

Block of The Month 2017: Block #7

Block is due at the September meeting.

This month we are continuing our color scheme for the year: black, white, the monthly birthstone color, and a shade (or tint) of that color. This month's color is red (ruby), so your second color should be shade of red. Please look at the January newsletter for the color chart. We encourage you to make two blocks, one to enter in the drawing and one to keep. Please sew with an accurate quarter inch seam.

This block is a celebration of half square triangles. If you do this block you will either learn to love or hate them. Each of these nine patch blocks has 32 half square triangles. You will make sixteen black and white and another sixteen with the two reds.

Cut list -- For one 12 1/2" block:

For half square triangles, 2 7/8 squares will require less trimming. If you are unsure of your accuracy, cut the pieces 3" but you will need to trim each half square triangle down to 2 1/2".

Red fabric: one 4 1/2" square; eight 2 7/8" squares

Red tint, black, and white fabrics: eight 2 7/8" squares of each color

Assembling the block:

Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of all eight of the 2 7/8" lighter red squares and the eight white 2 7/8" squares. Place each of the red on one of the darker red and each of the white on the black 2 7/8" squares, right sides together. Sew 1/4" from either side of the drawn diagonal line, cut in two on the drawn diagonal line. Press toward the darker fabric. You should have sixteen 2 1/2" half square triangles of each combination.

Lay out the block pieces as shown in photo 2. Sew together top two rows and the bottom two rows as shown in photo 3. Press in opposite directions so they will match up correctly later. For the center two rows, make the black and white four patch squares and sew together the row with the red square in the middle. Now lay out the rows to match photo 3 and finish sewing together the rows to make the block.

Press and using a 12-1/2" square up ruler, trim to get a 12 1/2" block. Repeat to make a second block!

We hope you aren't tired of making half square triangles.

Adriane Ridder & Shelly McNeely

Block of the Month Coordinators

