

## Block of The Month 2023: Block #7

Hello – this month we are continuing our log cabin variations, and we are calling this Birds in the Cabin. The 2023 focus fabric is from Hoffman and is called Paint Impressions. In addition to the focus fabric, you will need a white fabric and two additional coordinating fabrics based on the colors in the focus fabric. Remember, all our blocks end up 12.5" X 12.5" (a 12" finished block.) We will have the focus fabric available for sale at guild meetings for \$3 per fat quarter.

Also, the Guild's website and Facebook page should have a post directing you to the YouTube instructions for this block.

### Cut list -- For one block:

**Focus Fabric:** One 2.5" square

**Coordinating fabric 1:** One 2.5", one 3", & one 3.5" square (cut each on one diagonal)

**Coordinating fabric 2:** One 2.75" & one 3.25" square (cut each on one diagonal)

**White:** 1.25" wide pieces in these lengths: two 2.5", two 3.25", one each of the following -- 4", 4.75", 5.75", 6.5", 7.75", 8.5", 10", 10.75"

1.5" wide pieces in these lengths: 4", & 5"

1.75" wide pieces in these lengths: 5.75", & 7"

2" wide pieces in these lengths: 7.75", & 9.25"

2.25" wide pieces in these lengths: 10", & 11.75"

### Assembling the block: Use a quarter inch seam. Press to the newly added fabric

This block is a version of the off-center log cabin block we did last month. In this version we are adding flying geese to two corners of each round. Two adjacent sides of the block will be made with 1.25" white strips and the other two sides will have strips that gradually get wider. The coordinating fabrics are for the flying geese, alternating colors each round.

To make the piecing easier, we recommend that you arrange the pieces in the order they will be added. This means stack the 1 1/4" wide pieces of white fabric from smallest to largest with largest on the bottom. Make a second stack in the same way with the other pieces of white fabric, and a third stack of the triangles of coordinating fabric. With the triangles, the colors should alternate as they get bigger.

- Round one: This is the only round that we will add pieces out of order from how you stacked them. Add 1.25" X 2.5" piece of white fabric to one side of the focus fabric square. Press. Next, add a 1.25" X 3.25" piece of white fabric to the adjacent side of the focus fabric to the left (I am giving instructions for counter-clockwise placement, if you go the other way – just do that for every piece). The piece should be the same length as the side you are adding to. Press. These two sides will be the sides that continue to have the narrow strips of white fabric added on. Keep track of the side you added to first – you will start with that side each round and always add the strips in same order. Now, turn the focus fabric piece right side up with an unsewn edge at the top and to your left. Add a 1.25" X 2.5" piece of white fabric to the top, matching the edge of the white strip to the left edge of the focus square. This piece will not extend all the way to the end; it should only be as long as the square of focus fabric. Press. Now add 1.25" X 3.25" piece of white fabric to the last edge – this time matching the edge of the strip to the edge of the piece we just added and press. There will be two opposite corners that don't have white fabric completely covering them. These are the corners that we will be adding the flying geese to.
- To trim these two corners, use a 45° line on your ruler and line that up with the seam line of the round just added to the block. Align the cutting edge of the ruler so 1/4" extends out from where the two pieces of white fabric meet in the corner (photo 2.) Trim off this fabric at the corner to get a clean edge. Repeat this trimming for the opposite corner. Remember, the corners we are trimming are the ones that don't have fabric filling out the complete corner.
- Take the two smallest triangles of coordinating and place one at each of the trimmed corners, right sides together. Center the triangles with the cut edge (photo 3.) Sew



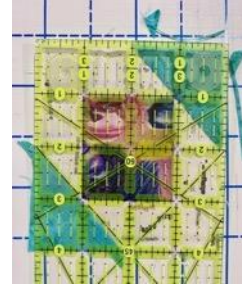
Photo 2



Photo 3

these seams and press. Trim corners so the block is 4" square (photo 4.) If the corner triangle you just added doesn't completely fill out the corner, you will need to take it off and sew it back on with a smaller seam.

- Now start the second round. Find the starting edge. Repeat the instructions from above, first adding the two smallest 1.25" wide pieces and then the two smallest from the other stack of white strips. After you add the corners, this round should square up to  $5\frac{3}{4}$ ". Keep adding rounds. Square up to  $7\frac{3}{4}$ " in round three, 10" in round four, and  $12\frac{1}{2}$ " in round five.



**Photo 4**



**Photos 5**

Hope all enjoyed this block. If you are turning in blocks at the guild meeting, these are due at the September meeting.

Adriane Ridder & Shelly McNeely  
Block of the Month Coordinators



**Link to YouTube**