

Block of The Month 2020: Block #12

This month we have another un-named block. Shelly designed to be a perfect last block of the year to use up scraps. This year's focus fabric is called Western Washington Quilt Shop Hop 2017 by In the Beginning fabrics. These blocks are due at the January 2021 meeting (If we have one.)

In addition to the focus fabric (we will have half yards for \$5 at the meeting or contact us if you need some), you also need a coordinating fabric based on the colors in the focus fabric, a black fabric and a white fabric.

We encourage you to make two blocks, one to enter in the drawing and one to keep. 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: (Read the instructions before cutting.)

There isn't really a cut list – just gather all your scraps. You need to have some of each of the four fabrics: the focus fabric, white, black, a coordinating fabric (only use one coordinating fabric.). Don't worry that they are too small, even a $\frac{3}{4}$ " square piece is usable. When picking scraps don't use any strips wider than 3" as they will dominate the block. If using left over triangles, they can be wider, but try not to use any triangles with a side longer than 6".

Assembling the block:

- The first step is to organize your scrap pieces by width, group triangle pieces separately. If you have some really skinny pieces (less than an inch), find pieces of similar length and sew them together with a small seam allowance to get them wider.
- Take pieces of similar width, mix up the fabrics and sew them together to make long strips. Press to the darker fabric. Take these and cut into 13" long pieces. If you are working with triangles or angled pieces, like the first block above, try to find complementary angles of different fabrics and sew those together. After you get lengths of 13", trim the sides to make strips, see photo 3, the triangle that sticks out is trimmed off.
- Lay your strips next to each other to get an idea of how you want to arrange them and to estimate if you have enough strips, see photo 4. You should try for a total width of 13", after subtracting $\frac{1}{2}$ " of width for each seam.
- Look at your strips and decide which end to trim off on strips over 13". It is easier to sew if your strips are all similar lengths. Remember that anything you cut off is a scrap to save to make another of these blocks.
- Sew the strips together. You may find it easier to press after each seam, but that is your choice. Keep adding strips until you have over 12.5".
- Now to square it. Use your $12\frac{1}{2}$ " X $12\frac{1}{2}$ " square up ruler, place it over the block. Make sure there is fabric under all parts of the ruler and trim to $12\frac{1}{2}$ " X $12\frac{1}{2}$ " –wonky is okay!
- Repeat to make a second block to keep!



Photo 3



Photo 4

Thanks for sewing with us this year – we have big plans for 2021. See you then.

Adriane Ridder & Shelly McNeely
Block of the Month Coordinators