

# Patterns for Quilting



8 Free Quilt Block Patterns to  
Make a Quilt For Your Home

## **Patterns for Quilting: 8 Free Quilt Block Patterns to Make a Quilt for Your Home**

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Published by Prime Publishing LLC, 3400 Dundee Road, Northbrook, IL 60062 – [www.primecp.com](http://www.primecp.com)

Cover images courtesy of afewscraps.blogspot.com, quiltdad.com, mightydistractible.blogspot.com, and mollyflanders.blogspot.com



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Letter from the Editors

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Hi Quilters,

No matter what skill level you're at or what kinds of quilts you like to make, you know that you have to have an idea before getting started on a new project. That's where quilt blocks come in; they're the starting point for quilt patterns, as well as small ways you can improving your quilting. You can piece them together using scraps, embellish them with applique patterns, or make them a piece in a more intricate quilting pattern.

If you need an idea of what you'd like your next quilt to look like, take a look at some of the different techniques used in the quilt block patterns we're featuring. Piece together colorful fabrics for a patchy pattern or try reinventing the look of a popular quilting style. Pick a theme that you'd like to show up on your next quilt and see how you can apply the tutorials in this new book to help you.

Happy Quilting!

You can find more quilt blocks, quilting patterns, and quilting tutorials at [www.FaveQuilts.com](http://www.FaveQuilts.com).

Our eBooks, like all our quilting projects, are absolutely FREE to members of our quilting community. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for our [free e-mail newsletter](#).

Happy Quilting,

*The Editors of FaveQuilts*

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## **Patterns for Quilting: 8 Free Quilt Block Patterns to Make a Quilt for Your Home**

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## Pieced and Applique Quilt Blocks

### Pretty Popping Posies Block

By: Becky Jorgensen from [Patchwork Posse](#)

A popular way to add a little pop to any quilt block pattern is by making yo-yos. Sewing them takes minutes, and the finished results will add a 3D effect to any quilt block that look like real blooming flowers.



#### Materials:

- Center square – 9” x 9”
- Outside triangles – 10” x 10”
- Green scraps for stems and leaf
- Scrap squares for your posies

#### Cut your circles:

- 2 – 4 ½ circle
- 1 – 3 ½ circle

\*you can really do whatever size you choose though...try them out and do what you like

#### Instructions:

- 1) Taking a needle and thread {with a knot at the end} start a running stitch. Fold over that outside edge to the inside and then do the stitching. This will hide the raw edge inside the yo-yo perfectly.



- 2) Pull the thread tight cinching up the center.



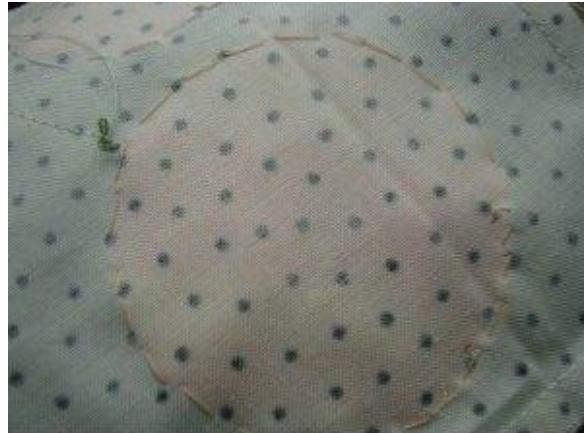
- 3) Cinch the center tight and take the thread to the back. Stitch a few times {it won't show} and tie a knot.



- 4) Place yo-yo on the block and stitch along the outside edge. Just catch the edge so it doesn't show.



This is what the back of the block will look like. See how you skip along on the back-not on the front.



- 5) Repeat with the other 2 yo-yo's. The smaller of the 2 will be on the top, or play with the placement as you like.



- 6) Cut 3 strips of green fabric  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide x 10" long. Place them below the yo-yo and meet them together at the bottom. Trim to the length needed. Stitch down the center by machine. Snip the edges so they will go all shaggy-like.

- 7) Cut 1 left and stitch just along the outside edge. This too will go all shaggy. It measures approx: 3" long by 2" wide or so.



- 8) Take the 10" x 10" square and cut 2 diagonals so you will have 4 triangles. Sew one to each corner of the square. The long sides will fit the edges. Make sure those edges run past the corners of the block. They will need to be there so the points won't get cut off.



## Quaint Cottage Quilt Block

By: Mary Dugan from [Molly Flanders](#)

The subtle combination of applique with piecing creates a very homey quilt block that can be part of a bigger quilt or a stand-alone pattern. If you want to work on your hand stitching, you'll also find this cute block to be a nice way to practice.



### MATERIALS:

- Assortment of fabric
- Piece of ribbon

### INSTRUCTIONS:

I do this block in stages - the roof and sky and the house and ground. The block I am making is a 12 inch square block. I usually over-size everything and then cut it down later. So this block will be 12 inches before adding the borders.



- 1) I begin on the house part without the roof. For this block I cut the white {background fabric} 6 inches by 5 inches - this is for the left side of the house. I cut the left side of the house {the side with the window} 6 inches by 3 1/2 inches. I cut the left house side into two pieces to add a window and sides {house fabric} to go onto both sides of the window. Bottom of the house under the window is 2 1/2 inches by 3 1/2 inches and my window is 2 inches by 2 inches. The sides are 1 1/2 inches. Remember I over-size so I can cut it down if I want to.



- 2) I took a piece of ribbon for curtains and folded it so it would fit across my white window and stitched the curtain onto the window square at the top.



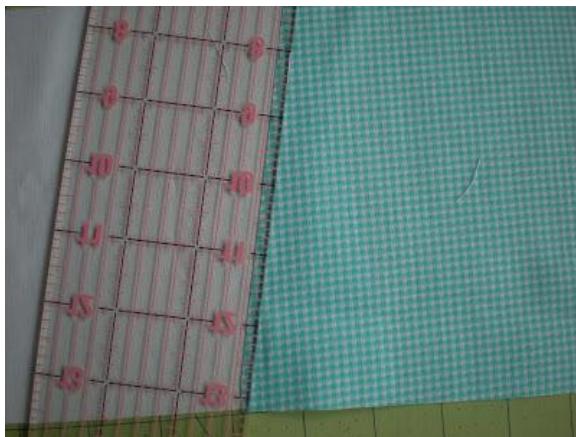
- 3) Then I add the sides to frame the window then the top above the window and the bottom underneath the window. See, I will trim this up nicely so the sides are even.



- 4) The door is done pretty much the same way although for this house I wanted an arched door so I curved the top of my door {convex} and the piece of house that goes above the door, I curved {concave}. Make the concave piece a little larger than the convex piece so you can ease in the arch and mine turned out a little bit wonky. These are teeny pieces!!!



- 5) Once your door is done, add the other side of the house and the other piece of background fabric. I added a window to the door in just the same manner. Now, on to the roof. I want an angle in my roof and the background fabric on both sides of the roof, so to get the right angle, place the background fabric underneath your roof fabric. For the left side of the house I have the left side of the roof just over the background fabric enough to catch both pieces when I angle it. Position your straight edge at an angle and cut. Most of the background fabric will be off to your left, just the opposite for the other side of the roof.



- 6) Another tip about the roof: You want the measurement of the bottom of the roof to be just slightly larger than your house measurement. It looks okay if the roof is a little larger than the house but not if the roof is smaller. Now your house is in three pieces, the roof and background sides - the house and background sides - and the grass. Sew them together!!!



## Flora Modular Cathedral Block

By: [Christina Cameli](#) from [A Few Scraps](#)

Replicate the elegance of the cathedral window with an effortless looking combination of piecing and applique. This is a great opportunity to play with your quilt's color scheme.



### **Block Size:**

- Without borders: 9" x 9"
- With borders: 11" x 11"

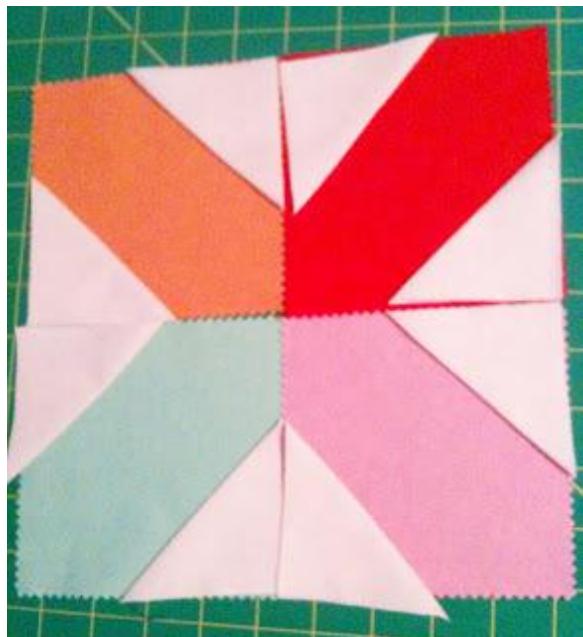
### **MATERIALS:**

- Four 5" color squares
- Eight 3" white squares
- Optional: 1.5" border strips



### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

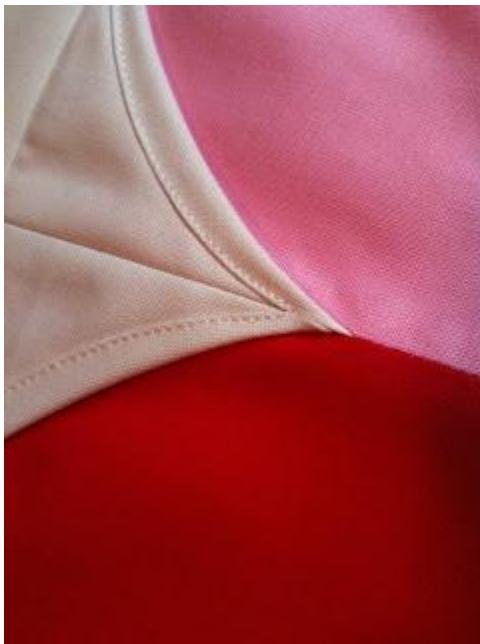
- 1) Press all the white squares in half along the diagonal. Lay them in the corners of the colored squares and use a dab of glue at each corner to keep them in place.



- 2) Construct the block using a scant  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



- 3) Then pin back the curves and topstitch.



## Scrappy and Strip Quilt Block Patterns

### Sands of Time Quilt Block

By: [John Adams](#) from [Quilt Dad](#)

This quilt block allows you to use your scraps in a less conventional manner. Make a pattern similar to the classic hourglass shape with bold strips of fabric.



#### Block Size:

- Finished: 8" x 8"
- Unfinished: 8.5" x 8.5"

#### MATERIALS:

- 8 – 1.5" x 8.5" strips from assorted prints (don't need to be 8 different prints)
- 4 – 4" x 6" rectangles

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) First, cut 8 - 1.5" x 8.5" strips from assorted prints. You don't necessarily need 8 different prints -- you can see that I used 5 prints here, and just repeated 3 of them.

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- 2) Sew the strips together into two sets of 4 strips each. This will yield 2 rectangles, each measuring 4.5" x 8.5".



- 3) Find the spot along the bottom edge of your first rectangle that is 3" in from the left hand side. Mark it lightly with a pencil. Using your rotary cutter and straight-edge ruler, make a cut from the top left corner of the rectangle to your pencil mark. Repeat on the right side of your rectangle, making a slice from the top right corner to a mark along the bottom edge that measures 3" from the right side.
- 4) As you can see in the photo, you'll do the same steps with your second rectangle, but this time you'll be measuring in 3" from the left and right sides along the top edge of the rectangle, and cutting from the bottom corners.



- 5) OK, from a background fabric, cut 4 rectangles measuring approximately 4" x 6". You'll see in a moment why it's not important that the measurement is exact, as long as you have enough surface area to square up the block later. If (unlike me) you're obsessive about not wasting fabric, trial & error should help you determine the exact measurement that you'll need to minimize waste.
- 6) Place your rectangle along one edge of your trapezoid as shown below, eyeballing that you have enough overhang on the top and bottom edges to allow this rectangle to "replace" the triangle you just sliced off. Again, this sounds more complicated than it really is! The pictures help ...



- 7) With right sides together, sew the rectangle to one side of the trapezoid, and press open.



- 8) With your ruler and your rotary cutter, and using the top and bottom edges of your trapezoid as a guide, trim the edges so that the height of your pieced block is back to 4.5".



- 9) Repeat these steps for the remaining 3 sides of your trapezoids. You should now have two strange looking pieced shapes that look similar to the ones in the image below:



- 10) Line up the two smallest strips and, with right sides together, sew the two pieces together. Press open. The height of the pieced block should now measure 8.5".



- 11) Now all you have to do is trim the width of the block down to 8.5". Be careful to center your block as best you can. The block should now measure 8.5" square.

## Rectangular Brick Block

By: [Angie Kime](#) from [Stitching by Starlight](#)

Not all of your block patterns have to be complicated. If there are a few patterns you'd like to try out together, just whip up this brick block and see how your next quilt can start coming together.



**Block Size:** 10.5" x 14.5"

### MATERIALS:

- Eight 5" (charm) squares



*Featured here are (left to right) Hip Squares, Crystal Ball, Caravan, and Bundles from Daisy Janie's [Geo Grand collection](#).*

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**One small note...** this is a rectangular block. Finished size is approximately 10.5" x 14.5". However, if you wanted to make it a square, it would be easy enough to alter. I wanted to use as much of the material as possible, thus the rectangle shape.

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) Cut each square in half to make a total of sixteen 2.5" x 5" strips.



- 2) Once cut, lay out your strips in such a way that they look like bricks stacked on top of each other. I chose to lay mine out in a staircase fashion, alternating the green and blue with the browns.



- 3) As you can see, some strips will hang off the sides. For one of them, you will need to cut a strip in half to fill in the hole on the second row (see below). I cut the brown (bottom right) to fill in the hole (top left) so that the pattern continued.



- 4) For the other danglers, you have two options on cutting.

Option 1: Cut them into 2.5" squares like so...

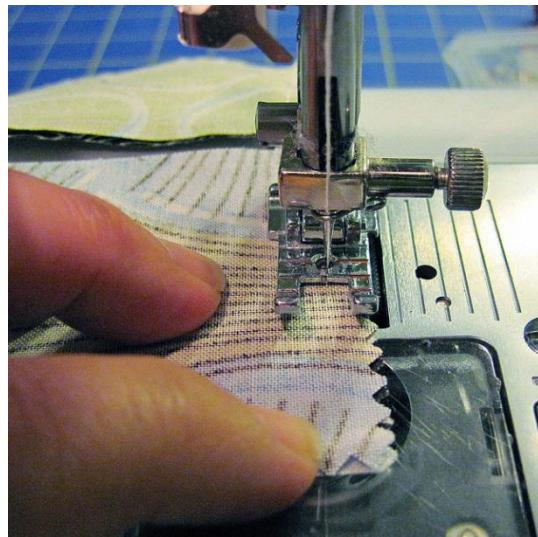


...and attach them when sewing.

Option 2: Leave them as-is and attach, trimming at the end.

I chose both – I chose to cut the Bundles (green/blue) strip and leave Crystal Ball (green circles) strip so you could see each.

- 5) Now, using that infamous scant 1/4-inch seam, sew your strips together to create five rows.



You should end up with something like this (remember, the green is the dangler I left in):



Don't panic if the rows aren't the exact same length. Some have more seams than others, which cuts down on the row length. For instance, in the photo above, you can see that the fourth row down is shorter than the row above and below it. That's OK.

- 6) Now, because the rows are uneven, we aren't going to line them up at the edges to sew them together. Instead, center the rows by folding the top one in the center, finger-pressing (no iron needed), and matching the crease to the seam below it in the second row.

Clear as mud? OK step by step...

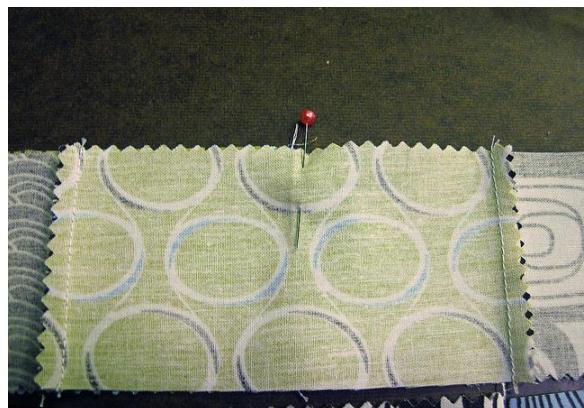
- 7) Take Row 1 (at the top) and fold it in half.



- 8) Finger press to make a slight crease.



- 9) Pin to Row 2 (right sides together) so that the middle seam of Row 2 matches up with the crease you just created in Row 1.





- 10) Sew Rows 1 and 2 together, using a scant 1/4" seam.



- 11) Continue the same process by finding the center and sewing each row together, folding to create a crease and matching it to the center seam in the adjacent row.
- 12) Once you have all rows sewn, trim your block, cutting only the minimum necessary

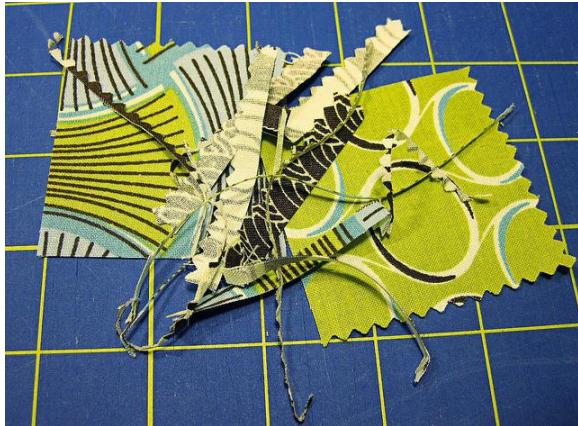
to make a straight edge on all sides.



When you're all done, your block should look like this:



...and your leftover scrap pile like this:



I know, not much for building a stash, but pretty awesome for trying to use all your fabric!!

Now, if you were wanting to make a square you could either adjust the original layout (before sewing) and cut more strips into squares to fill holes. Alternatively, you could trim to a 10.5" square in the final step and have more for your scrap bin. Either way would work just fine.

## Easy Log Cabin Quilt Block

By: Cassandra from [Mighty Distractable](#)

Log cabin quilts are easily some of them most popular ones. Not only are they traditional and easy, but they can be made with leftover scraps. Save money and put your own spin on a classic pattern with this tutorial.



### **Block Size:**

**Time to Complete:** In an evening

### **MATERIALS:**

- Quilter's cotton is recommended, but you can also use corduroy, linen, flannel, etc.

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Log cabin blocks are considered "easy" in the world of quilting. In all the books I've looked at, they are always included in the beginner projects. Well, this beginner got confused...twice. Let's just say I will have two

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potholders in my kitchen that will match my sons quilt. Go me!



Piecing my block with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance

The thing that tripped me up was the order in which you assemble the pieces. I got cocky and didn't think I needed a cheat sheet. Yeah, I was wrong. I made a cheat sheet and now all is well. Eventually I didn't need to refer to it so much, but it is great when you get started.



Keep in mind...this is the direction you want to keep adding blocks.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

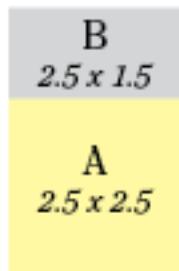
- A: one 2-1/2" square
- B: one 1-1/2" x 2-1/2" strip
- C & D: 1-1/2" x 3-1/2" strips of 2 different fabrics
- E & F: 1-1/2" x 4-1/2" strips of 2 different fabrics
- G & H: 1-1/2" x 5-1/2" strips of 2 different fabrics
- I & J: 1-1/2" x 6-1/2" strips of 2 different fabrics
- K & L: 1-1/2" x 7-1/2" strips of 2 different fabrics
- M & N: 1-1/2" x 8-1/2" strips of 2 different fabrics
- O & P: 1-1/2" x 9-1/2" strips of 2 different fabrics
- Q & R: 1-1/2" x 10-1/2" strips of 2 different fabrics
- S & T: 1-1/2" x 11-1/2" strips of 2 different fabrics
- U: one 1-1/2" x 12-1/2" strip

**Note:** I used about 12 different patterned fabrics in my blocks which means I had to repeat them in the block. The trick is carefully repeating fabrics far apart from one another, plus never using a single fabric more than twice per block. Above photo of block shows an example of how to repeat and still maintain "randomness".

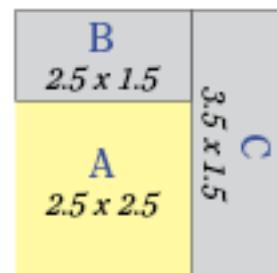
**Another Note:** You will need to have a hot iron on standby at all times. After you sew every seam, you need to press your seams either open or both to one direction to avoid bulkiness. I personally prefer to press them all to face the outer edges of the block.

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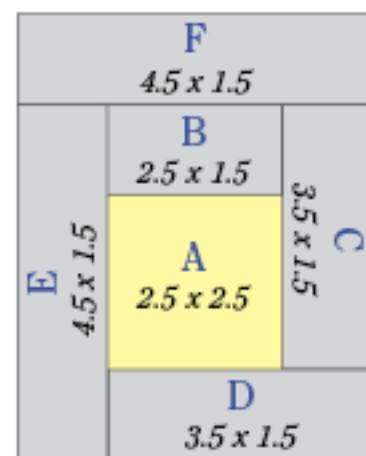
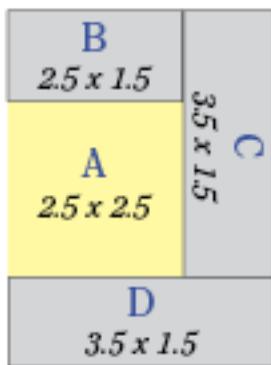
- 1) Begin by sewing your 2-1/2" square and 1-1/2" x 2-1/2" strip together with a straight stitch and a 1/4" seam allowance (use this seam allowance throughout the block). You will have something that looks like this:



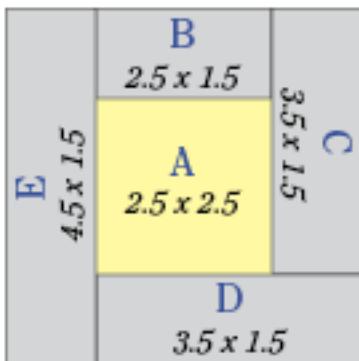
- 2) You will always want to add your strips in a clockwise fashion. Therefore, strip C will be added to the right:



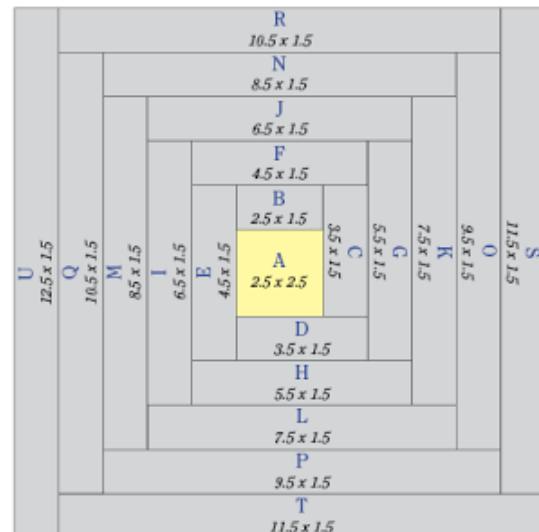
- 3) And D will then follow suit of going around the center square block, being added to the bottom:



- 4) Logically, E gets pieced on the left and you have a square block again:



- 6) Continue in this clockwise pattern until you have used all your strips and your piece should look like this:



- 5) Then it all starts again at the top with F:

## Popular Techniques for Block Patterns

### Peppermint Flower Dresden Block

By: [Amy Smart](#) from [Diary of a Quilter](#)

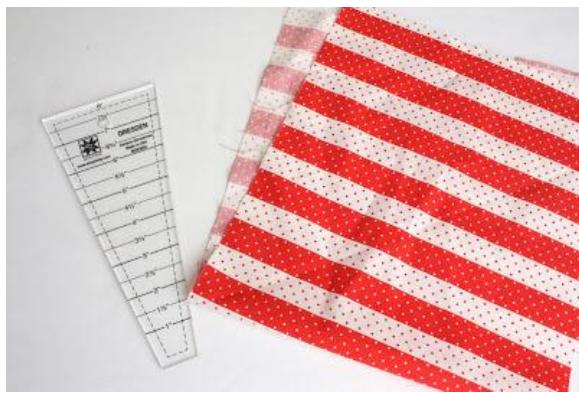
Dresden plates have been around for a long time and have been used for generations to give quilts a floral flair. This block pattern will show you how to change up this classic design to make a fun new pinwheel pattern.



**Block Size:** 16" diameter

#### Materials:

- $\frac{1}{4}$  yard striped fabric and  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard white fabric



#### INSTRUCTIONS:

**Note:** The short-cut trick for this block is using a striped fabric. You could, of course, piece strips and cut them with the Dresden ruler as well, if you want a custom stripe. I used this stripe from Bonnie and Camille's latest collection Vintage Modern. The stripe print comes in three color ways, red, pink, and gray. (You can find this fabric [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) or [here](#).) A 1/4 yard gave me exactly enough fabric for the colored wedges for 2 blocks. If you want a little leeway for mistakes, get 1/3 yard.



- 1) From your 1/4 yard, cut 5 pieces of fabric that look like this: with a dark stripe at the top and at the bottom. My piece is 9" wide and just over 7" high. (Of course, you can use any striped fabric you like, just make sure there is a dark stripe at the top and the bottom to create this effect.)



- 2) I then cut my wedges 7" long, so line-up the 7" line at the top of the fabric and cut fabric into the wedge shape.



- 3) Turn the ruler upside down and cut a second wedge. Continue cutting wedges alternating the ruler's direction.



- 4) You should be able to get 4 wedges across a 9" wide piece of fabric. (As you can see, I trimmed off the ends at the bottom to make the wedge exactly 7". Hindsight, I would have just left the bottom edge intact, so don't feel like you have to trim off that little piece.)

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- 5) You will need 10 striped wedges and 10 white wedges per pinwheel block. Using a 1/4 yard each of the red, pink, and gray stripes I was able to get 20 wedges from each - enough for two blocks of each color. From the white fabric I cut three 7" x wof (width of fabric) strips and cut them into a total of 60 wedges - 10 for each of the six blocks.



- 6) Using one striped wedge and one white wedge sew them together in sets of two. Combine 8 of the sets into sets of 4 wedges. Combine 2 sets of 4 wedges with a set of 2 wedges to create a half circle, always keeping the striped wedge on the same side of the white wedge.



- 7) Repeat the process with remaining wedges to create a second half circle and sew the two half circles together to create a whole circle/pinwheel.



Ta-da!



- 8) From remaining white fabric cut 6 squares 20.5". Fold into quarters and crease the sides. Unfold.



- 9) Using the four creases as your guide, line up your pinwheel lines with the creases. You should have 5 wedges per quadrant. Turn your raw edges under a 1/4" and carefully press and pin in place. You can then hand applique the wheel block to the backing fabric. I just used my machine to sew the edges down.



## Brady Bunch Inspired Nine Patch Block

By: [Melissa Corry](#) from [Happy Quilting](#)

Any fans of the nine patch pattern will have a lot of fun lining up their colorful scraps and giving them a totally different use within a brand new quilt.



**Block Size:** 8" x 8"

### MATERIALS:

- Nine different 2 ½" x 2 ½" blocks
- Twelve sashing print 2 ½" x 1" rectangles
- 4 sashing print 8 ½" x 1" rectangles

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Lay out your fabric pieces as follows. Make sure to get your nine different blocks set out in a way that is pleasing to the eye.



- 1) We'll start by stitching the sashings to the squares. Lay your first three sashings in each of the square rows onto the left hand side of the print squares with right sides together. You can pin if you like but it isn't necessary. Sew a 1/4" seam along the edges of all 9 sets. Press towards the squares.



Your block should now look like this :)



- 2) Now lay your last sashing onto your last square with right sides together in each of the three square rows. Also, lay your first sashed square onto your second sashed square with right sides together in each of the three square rows. Once again, pin if you like, and sew a 1/4" seam along all 6 sets. Press again towards the square prints.



And now your block should look like this :)



- 3) Now one last step to finish the square rows. Simply lay your last sashed square in each of the three square rows onto your now sewn together first and second sashed squares. Pin if you like. Sew a 1/4" seam along the edge and press towards the print square.



And now your block should look like this :)



- 4) And now you are ready to add the row sashing. This is the same process just longer. Lay the sashings along the top of the first and second square row with right sides together. And lay the sashings along the top and the bottom of the third row with right sides together. Pin if you like or just align as you go. Sew a 1/4" seam along the edge and press out towards the sashings.



And now your block should look like this :)

- 5) So lay your first square row onto your second square row with right sides together. Make sure to align your seams. You can check this by pinning in the center of the seam and then on the back side check to make sure the pin is aligned. Sew a 1/4" seam along the pinned edge being sure to remove pins as you go. Press out towards the sashing.



- 6) And then lastly, repeat the same process laying your third square row along the now edge of the now sewn together first and second square row. Pin, check the alignment, sew, and press.



And there you have it!! A Brady Bunch Block!!!

Have fun!!!



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# FAVEQUILTS

## Quilts, Fabric and More

Included in this eBook:

- Pieced and Applique Quilt Blocks
- Scrappy and Strip Quilt Block Patterns
- Popular Quilting Techniques for Block Patterns



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### Special Thanks:

Becky Jorgensen from [Patchwork Posse](#)  
Mary Dugan from [Molly Flanders](#)  
[Christina Cameli](#) from [A Few Scraps](#)  
[John Adams](#) from [Quilt Dad](#)

[Angie Kimel](#) from [Stitching by Starlight](#)  
Cassandra from [Mighty Distractible](#)  
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