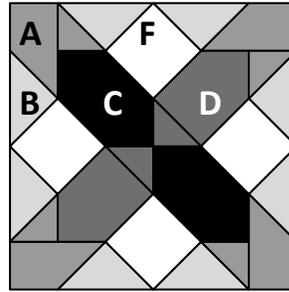
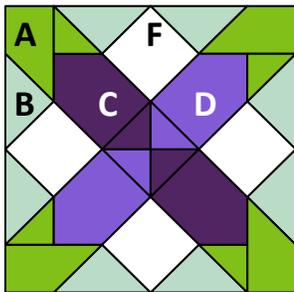


# River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

## FEBRUARY

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 short sides of the small triangle "C" should measure  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " along the **seamline**.



This block is called "Repeat X," block #3053 from Barbara Brackman's *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*.<sup>1</sup>

**BOM fabric:** Cut your second strip of BOM fabric at  $2\frac{5}{8}$ " x width of fabric (WOF)

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** The block templates are printed from Electric Quilt 8 software<sup>2</sup>. The labels on the templates refer to the patch shapes as identified by the software, **NOT** to the colors you choose!

### Cutting Instructions

#### Block Center: Four Half Square Triangles

Cut one (1) square of fabric C:  $2\frac{3}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{3}{8}$ "

Cut one (1) square of fabric D:  $2\frac{3}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{3}{8}$ "



Cut each square in half along one diagonal to make two half-square triangles of each color.

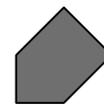
#### BOM Squares

Cut four (4) squares of BOM fabric F:  $2\frac{5}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{5}{8}$ "

#### House Shaped Patch

Cut two (2) rectangles of fabric C:  $2\frac{5}{8}$ " x  $3\frac{7}{8}$ "

Cut two (2) rectangles of fabric D:  $2\frac{5}{8}$ " x  $3\frac{7}{8}$ "



Cut out the template shape for the "house" (labeled "D" on the printout) along the dotted lines. Tape the template, face up, to the bottom of your

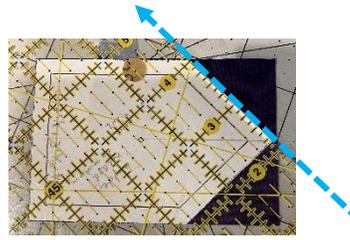
Looks like a house 😊

keh/BOM Block 2 February 2023.docx

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# River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

ruler, with one "roof line" at the edge of the ruler. Stack your rectangles all right sides **UP**. Line up the house "floor" with the end of your rectangles. Trim one corner off. Flip your fabric, line up the template so that the other roof line is at the ruler's edge and trim the second corner off.



Trim off the corners.

## Side Triangles

Cut two (2) squares of fabric **B**:  $4 \frac{1}{4}'' \times 4 \frac{1}{4}''$



Cut the squares along both diagonals to make eight (8) quarter-square triangles. This will keep the fabric grain along the outer edge of the block and prevent stretching.

## Block Corners

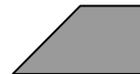
The corners of the block are formed with two patches. One is a half-square triangle and the other is a rectangle with one corner missing—looks like a doorstep.

1. Cut two (2) squares of fabric **A**:  $2 \frac{3}{8}'' \times 2 \frac{3}{8}''$



Cut each square in half along one diagonal to make four half-square triangles.

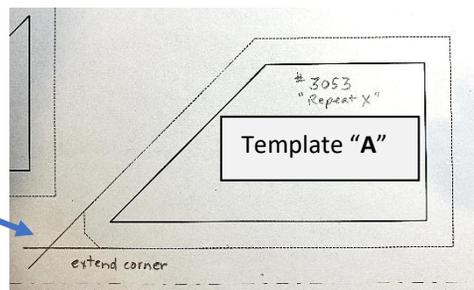
2. Cut a strip of fabric **A**:  $2'' \times 12''$



Looks sort of like a doorstep.

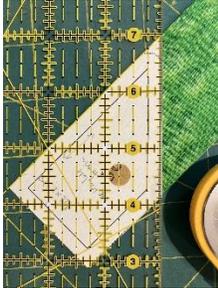
Cut the strip into two (2) pieces that are  $2'' \times 6''$  (or if using scraps, just start with two strips  $2'' \times 6''$ ). Find the template shape for the "doorstop" corner (labeled "A" on the template). Notice that the template is marked to pre-trim the dog ears at the sharp corner. With a sharp pencil, extend the dotted lines of the diagonal and the longest side to meet at the corner (ignore the dog-eared trimming lines). Then cut out the template along the dotted lines, keeping the new point you drew.

Extend the two sides of the template to meet and form a point.



# River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

Stack your fabric rectangles right sides **UP**. Tape the template, face up, on the underside of your ruler, with the angled side against the edge of the ruler. Place the short end of the template in line with the short end of your fabric strips and cut the strips in half to make four (4) "doorstop" patches.



Tape the template face up underneath your ruler and use it to cut your patches.

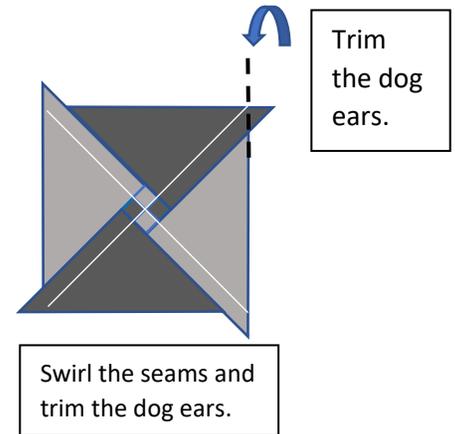
Yay, all pieces are cut. Now on to stitching!

## Assembly

Lay out all of your block patches. This especially helps in orienting the triangles correctly.

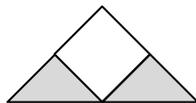
### Block Center

Stitch the center square together. Lay out the four half-square triangles, then sew pairs together. Press toward the darker fabric. Sew the two pairs together and swirl the seams open by loosening 2 stitches of the previously sewn seam and pressing to opposite sides. Trim the dog ears. Press carefully. The block edges are on the bias.



### Block Sides

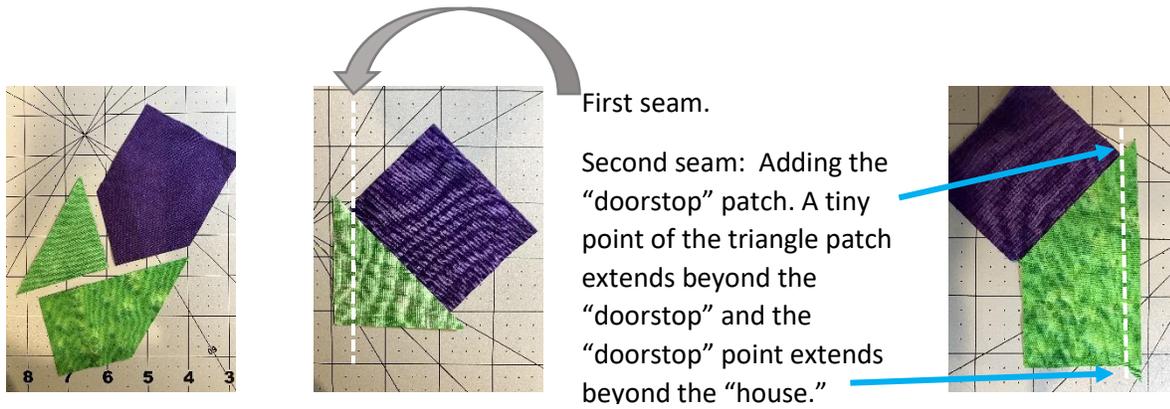
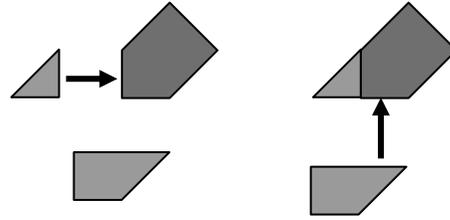
Sew the side units together by adding a quarter-square triangle to two sides of the BOM square to form a large triangle unit. Stitch one triangle in place and press toward the triangle. Notice the small triangle of fabric that extends beyond the square's edge. Add the second triangle and again press toward the triangle. Trim the two little dog ears now or after the block is assembled. Make four (4) large triangle units. You can chain piece these. Be careful to sew the **short** side of the triangle to the square.



# River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

## Arms of the "X"

Make four (4) arms of the block. First sew the small half-square triangle to the "house" patch, right sides together, of course. Be sure to stitch the short side of the triangle to the right side of the house "roof." A small triangle of fabric from the half-square triangle will extend beyond the roof patch on both ends. **Note:** You can trim the corners of the small HST **before** stitching. See photo below. Press the seam allowance toward the "house" patch.



First seam.

Second seam: Adding the "doorstop" patch. A tiny point of the triangle patch extends beyond the "doorstop" and the "doorstop" point extends beyond the "house."

Add the "doorstop" patch to the house. Press toward the "doorstop." Note the small triangles of fabric that extend on either end. One is the point of the small HST and one is the point of the doorstop patch. That's because I did not trim my corners on either patch. Trim the small triangle first, if you prefer.



You can trim the corner of the small triangle **before** stitching to make aligning the patches easier. Just trim perpendicular to the seam line along the short sides,  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the point where the seamlines meet.



One arm assembled. OK to trim this dog ear.

Leave this one so you can match it to the one on the block side.

## Assemble Rows

Assemble the block in three rows. Sew a block side unit to either side of one C fabric arm. Press seams toward the arm. Repeat with the other C fabric arm.

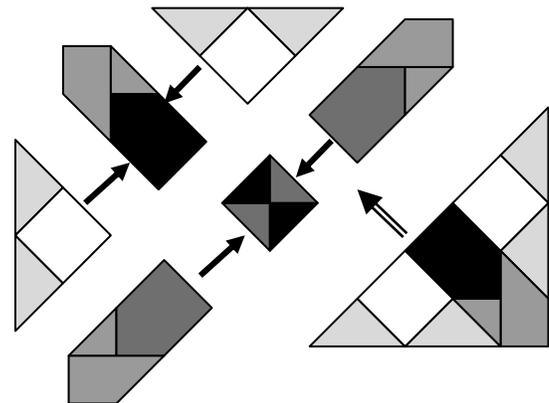
# River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

Sew the center row by stitching one **D** fabric arm to opposite sides of the center square, matching the fabrics in the square to the "house" patches. Press toward the "house" patches. Stitch the three rows together. Match the seams where they meet at the center square and where the BOM fabric square meets the arm. Use a positioning pin to match these seams.

(A positioning pin joins two units exactly where seams cross. Mark the exact spot where the 1/4" seam allowance will cross the existing seam on each unit. Place the two units with right sides together and pin straight through the two units at the marks. While the positioning pin is in place, pin on either side of it to secure the patches for stitching and then remove the positioning pin.)



Positioning pin placed exactly where seams meet.



Stitch the three rows.

Finished and pressed.

Lots of little dog ears to be trimmed.



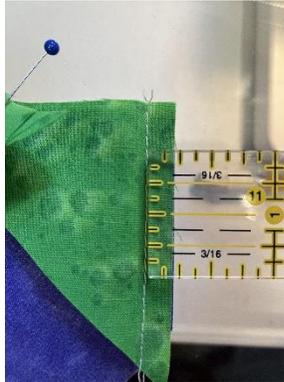
<sup>1</sup> *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*, Barbara Brackman, 1993, American Quilter's Society, Paducah, KY, p. 368-369.

<sup>2</sup> *Electric Quilt 8*, ©1991-2021, The Electric Quilt Company, Bowling Green, OH 43402, [www.ElectricQuilt.com](http://www.ElectricQuilt.com).

# River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

## Blooper Reel

If you have a big gap when the pieces are pinned properly, you might want to check your  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Clearly too small here. Always use the SAME ruler/s and the same machine and foot combination during a project. I changed machines mid-block when my main machine needed a tune-up. Dug out my 1990s machine and did not get the correct  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



Forget to lay out the patches in their correct positions? I did. Time to unsew and maybe take a break. Reminds me of one of those dogs with the one straight-up ear and one floppy ear.

