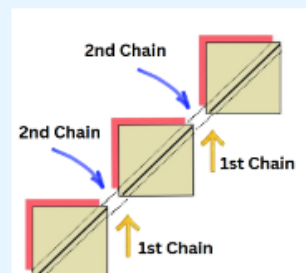


Image 3