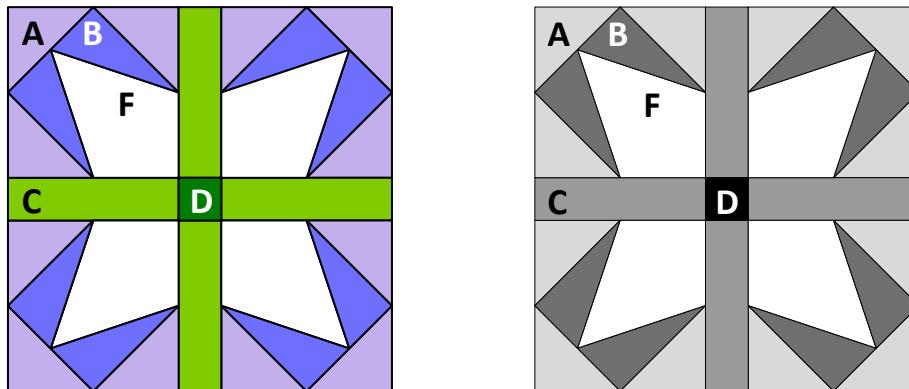


River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

MARCH

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 "Star and Cross," block #1915b from Barbara Brackman's *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*.¹

Note: This is a 9-inch block—your pieced block should measure $9\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ ".

This block, like so many, could be constructed using either templates or paper foundation piecing. Let's paper piece this one! **Please read** the paper piecing guide before starting. If you are already a confident paper piecer, you can use whatever method you choose.

We'll paper foundation piece the four corner units and then add the center "+" sign, which is easily rotary cut.

Cutting and Preparation

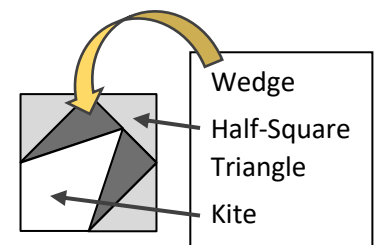
BOM fabric: Cut your third strip of BOM fabric 4" wide by the width of fabric (4" x 40").

There is no fabric "E" in this block. The BOM fabric is always labeled "F."

Kite patch

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

This is an oversize patch for paper piecing.



keh/BOM Block 3 March 2023.docx

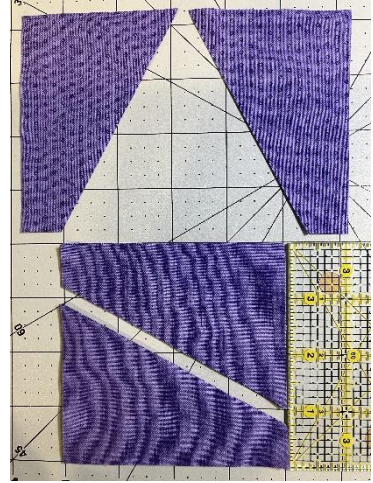
© January 2023 by Keitha Hunter. No part of this pattern may be reproduced or used for commercial purposes without the express written consent of the author.

River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

Wedges

Cut four (4) rectangles of fabric **B**: $3 \frac{5}{8}'' \times 4''$

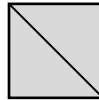
These wedges are mirror images (or “reverses”), so put two rectangles with right sides together and then the other pair of rectangles with right sides together. You can stack the two pairs to cut through four at once. Place the rectangles with the short sides on the left and right. Measure DOWN from the top $\frac{3}{4}''$ on the LEFT side and make a small mark on the edge of the fabric in the seam allowance. Measure UP $\frac{3}{4}''$ from the bottom on the RIGHT side and make a small mark on the edge of the fabric in the seam allowance. Cut from one mark to the other, dividing each rectangle into two wedges (eight wedges total). These are oversized for paper piecing.



Triangles

Cut six (6) squares of fabric **A**: $3 \frac{1}{2}'' \times 3 \frac{1}{2}''$

Cut the squares in half along one diagonal to get twelve (12) half-square triangles.



Center “Plus Sign”

Cut four (4) rectangles of fabric **C**: $1 \frac{1}{2}'' \times 4 \frac{1}{2}''$

Cut one (1) square of fabric **D**: $1 \frac{1}{2}'' \times 1 \frac{1}{2}''$

Paper Foundation Piecing

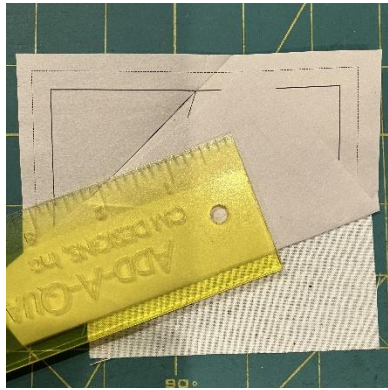
Print the foundations (all four corner are on one page). Cut the paper foundations out, leaving some paper (about $\frac{1}{4}''$) beyond the dashed cutting line. Fold each foundation along the solid stitching lines.

***Remember:** Stitch on the printed side and design on the unprinted side. Always trim before adding the next patch.

Pin the BOM square to the unprinted side of the foundation (over the patch labeled A1, B1, etc.). The right side of the BOM fabric should face UP!



River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

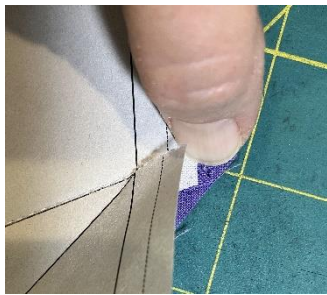


Fold back the paper and trim the excess BOM fabric with your regular ruler or Add-A-Quarter ruler, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

Place a side wedge on the BOM fabric right sides together, with the long, angled side of the wedge even with or a little beyond the BOM seam allowance.

While looking at the unprinted side of the foundation, pinch the fabric in place and fold it over along the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seamline to be sure

the patch completely covers its paper section including seam allowance. It should easily cover the creased seamline. This is easier to see if you work on a light background, hold up to a window or light, or use a light box. When satisfied, pin the wedge in place. Turn the foundation over and stitch along the seamline on the printed side. Trim the seam allowance, press, then repeat on the other side of the BOM patch with the second wedge.

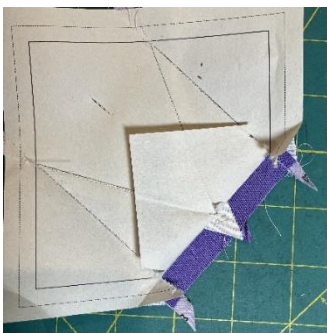


When seams cross, just tear the paper a little along the stitching to make your unit lie flat. Hold the thread securely with your finger or tip of your scissors, so that the threads don't come loose. If your threads tend to come loose, backstitch at the start and end of your seams.

Now add the two side triangles, using the same process. Trim excess fabric from the side wedges with your ruler, leaving at least the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, and then position your side triangle so that it will easily cover the patch and stitch. Press. Trim the seam allowances.

Add the unit's corner triangle last. Tear the paper along the seams so that you can fold it back and trim the seam allowance with your ruler. Don't tear the paper off yet! Center the corner triangle along the seam, pin, turn to the printed side and stitch. Trim the seam allowance.

That completes one block corner. Make three more corner units. Press well. Then trim the units along the cutting lines and gently remove the paper.



Tear the paper gently away from the corner seam along the previous seamlines, so that you can easily trim the seam allowance.

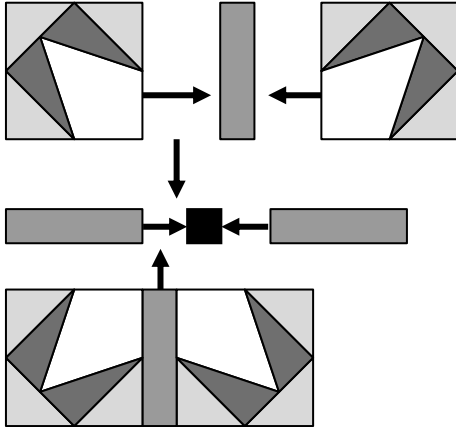


River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2023

Assembly

Stitch the block together in three rows.

Sew one corner unit to either side of a fabric C rectangle. Repeat with the other two corner units.



Stitch the center row by joining the remaining two fabric C rectangles to either side of the center square (fabric D) along the short ends of the rectangles.

Then stitch the three rows together to create your block.

¹ *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*, Barbara Brackman, 1993, American Quilter's Society, Paducah, KY, p. 242-243.