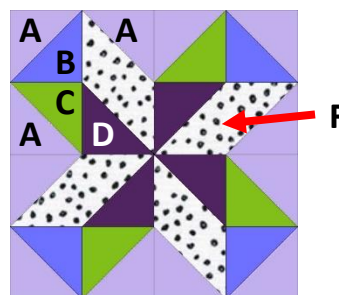
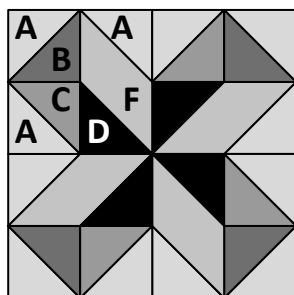


River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

JANUARY

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 in your block 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 or enlarged size. The printer always seems to remember some strange setting I used last week! Color is nice, but you don't need a color printer.



This block is a modified "Lucky Pieces" block, listed as #3752b from Barbara Brackman's *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*.¹ I have added an extra seamline to eliminate a "Y" seam and make piecing easier.

Fabric "F" is our BOM fabric, "Dapple Dots," by Riley Blake in "Black" or "Rainbow."

BOM fabric: Cut your first strip width of fabric (WOF): $3\frac{1}{2}$ " wide [$3\frac{1}{2}$ " x 41"]

Lucky Pieces (modified) – Finishes at 12" x 12"

This block is easy to piece, with mostly half square triangles (HSTs). There are four identical units, arranged to form a center pinwheel and the "X" shape.

There are eight squares formed by two half square triangles. You can use any method you prefer to make your half square triangle units. They can be cut precisely as individual triangles and pieced, or created two at a time from squares. We will make HSTs two at a time from squares. You can cut your squares at $3\frac{7}{8}$ " x $3\frac{7}{8}$ " for units measuring at $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{1}{2}$ " with seam allowances, or cut oversized squares at 4" x 4" and trim to size after piecing. Instructions are for starting with 4" squares and trimming to $3\frac{1}{2}$ " square HST. This method seems to be a little more accurate.

Your HST squares should measure $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{1}{2}$ " with seam allowances and will finish at 3" x 3".

Clarification/correction: Fabrics and Colors

As shown in the diagrams above, A is your block's background color/fabric. B, C, and D are your choice of colors. You need half-square triangle units of A with B and of A with C. Colors A and D are on either end of the pinwheel unit. [Color diagram on right has been corrected.]

River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

Half Square Triangle Units

Corner HST units (A + B): Make four units

Cut two (2) squares of fabric B: 4" x 4"

Cut two (2) squares of fabric D: 4" x 4"



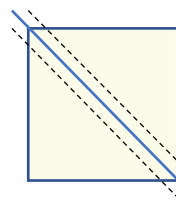
Side HST units (A + C): Make four units

Cut two (2) squares of fabric A: 4" x 4"

Cut two (2) squares of fabric C: 4" x 4"



Draw a line from corner to corner on the **A** squares. Place the fabric **A** and fabric **B** squares right sides together and stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " on either side of the **drawn line**. Cut apart on the drawn line. Repeat for the **A + C** combination.



Mark along the diagonal. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " on either side (dotted lines). Cut apart between the stitching lines.

Press toward the darker fabric. **Trim** the oversized HSTs on all sides using a ruler with a 45° angle marked or a squaring-up ruler to make a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " square. Be sure the corners of the trimmed block fall exactly at the 45° seamline. You should have four units of each color combination measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Pinwheel Units

The center pinwheel can be pieced with a rectangle and two half square triangles or with two squares.

Using two squares and the folded or flipped corner method is easy.

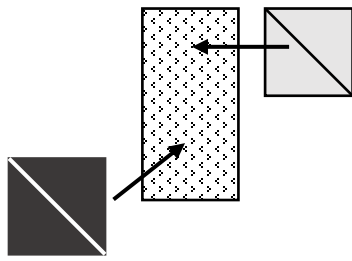
Cut four (4) squares of fabric A: $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{1}{2}$ "

Cut four (4) squares of fabric D: $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{1}{2}$ "

Cut four (4) rectangles of the BOM fabric F: $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $6\frac{1}{2}$ "

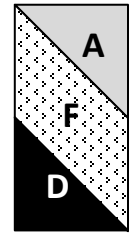
Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of each square from corner to corner. Place one **D** square on the bottom end of the rectangle right sides together and stitch on the line. Use the block diagram to be sure your pinwheel will spin in the right direction. I find it easier to stitch starting at the side of the rectangle rather than at the point. Fold the square back over itself so you can see the triangle shape and press lightly. Then open the square back up and trim $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seamline (away from the center pinwheel section) to remove the excess fabric. Now press seam open. Make four units.

River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023



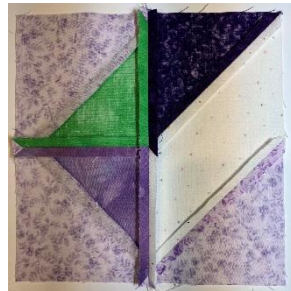
Mark the diagonals on the squares, align with top and bottom of the rectangle and stitch on the marked line. Note the direction of the seams.

Flip the corners into place and press lightly so you can see the triangle shape. Then trim the excess fabric.



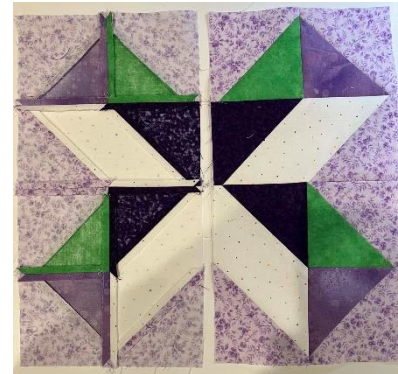
Assembly

Sew the block's four identical quarters by first sewing the HST units together. Be sure the HSTs are oriented correctly. Press this seam open. This subunit looks like a two-color flying geese unit with a seam down the middle.



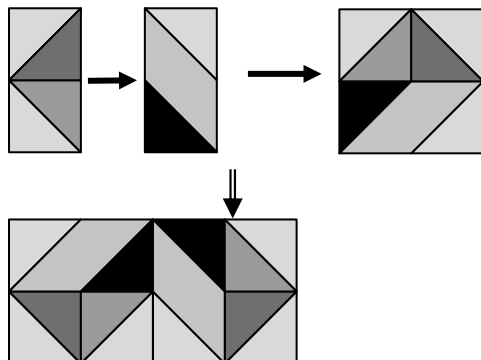
← Back sides of assembled units.

One back side and one front side of the two block halves.



Stitch the pinwheel unit to the HST subunit, matching the seams. Press this seam open.

Then stitch two quarters together to form to halves and stitch the two halves together to complete the block. I pressed these seams open.



¹ *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*, Barbara Brackman, 1993, American Quilter's Society, Paducah, KY, p. 454-455.