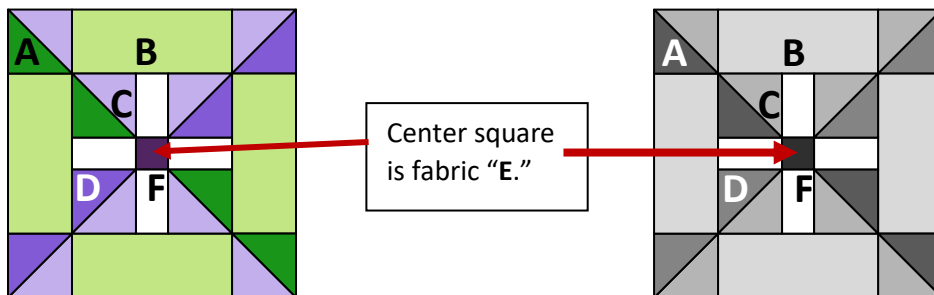


River City Quilters Guild Block of the Month 2023

MAY

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!



This block is called "Whirling Square," block #2178 from Barbara Brackman's *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*.¹

BOM fabric F: Use your BOM fabric strip from April—strip #4—that is $6\frac{7}{8}$ " wide.

Note: This block finishes at 9" square. Your pieced block should measure $9\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$."

Cutting Instructions

Center Cross

Cut one (1) square of fabric **E**: $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

Cut four (4) rectangles of BOM fabric **F**: $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ "

Use the $6\frac{7}{8}$ " wide strip of BOM fabric you cut in April (strip #4). Cut one piece $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide from the end of the strip. You will have a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $6\frac{7}{8}$ " piece of BOM fabric. Then subcut the four rectangles, leaving a small $\frac{7}{8}$ " scrap left over. Save the rest of the BOM fabric strip for later.

Side Rectangles

Cut four (4) rectangles of fabric **B**: $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ "

Half Square Triangles (HST)

Either cut individual half-square triangles and then combine them to make your HST squares, or make the HST square units two at a time.

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For individual triangles, cut squares $2\frac{7}{8}'' \times 2\frac{7}{8}''$ and then cut each square in half along on diagonal to make two HSTs. You need four (4) squares of fabric **C** for eight (8) half-square triangles and two (2) squares **each** of fabric **A** and fabric **D** for four half-square triangles each.

To make two HST squares at a time, cut fabric squares $3'' \times 3''$. Draw a line from corner to corner along one diagonal, then stitch $\frac{1}{4}''$ from the line on both sides of the line. Cut apart along the line to form two HST units.

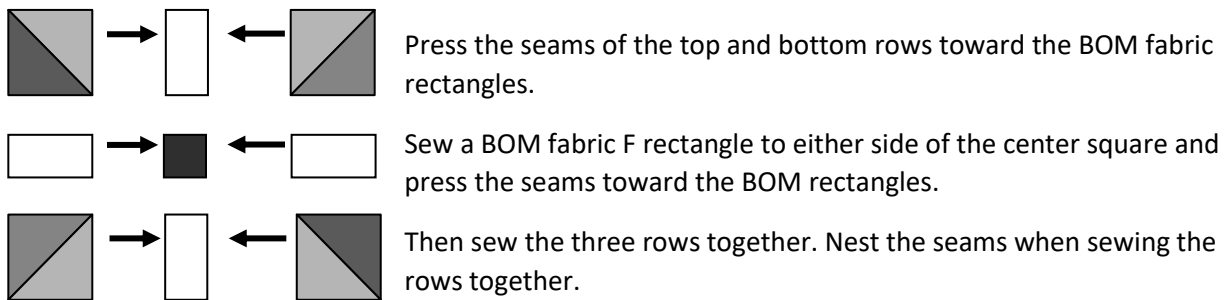
Assembly



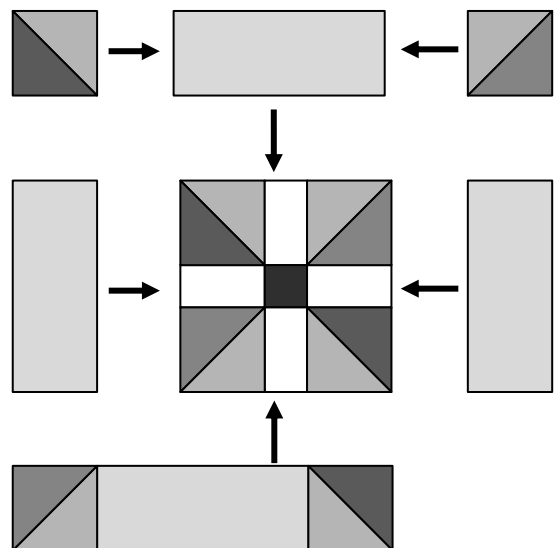
Half-Square Triangles

If you cut individual triangles, sew your triangle pairs together. There are four (4) **A+C** units and four (4) **D+C** units. Press seams toward the dark fabrics. If you made half-square triangles two at a time, press the pairs you made with the seams toward the dark fabrics.

Assemble the center of the block in three rows.



Complete the block by sewing a half-square triangle to each end of a fabric **B** rectangle for **both** the top and bottom rows, following the color placement. Press seams toward the rectangle. Sew a fabric **B** rectangle to either side of the block's center unit and press seams toward the rectangle. Stitch the rows together. Press the seams away from the block center.



Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns, Barbara Brackman, 1993, American Quilter's Society, Paducah, KY, p. 270-271.