

Block of The Month 2021: Block #2

Okay – here's our February block. Shelly saw a picture of a block like this and decided to figure out how to make it. This originally was a paper pieced block, but here is our version. To get started, here are the fabrics you need: your focus fabric, a coordinating fabric based on the colors in the focus fabric, and two neutral color fabrics. Pick ones that contrast with each other. (Neutral colors include black, brown, grey, white, and shades or hues of these.) Remember, all our blocks end up 12.5" X 12.5" (a 12" finished block.)

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

At least 5 strips (minimum 1 of each fabric) -- 18" long. With five strips, you need a total width of all strips to equal 12", so when sewn together along the long sides, you will have a 10" wide piece. You can use more strips, but you will need to recalculate how much total width you need by adding .5" for each additional strip. If you are not accurate on your seams, wait to determine the width of your last strip until you sew the others together.

You will also need another piece of one of your fabrics, most likely one of the neutrals, approximately 7" square. Wait to cut that until near the end.

Assembling the block: Use a quarter inch seam

- Sew 18" strips together along the long side. You can pick the order. Try to keep one end straight. Press to the darker fabric. Make sure your assembled piece is at least 10" by 18". Don't make it too much wider than the 10" as it doesn't help.
- Lay your 10" X 18" piece in front of you like in photo 2. Place a ruler at the top corner and at the bottom line it up with 13.5". Cut off the triangle in the lower right (this triangle is called triangle 1.)
- Now use a ruler to make a 90° angle as in photo 3 and cut off the triangle in the lower left corner (triangle 2.)
- The remaining piece is rotated clockwise so the 90° angle becomes the bottom left corner. The hypotenuse (long side) of triangle 1 becomes the right side, and the hypotenuse of triangle 2 goes against the now upper edge of triangle 1. See photo 4. Adjust the placement of triangle 2 as in the photo and check that the height at the top right corner is at least 13 inches. Sew triangle 2 to triangle 1 and press.
- After sewing, lay this piece back in position and measure the amount of fabric needed to fill the space between triangle 2 and the piece in the lower left corner. You should be able to cover it with half of a 7" square or less. Cut a square of the fabric you are using and sew it to the open edge of triangle 2. Trim off the extra as in photo 5. If you are making two blocks, this trimmed piece can be used in your 2nd block.
- Sew the pieces together along the diagonal and press. It helps to check the size of the block with your 12½" square up ruler. Adjust the placement of the pieces before sewing.
- Now to square it up. Use your 12½" X 12½" square up ruler, place it over the block. Make sure there is fabric under all parts of the ruler and trim to 12½" X 12½" –wonky is okay!

Enjoy!

Adriane Ridder & Shelly McNeely
Block of the Month Coordinators

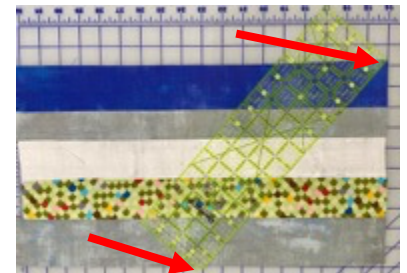


Photo 2

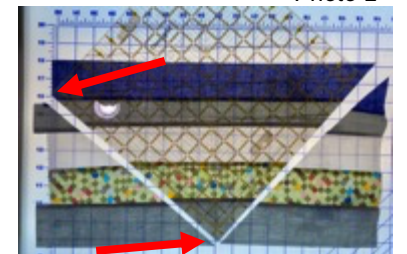


Photo 3

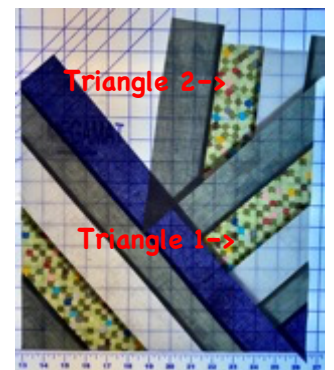


Photo 4

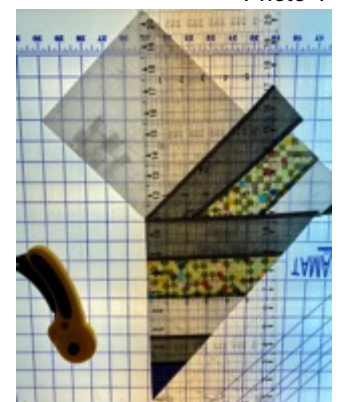


Photo 5