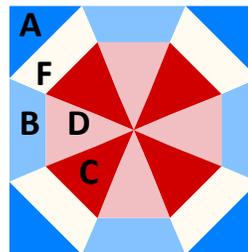
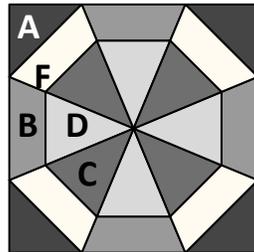


River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2022

JULY

Each block finishes at 12" x 12". All seams are ¼ inch. Your prepared block should measure 12.5" x 12.5". Save any extra units, strips, or scraps for future blocks.



Kaleidoscope/Spider Web

There are several ways to make a kaleidoscope block. You can find videos and tutorials online and in books. This method follows the style of Marti Michell.¹

There are three patch shapes in this block. The kaleidoscope segments are pieced, with 2 patches in different colors, and the corners of the block are half-square triangles. Be sure to download the pattern and the templates file. Measure your printed templates: The short sides of the corner HST should measure 3 ½" from corner to corner along the **seam** line (not the cutting line).

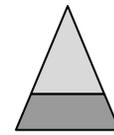


Choose a method:

1. Use the **templates** to cut all of the patches.
OR
2. **Piece the pyramid fabrics before trimming:** Sew a strip of the center triangle fabric to a strip of the accent fabric, press, and trim to size.



Center triangle



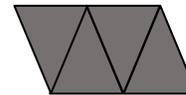
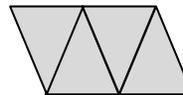
"Pyramid"

Method 1: Using Templates for all Patches

Center Triangles

Cut one (1) strip of fabric D: 4 ¾" x 11 ¼"

Cut one (1) strip of fabric C: 4 ¾" x 11 ¼"



Use the template to cut four triangles of each fabric.

Note: this assumes your triangle fabric does NOT have a one-way print. If you want to use a one-way print, you need a 17 ½" long strip. If you are fussy cutting, you are on your own!

Accent patches

Cut one (1) strip of the BOM fabric F: 2 ¼" x 24"

Cut one (1) strip of fabric B: 2 ¼" x 24"



River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2022

Cut the strips in to four rectangles that are $2\frac{1}{4}'' \times 6''$. Match the centers of the center triangle and the rectangles and stitch from edge to edge. Use the template or kaleidoscope ruler to trim the pyramid. Or, you can stack the rectangles and use the template to cut the angled sides. Then stitch the center triangle to the accent patch, matching centers.

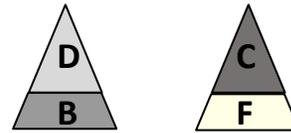


Note: if you choose to cut the shape as pictured here, you need only $20\frac{1}{2}''$ strip.



Sewing the Pyramid Units

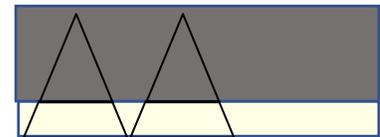
Sew four units of each fabric combination. Place the center triangle on top of the accent piece, matching centers. A tiny bit of fabric will show on either side of the center triangle. Press the seam allowances of the two different units in opposite directions (that is, toward the pyramid point for one set and away from the pyramid point for the other set).



Method 2: Piecing the Pyramid First

This produces more waste, but you do get an accurate pyramid.

1. Cut one (1) strip of the BOM fabric F: $2\frac{1}{4}'' \times 24''$
2. Cut one (1) strip of fabric C: $4\frac{3}{4}'' \times 24''$
3. Cut one (1) strip of fabric B: $2\frac{1}{4}'' \times 24''$
4. Cut one (1) strip of fabric B: $4\frac{3}{4}'' \times 24''$



Strip set for the C+F pyramid. Cut four pyramids.

Stitch the two strips together along the long sides for each color combination (D+B, C+F)

Use a kaleidoscope ruler OR the templates to cut four units of each combination

- If using the templates, cut the seam allowance off of the “bottom” of the center triangle template and tape the triangle to the accent to create a 6” finished kaleidoscope triangle template. Align the bottom of the pyramid with the edge of the accent fabric. The template seamline should align with the sewn seamline. Cut the shape.
- If using the kaleidoscope ruler, align the “12” block” line with the bottom of the accent fabric and cut the pyramid shape. Check your ruler’s instructions for guidance.

For Either Method: Corner Triangles

Cut two (2) squares of fabric A: $4\frac{3}{8}'' \times 4\frac{3}{8}''$

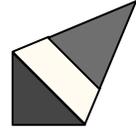


Cut the squares in half along the diagonal to make four (4) half-square triangles.

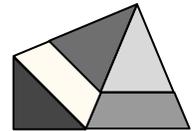
River City Quilters' Guild Block of the Month 2022

Assembly

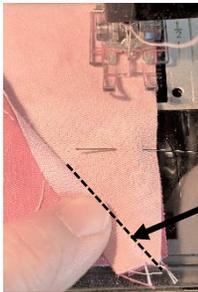
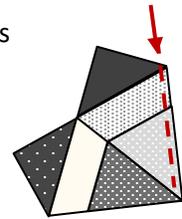
1. Sew the corner triangles (A) to the correct pyramid (F+C). Chain piece four units. Press seam allowance toward the corner triangle. Trim off the tiny bit of the corner triangle that extends beyond the accent patch.



2. Sew the second pyramid units (D+B) to units you just completed. Put the second pyramid right side down on top of the corner unit and stitch. Press the seam allowance toward the newly added pyramid. This larger unit is now one-fourth of the kaleidoscope block.



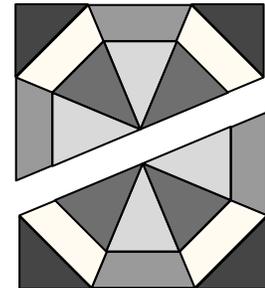
3. Lay out your block. Combine two quarter blocks to make a half block. Right sides together, as shown, stitch from the outside edge toward the pyramid point. Hold the seam allowance away from the stitching line near the point, so that it doesn't get caught in the new seam. STOP stitching at the seamline.



Hold the seam allowance out of the way as you approach the point. Reduce your stitch length when you are within 4 or 5 stitches of the existing stitching line.

STOP stitching when you reach the existing stitching line. Take a couple of back stitches.

4. Combine two half blocks to make the complete block. Carefully match the centers, using a couple of pins to hold the units in place. Stitch one long seam from edge to edge. You can stitch across the center intersection with a long stitch length to check that the triangle points match.



5. Press the seams in one direction around the center of the block. They should fall clockwise when you look at the back of the block, and form a swirl at the center, which helps the block lie flat.



¹Michell, Martha G. *Kaleidoscope ABCs*. Atlanta, Michell Marketing, 2007