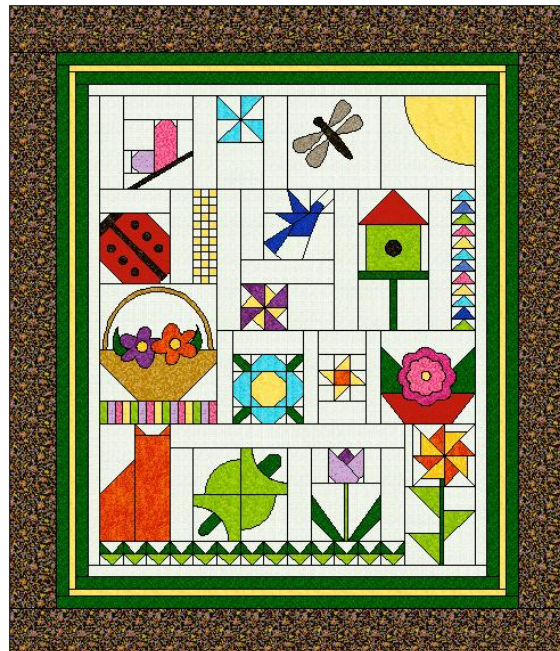


The layout on the right is one of many ways that the blocks of the month can be put together. The blocks have all been designed with sides that finish at a multiple of 3", so you can put them together with 3" filler blocks, and with 3" strips of fabric. Except for the background, the yardage below *does not include* the colored fabric for the blocks of the month. I used less than a fat quarter of 12 different fabrics. The blocks can be made from scraps in your stash.

For the layout pictured, the fabric would be

Background and 1st border	2 3/4 yard of one fabric or 9 fat quarters and one 3/4 yard piece of fabrics that are very similar or Several pieces of very similar fabric, of which two are at least 1/2 yard
Yellow for sun	1 10" square
Miscellaneous scraps	Pieces of fabric large enough to make flying geese, pinwheels, the checkerboard, and strips. The greater the variety, the more pleasing the result will be.
Embellishments	Rickrack, braid, lace, buttons, yoyos, etc.
2nd and 4th borders	1 1/4 yard
3rd border	1/3 yard
5th border	2 1/8 yards, cut lengthwise or 1 1/2 yards cut widthwise
Binding	3/4 yard



Cutting

Background (using fabric)	<p>Cut 6 strips of fabric that are 2" wide by the width of fabric. If you are using multiple fabrics, these should be cut from the same fabric. Put these to one side, for the first border.</p> <p>Cut 6 strips that are 3 1/2" wide by the width of fabric.</p> <p>From one strip, cut one 30 1/2" and one 9 1/2" piece.</p> <p>From one strip, cut three 12 1/2" pieces</p> <p>From one strip, cut two 12 1/2" and two 6 1/2" pieces</p> <p>From each of the remaining three strips, cut one 18 1/2", one 12 1/2" and one 9 1/2" piece</p> <p>This should take about 1 yard of your fabric. Three of the blocks of the months have very large pieces of background, so if you haven't done those blocks first, reserve a half yard for pieces that are 13" by 13", 11" by 16", and 9" by 13". If you are using multiple fabrics, these large pieces could sewn together from several smaller pieces.</p>
Background (using fat quarters and fabric)	<p>If you are using fat quarters:</p> <p>Cut 6 strips of fabric that are 2 1/2" wide by the width of the 3/4 yard piece of fabric. Put to one side form your first border.</p> <p>From the same piece, cut one more strip that is 3 1/2" wide. From this, cut one 30 1/2" and one 9 1/2" piece. <i>The rest of this piece will be used for the blocks of the month or filler blocks that require large pieces.</i></p> <p>From 5 of your fat quarters, cut a two 3 1/2" by 22" strips, and from one fat quarter, cut one, totaling 11.</p> <p>From each of 3 of these, cut one 18 1/2" piece</p> <p>From each of 2 of these, cut one 12 1/2" and one 6 1/2" piece</p> <p>From each of 3 of these, cut one 12 1/2" and one 9 1/2" piece</p> <p>From each of the remaining 3 strips, cut one 12 1/2" piece</p>
Both	<p>From what is left, cut two 6 1/2" by 6 1/2" squares and three 2 1/2" by 12 1/2" strips.</p> <p>Stack these pieces in order by size. There should be 23 total.</p> <p><i>The remaining fabric will be used in the blocks of the month, and in the filler blocks.</i></p>

The Filler Blocks:

The Sun 12" finished

Since this requires the largest piece of background, we'll do it first.

Enlarge the pattern for the Drunkard's path block used in the July BOM by 200%. If you don't have a copier available to you, it is a 12" finished block, with the Pie shaped piece 9" (finished) on the straight sides.

Cut one Pie shaped piece from yellow, and one L shaped piece from background.

Add sun rays to the L shaped piece with rickrack, embroidery, or whatever technique pleases you.

Fold both the L shaped and Pie shaped pieces in half, wrong sides together, to find the center of the curve. Pin them together, right sides together, at the fold. The Pie shaped piece should be on top.

Pin the ends of the L shaped piece to the Pie shaped piece, with the straight edges together. Since this is such a long curve, you might find it easier to put another couple of pins on the curve.

Sew slowly, easing the curves together as you go. Press the seam. Generally, you would press the seam toward the L shaped piece, but you might find that the embellishment requires it to go toward the Pie shaped piece.

The Pinwheel 6" finished

Cut two $3\frac{7}{8}$ " squares of background and two of color.

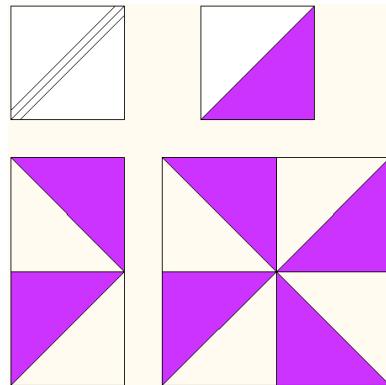
Draw a line diagonally on the back of the background square.

Put the one background and one color square right sides together, and sew at a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the drawn line, on both sides.

Cut on the line, press toward the darker color.

If necessary, true up the half square triangles to $3\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Sew them together in pairs as shown at the right, then sew the pairs together.



The Double Pinwheel 6" finished

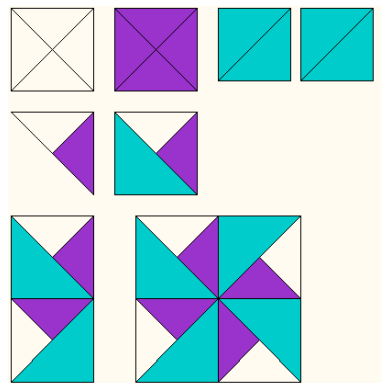
Cut one $4\frac{1}{4}$ " square of background, one $4\frac{1}{4}$ " square of color 1, and two $3\frac{7}{8}$ " squares of color 2.

Cut the larger squares in half diagonally in both directions, and the smaller squares in half diagonally in one direction.

Using the picture as a guide, sew the background and color 1 triangles together to form another triangle that is the same size as the color 2 triangles. Press toward the darker color.

Sew these triangles to the color 2 triangles, forming a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " square. True it to size, if necessary.

Sew them together in pairs as shown at the right, then sew the pairs together.



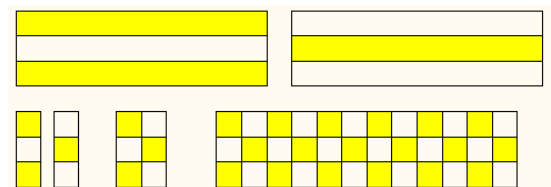
The Checkerboard 3" by 12" finished

Cut three $1\frac{1}{2}$ " by 9" strips of background and three of color.

Sew them together into two strip sets as show on the right. Press toward the darker color.

Cross cut into twelve $1\frac{1}{2}$ " pieces.

Sew together in pairs, then sew the pairs together into on piece. Press.

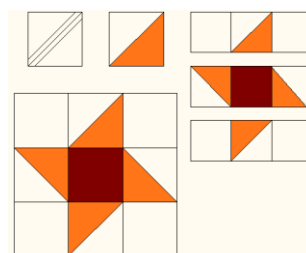


The Friendship Star 6" finished

Cut four $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares of background, and one of the center color. Cut two $2\frac{7}{8}$ " squares of background and two of the star point color.

Using the instructions for creating the half square triangles for the Pinwheel, create four half square triangles.

Sew rows of the pieces as shown on the right, then sew the rows together.



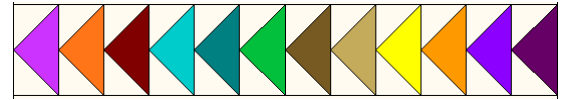
The Strip
3" by 15"
finished

Cut fifteen 1 1/2" by 3 1/2" pieces in several different colors. Sew them together into one strip.



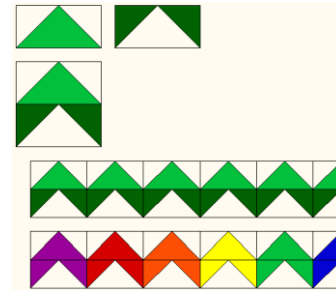
Flying Geese
3" by 18"
finished

Using the flying geese method of your choice, create twelve flying geese 3" by 1 1/2" finished, and sew them together in a column. Use lots of different colors.



Zig Zag strip
3" by 39"
finished

Using the flying geese method of your choice, create 26 flying geese. Half should have the background color in the middle, half should have it on the outside. I elected to make them two colors, but you can make them many colors. They could have each 3" unit using the same colors, and morph through the color spectrum, or they could all be the same. Your choice.



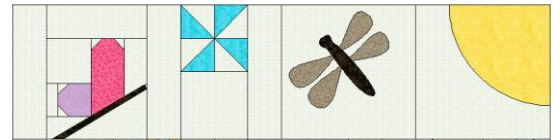
Sew two flying geese together, one with the background in the middle, and one with the color in the middle. Sew the pairs together. The examples at the right are not the full set of 13 units, but just enough to give you an idea.

Assembly

The measurements indicated for the assembled pieces may vary slightly, depending on your sewing accuracy. They are there to give you a guideline on the sizes. You may have to adjust the size of the filler pieces to match your block size.

Top Row

Sew a 9 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the top of the September block, Butterfly. Sew a 12 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the left of the block. It is now 12 1/2" by 12 1/2".



Sew a 6 1/2" by 6 1/2" filler piece on the bottom of the Pinwheel block. Sew a 12 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the left and on the right. It is now 12 1/2" by 12 1/2".

Sew the enlarged Pinwheel block to the right of the Butterfly block.

Sew the June block, Dragonfly, to the right of the filler strip, and Sun block to the right of that. The row is 48 1/2" by 12 1/2"

Middle Row,
Part 1

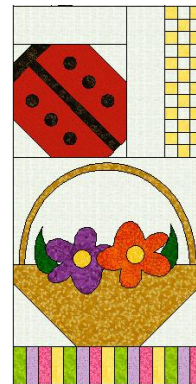
Sew a 9 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the top of the May block, Ladybug. Sew a 12 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the right of the block. It is now 12 1/2" by 12 1/2".

Sew a 12 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece to the side of the Checkerboard filler piece. It is now 12 1/2" by 6 1/2".

Sew the enlarged Checkerboard piece to the Ladybug block. It is now 12 1/2" by 15 1/2".

Sew the Strip on the bottom of the December block. It is now 15 1/2" by 18 1/2".

Sew the December block on the bottom of the Ladybug block. It is now 15 1/2" by 30 1/2".



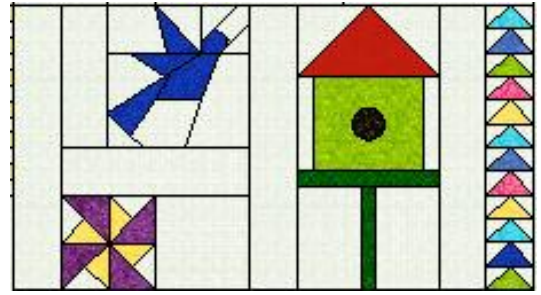
Middle Row,
Part 2

Sew a 9 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the left of the March block, Bird. Sew a 12 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the bottom of the block. It is now 12 1/2" by 12 1/2".
Sew a 6 1/2" by 6 1/2" filler piece on the right of the Double Pinwheel block. It is now 12 1/2" by 6 1/2".

Sew the Double Pinwheel block on the bottom of the March block. Sew an 18 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the left and the right of this block. It is now 18 1/2" by 18 1/2".

Sew an 18 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the right of the flying geese. Sew this strip on the right of the August block, Birdhouse. It is now 15 1/2" by 18 1/2".

Sew the August block to the right of the March block. It is now 33 1/2" by 18 1/2".



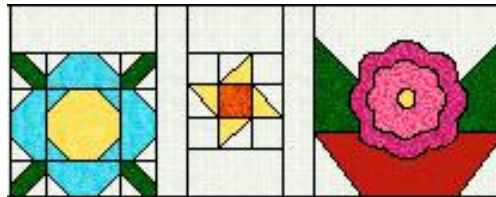
Middle Row,
Part 3

Sew a 9 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the top of the April block, Prairie Flower. Sew a 12 1/2" by 2 1/2" filler piece on the left of the block. It is now 12 1/2" by 11 1/2".

Sew 6 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the top and bottom of the Friendship Star block. Sew a 12 1/2" by 2 1/2" filler piece on the left and on the right. It is now 12 1/2" by 10 1/2".

Sew the September block, Flower Pot, on the right of the Friendship Star block, and the April block on the left.

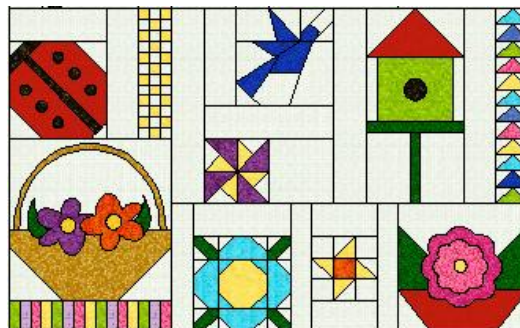
This is now 33 1/2" by 12 1/2".



Middle Row,
Part 4

Sew part 3 on the bottom of part 2. This is now 33 1/2" by 30 1/2".

Sew part 1 to the left of part 2-3. This is now 48 1/2" by 30 1/2".



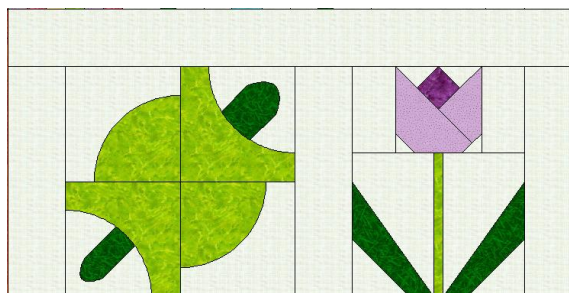
Bottom Row,
Part 1

Sew a 12 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece to both sides of the July block, Turtle. It is now 18 1/2" by 12 1/2".

Sew a 12 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the right of the February block, Tulip. It is now 12 1/2" by 12 1/2".

Sew the July block on the left of the February block. It is now 30 1/2" by 12 1/2".

Sew the 30 1/2" by 3 1/2" filler piece on the top of the July/February blocks. It is now 30 1/2" by 15 1/2".

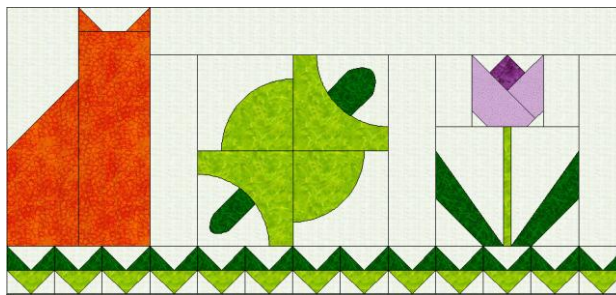


Bottom
Row, Part
2

Sew the December block, Cat, on the left of the July/February blocks. It is now 39 1/2" by 15 1/2".

Sew the Zig Zag block on the bottom of this. You can have the Flying Geese pointing up or down, your choice. It is now 39 1/2" by 18 1/2".

Sew the November block, Sunflower, on the right. It is now 48 1/2" by 18 1/2".



Borders

-
- Border 1, back-ground Sew the three rows together. It should measure around 48 1/2" by 60 1/2". Sew together the 2" background border strips you cut long ago into two three-unit pieces. Carefully measure the length of your top, and cut one strip of this length from each of the three-unit pieces. Sew them to the sides, easing as necessary. Measure the width of the top, and repeat the process for the top and the bottom.
- Border 2 Cut six 2" strips of fabric. Sew them together in two three unit pieces. Repeat the process used to put Border 1 on the top.
- Border 3 Cut seven 1 1/2" strips of fabric. Sew them together in one long piece. Fold it in half, then repeat the process used to put Borders 1 and 2 on the top.
- Border 4 Cut seven 2" strips of fabric. Sew them together in one long piece, and repeat the process used to put Borders 1 thru 3 on the top.
- Border 5. Cut four 75" by 6 1/2" strips of fabric. Repeat the process used to put the previous borders on the top.

Questions? Contact Anita Hay,
quiltinbowler@earthlink.net.

Be sure to mention the Block of the Month in the subject line so that I don't think it's spam.