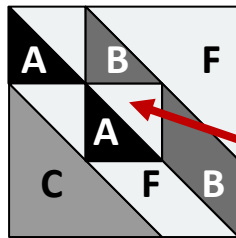
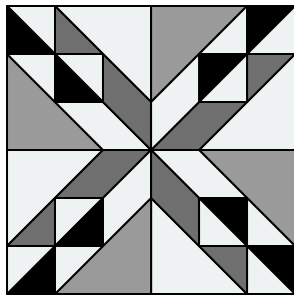


River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

APRIL – Big Block

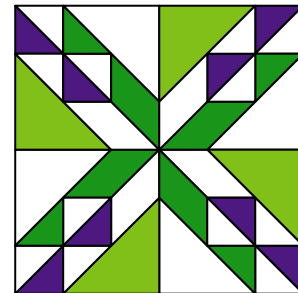
All seams are $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Save any extra units, strips, or scraps for future blocks. Don't cut into your saved strips until you are told to (each strip may be used in two or more blocks). For example, if you have cut a strip from your BOM fabric, used some of the strip and have several inches remaining, don't cut into the remaining portion of that strip for another block until the instructions say so.

Be sure to print any templates or foundation patterns at 100%, especially if you have recently printed any documents at a reduced size. The printer always seems to remember some strange setting I used last week!



The block has four identical sections.

The three light half-square triangles are also BOM fabric F.



This block is called "Patch as Patch Can," block #1274 from Barbara Brackman's *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*.¹

Note: This block will finish at 18". Your pieced block should measure 18 1/2" x 18 1/2".

BOM fabric F: Cut your 4th strip width of fabric (WOF): $6 \frac{7}{8}$ " x WOF
Cut your 5th strip width of fabric: $5 \frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF

Cutting Instructions

Large Half Square Triangles

Using your fourth BOM fabric strip ($6 \frac{7}{8}$ " wide),
Cut two (2) squares of BOM fabric F: $6 \frac{7}{8}$ " x $6 \frac{7}{8}$ "



Cut two (2) squares of fabric C: $6 \frac{7}{8}$ " x $6 \frac{7}{8}$ "



Cut each square in half along one diagonal to make four (4) half-square triangles (HSTs) of each color.

Small Half Square Triangles

Pull out your **saved** BOM fabric F strip #3. This strip is 4" wide.

keh/BOM 2023 Block 4A Big April.docx

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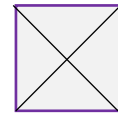
River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

Cut four (4) squares of BOM fabric **F**: 4" x 4"

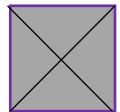
Trim to 3 7/8" x 3 7/8" and then cut in half along one diagonal. Makes eight (8) HSTs.



Cut one (1) square from the BOM fabric **F** strip #5, which is 5 1/2" wide: 5 1/2" x 5 1/2"
Cut apart on both diagonals. Makes four (4) quarter-square triangles (QSTs).
Keep these separate from your BOM HSTs.



Cut one (1) square of fabric **B**: 5 1/2" x 5 1/2"
Cut apart on both diagonals. Makes four (4) quarter-square triangles (QSTs).

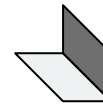


Cut one (1) square of fabric **A**: 3 7/8" x 3 7/8"
Cut the square in half along one diagonal to make two (2) half-square triangles.



Pinwheel/Star Center

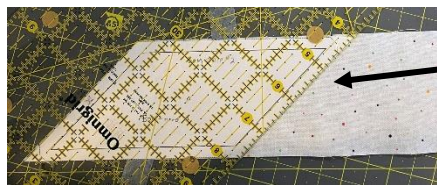
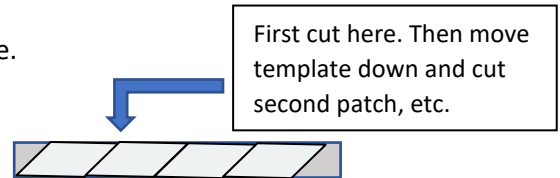
The two pinwheel shapes are mirror images (reverses), so you need four (4) of EACH shape.



Pull out your **saved** BOM fabric **F** strip #2. This strip is 2 5/8" wide.

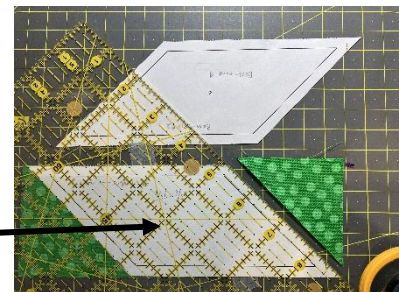
Use the template labeled "D" to cut four (4) of the pinwheel parallelogram shape. (*Remember—template labels DO NOT indicate fabric color. They are just for piecing reference.*)

Place your fabric strip right side **UP**. Tape your template to the underside of your ruler, face up, with the short end along the ruler's edge. Put your ruler+template at one end of the fabric strip and cut along the template's short side. Repeat three times. Then go back to the first piece and trim the end. Makes four (4) parallelograms.



Using template "D" taped under ruler to cut shape from BOM fabric strip.

Using template "C" to cut fabric **B**.



Cut a strip of your fabric **B**: 2 5/8" x 24"

Use the same process to cut four (4) of the pinwheel parallelogram shape of fabric **B**, BUT use the template "C" to cut four (4) of the pinwheel parallelogram shape with the fabric right side **UP**. (If you are using a fat quarter, cut two strips 2 5/8" x 13 1/2".)

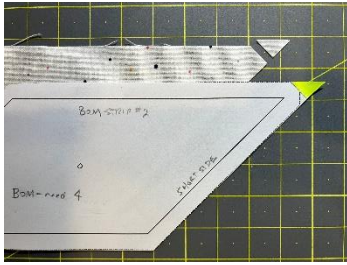


Dog ears—those little extra points on your pieces—can be trimmed or not. I often prefer to leave the points on, and use my eye to position the patches. Note the little triangle extending beyond the edge of one patch. You can trim, if you prefer, using a point trimmer or the block's printed template.

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River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

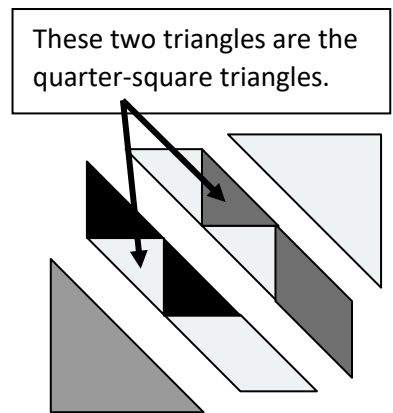


Assembly

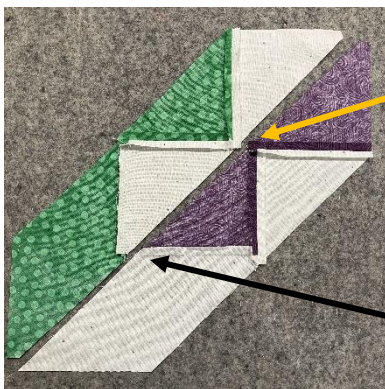
Make Four Quarter Blocks

Piece this block in four sections. Each pieced section should measure $9\frac{1}{2}'' \times 9\frac{1}{2}''$.

Piece the two center sections first. Start with the pinwheel shapes and add the first triangles. Press toward the darker fabric. Next, add the second triangle using the **quarter-square triangles** and press these seams OPEN. The quarter-square triangles are there to help stabilize the block. Then add the third triangles and press these seams OPEN.

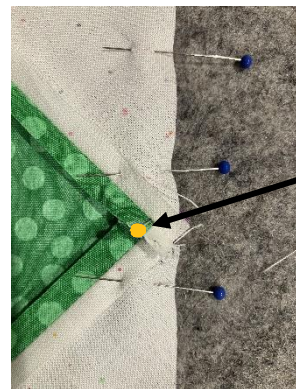


Stitch the two center sections together, nesting the first seams at the pinwheel pieces. Use a positioning pin to match the two sections at the midway points. (A positioning pin should go straight through the two points perpendicular to the fabric. Then pin on either side of the positioning pin before removing the positioning pin.)



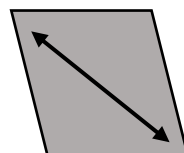
Match these points with a positioning pin.

Nest these seams.



Positioning pin to match points.

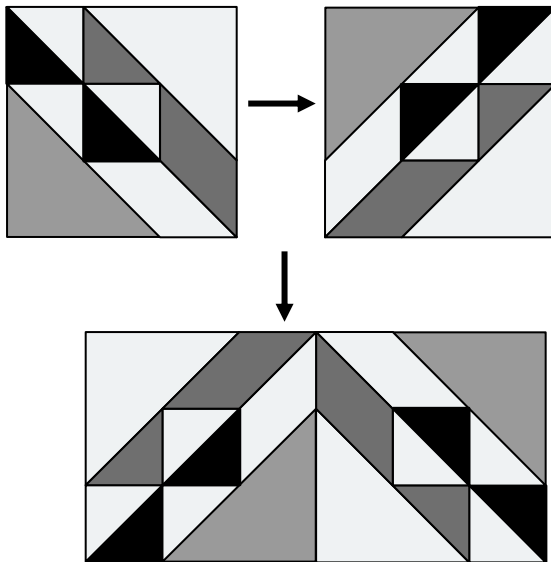
Be careful of stretching the bias on your triangles. This block will want to stretch along the center diagonal, where you have bias edges meeting along the half-square triangles.



River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

Add the large triangles to either side. Finger-press a crease in the long edge of the large triangle and match that to the point at the center. Stitch the seam. Press the seams toward the large triangles.

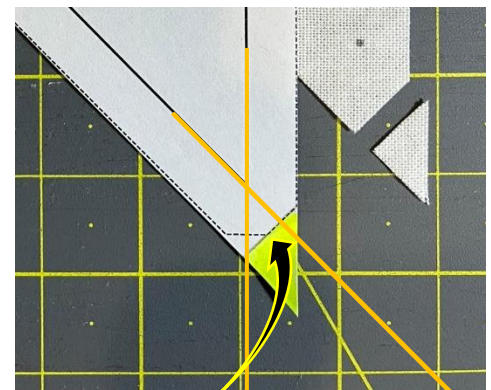
Make four of these sections. Join two sections to make a half block. Press the seam open. Join two half-blocks to complete the block. Use a positioning pin to get matching points at the center of the block. Press the seams open. Phew!



A note about points. I rarely trim points before piecing. That's just my preference. If you are more comfortable trimming points, then please do so. Notice that the two little triangles that hang out over the edges. The seam line should run right into the little "V" formed where the pieces meet.

The patches in the template file have trimming lines for two cuts at each acute (sharp, less than 90°) point. Be aware that the little peak created if you trim both cuts does NOT line up with the 1/4" seam allowance.

Here I trimmed one direction only.



The little peak. The 1/4" seam lines (orange).

¹ *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*, Barbara Brackman, 1993, American Quilter's Society, Paducah, KY, p. 172-173.