

Block of The Month 2021: Block #9

Our block this month is a nine-patch block. We think it is our first nine-patch of the year. This block is called contrary wife – not that we know any of these. At this point in the year, we are trying to help you use scrap pieces from other blocks.

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 – you decide fabric placement

Fabric 1 (the 3 blocks on one diagonal): three 4.5" squares

Fabric 2 (the two squares in the remaining corners): two 4.5" squares

Fabric 3: four 4.5" squares – press these well on both diagonals

Fabric 4: two 4.5" squares – press these well on both diagonals

Assembling the block: Use a scant quarter inch seam

- Cut each of the fabric 4 pieces along one diagonal. You will have four triangles as shown in photo 2.
- Refer to photo 3. Use one of the diagonal marks pressed into each of the fabric 3 pieces as a guide. Cut a corner off each of these squares – make the cut at least ½" from the press mark. You can free cut this or use a ruler. We like them to all look different, but that is your choice.
- Line up the long edge of the one fabric 4 triangles with the edge of a fabric 3 block where you just cut off the corner. Use the press mark in both pieces to match the centers of both edges. With right sides together, sew the new corner onto each fabric 3 square. Use the corner of a ruler (see photo 4) and trim these squares back to a 4.5" square.
- Refer to the photo of the finished block. Arrange the fabric squares as shown. Fabric 1 squares on one diagonal, fabric 2 squares in the other two corners, and the new fabric three squares in the four open spots with the newly sewn on corners aimed toward the diagonal of the block. Sew the pieces in each row together, press rows one and three the same, and press the center row in the opposite direction.
- Arrange your rows and sew the horizontal seams between the rows and press. The seams should nest if pressed correctly.
- Now to square it up. This block is not designed to be oversized, so you shouldn't have much to trim. 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".

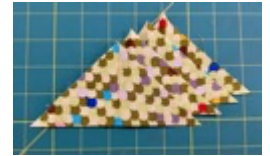


Photo 2



Photo 3

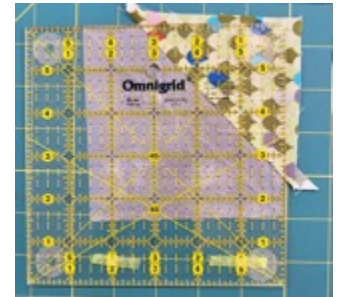


Photo 4

We hope you enjoy this block, more next month.

Adriane Ridder & Shelly McNeely

Block of the Month Coordinators