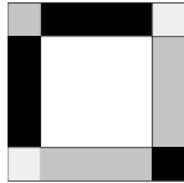


Skill Builder Block Of The Month

Month 6

One last block!



Four Corner Press

Block 12: Four Corner Press

The Four Corner Press block is a 4" finished block constructed using 3 different strip sets which then get sub cut and re-assembled. The pattern calls for 9 blocks. Refer to month 3 and the tips for strip piecing there.

Strip Sets – You will make 3 strip sets that will become the Top, Middle, and Bottom Rows of the block. For each strip set there will be three strips sewn together.

- The top and bottom strips are $1\frac{1}{4}$ " wide. The middle strip is 3" wide.
- For the Top and Bottom Row, your strips and strip set should be 12" long for 9 blocks.
- For the Middle Row, your strips and strip set should be 27" long for 9 blocks. (if using fat quarters make 2 sets cutting 18" strips)

Sew together your strip sets remembering to alternate the direction of your stitching left to right/right to left to prevent your strip set curving.

Pressing Directions – press seams toward the center fabric for the Top and Middle Row sets and away from the center on the Middle Row set to make nesting easier.

Your strip set should be $4\frac{1}{2}$ " wide once sewn. Do a clean-up cut on one end to make sure you have a straight edge before sub cuts (the strip set is a bit longer than needed)



Top Row strip set



Middle Row strip set



Bottom Row strip Set

Sub Cut your Top and Bottom Row block strip sets into $1\frac{1}{4}$ " pieces – you will need 9 pieces from each. (I cut mine $1\frac{1}{2}$ " so I had room to trim them down)

Sub Cut your Middle Row strip set in to 3" pieces – you will need 9 pieces.

Sew the sub cut pieces together to make the block – sew the top to middle, press (direction of pressing is your choice) making sure to nest the seams. Then sew the bottom sub cut piece to complete the block.

You should have 9 blocks when done each measuring $4\frac{1}{2}$ " (4 " finished size).



Skill Builder Block Of The Month

Putting It All Together

Make It Totally Yours!

By now you've made a bunch of different blocks in a range of sizes and the time has come for the decision on the final parts and layout. As an inspiration starter we'll look at how you might construct the quilt as originally presented. Don't start sewing yet, with a variation of the initial layout we'll look at ways to determine more options to make this yours and yours alone.

You will notice that there are some re-arrangements from the initial design shown five months ago. Look at this as another skill – design flexibility, its ok to make artistic choices even with a pattern.

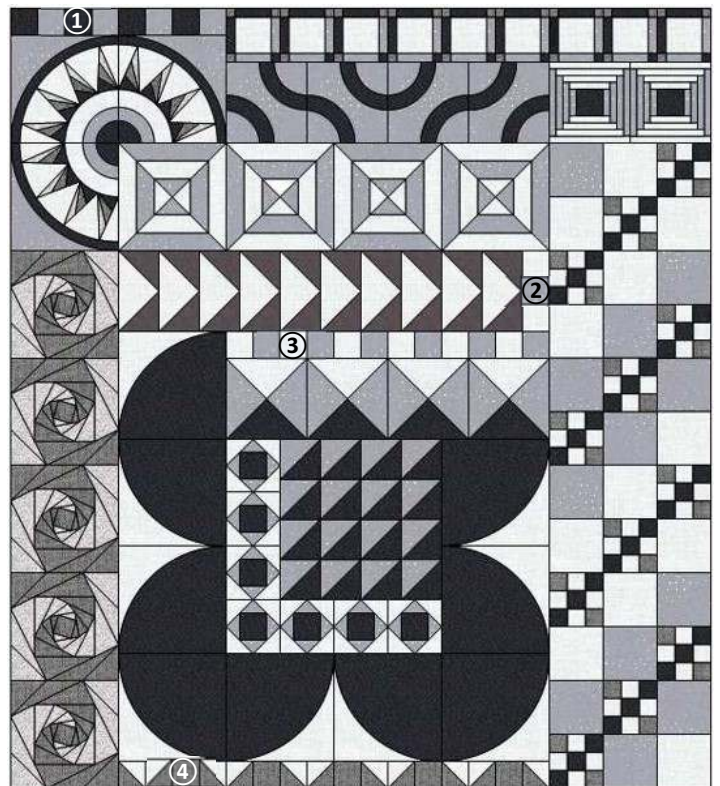
Filler blocks

This design has 4 places with filler blocks to allow the various sized blocks to fit together in a way that they can be assembled with no partial seams.

All the filler blocks shown are 2" finished squares (2 ½" unfinished). For each area you can use an assortment of fabrics from your quilt just as squares or how about going back to HSTs and making 2" HSTs and play with them by themselves or combined with plain blocks.

Here are the number of 2 ½" blocks by section as labeled.

- ① This section has eight (8) blocks.
- ② This three (3) block section covers the end of the flying geese section
- ③ The twelve (12) block section goes underneath the flying geese.
- ④ This final filler section has sixteen (16) blocks and is shown as an example of combining HSTs and square blocks.

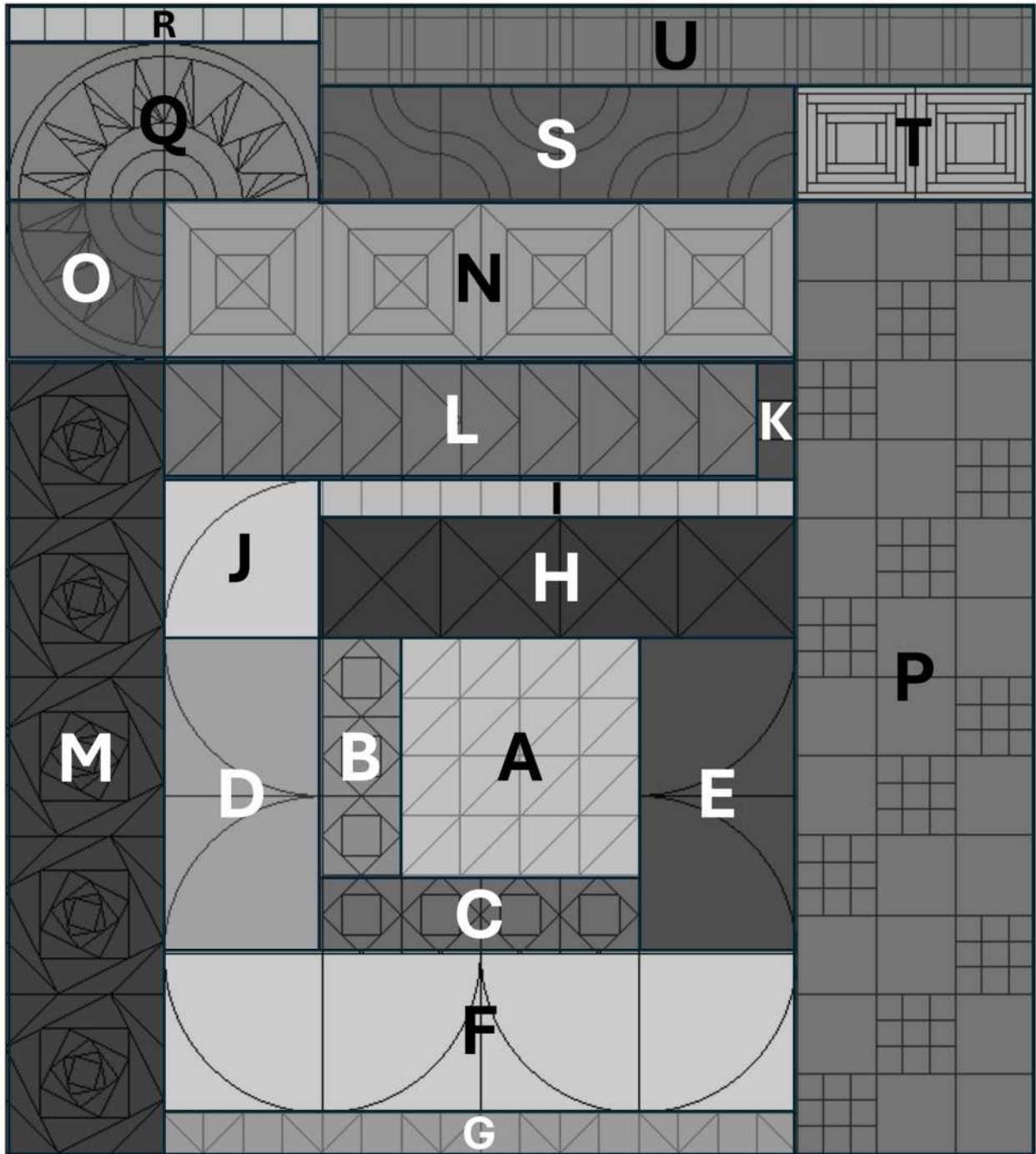


Once you've made your filler blocks it's time to sew it all together.



Skill Builder Block Of The Month

Assembly – Lets make a quilt!



Skill Builder Block Of The Month

Sew the blocks together in sections then assemble the sections together as defined below.

Section A: Sew the HST blocks together in rows pressing each row in opposite directions from the one above it. Then sew the rows together to form the block.

Section B: Sew three (3) economy blocks together to form a column. Press as desired

Section C: Sew four (4) economy blocks together to form a row.

Continue sewing together each section as shown in the layout, A through U.

Next sew Sections to each other in the order below – this avoids any partial seams.

A to B creating new section A/B

A/B to C

A/B/C to D

A/B/C/D to E

F to G

A/B/C/D to F/G

H to I

H/I to J

L to K

L/K to N

J/H/I to L/K/N

A/B/C/D/E/F/G to J/H/I/L/K/N

M to O

A/B/C/D/E/F/G/J/H/I/L/K/N to M/O

A/B/C/D/E/F/G/J/H/I/L/K/N/M/O to P

S to T

S/T to U

Q to R

S/T/U to Q/R

A/B/C/D/E/F/G/J/H/I/L/K/N/M/O/P to S/T/U/Q/R

You now have a completed quilt top!

The top measures 52" x 58"

For a typical longarm quilter you would want backing measuring 60" x 66" (approximately 3 ½ yards of 42" wide fabric)

Quilting is up to the individual – this could be an all over edge-to-edge design or it is a perfect quilt top to play with custom quilting in each section on either a longarm or a domestic machine.



Skill Builder Block Of The Month

Other Options To Put It All Together

With the assortment of blocks (and any extras you may have made along the way) you can create a practically endless variety of layouts. You can even add borders to make it bigger if desired.

One method is to use a design wall and play with the layout until you are happy. You could try more of a row-by-row approach with the same size blocks in each row. If you don't have a design wall you can take the layout below, cut out the blocks and play with arrangement since they are all scaled appropriately.

