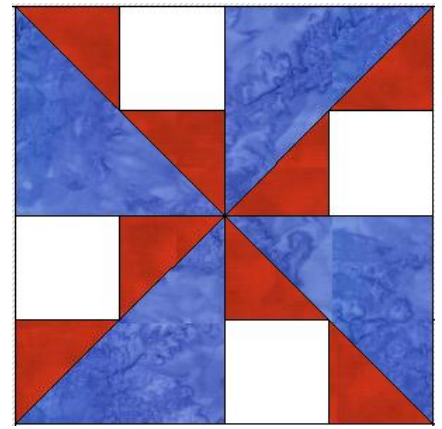


Easy Spinner Block

By Anita Hay

A friend of mine wanted to make a baby quilt using the twenty of the traditional 8" block "Spinner". The directions for the quilt had her cutting two 4 7/8" squares and four 2 7/8" for each 8" block. Each square was then cut in half diagonally. So many bias edges to deal with!


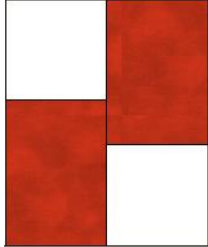
She had her rotary cutter poised over her fabric, and I called out "Wait – don't cut anything yet!" The wheels in my head were turning. I thought for a bit, and decided it could be done a lot easier.

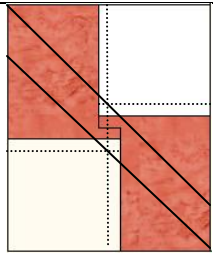
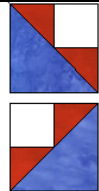
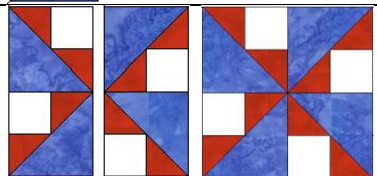


I reasoned out that the side with the two little triangles could be pieced as a lop-sided four patch, and the fabric for the larger triangle placed on the bottom and stitched twice, then cut between the stitching lines to create 2 quarters of the block. I found three pieces of fabric and to the cutting board I went. I was amazed at how easy it was!

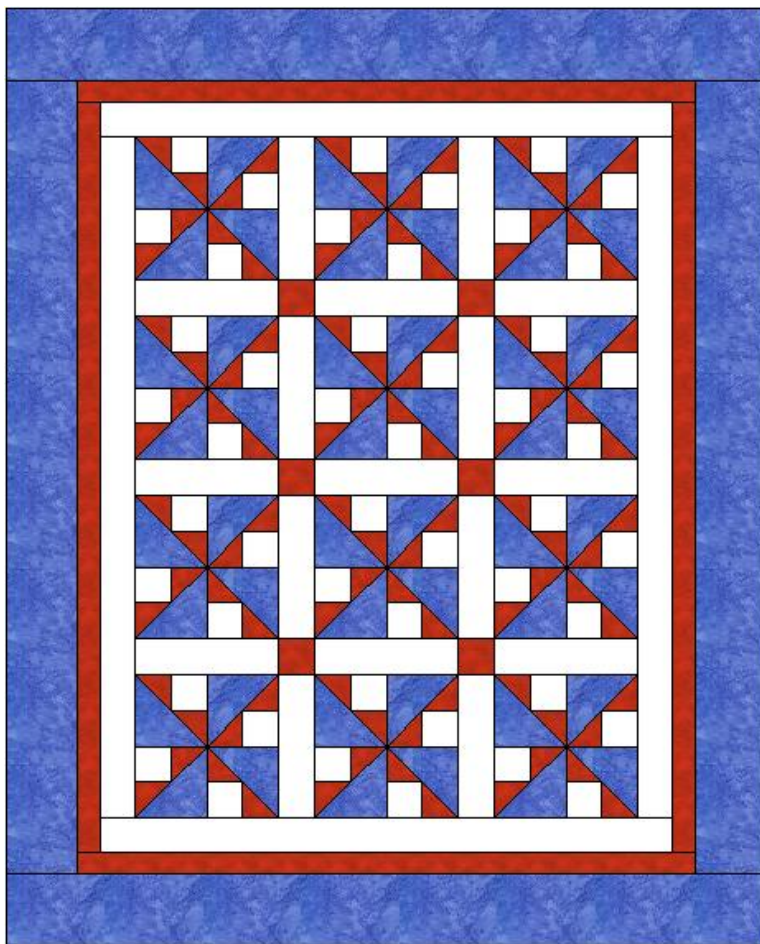
Fabric Measurements are for one block of the size indicated. Adding 1/4" to the length of the White and Red will give you a bit of leeway for shrinkage from stitching.

	6"	8"	9"	10"	12"
White	2"x8"	2.5"x10"	2.75"x11"	3"x12"	3.5"x14"
Red	3"x8"	3.5"x10"	3.75"x11"	4"x12"	4.5"x14"
Blue	7"x4.5"	9"x5.5"	10"x6"	11"x6.5"	13"x7.5"

	6"	8"	9"	10"	12"		
Step 1	4.5 2"	5.5" 2.5"	6" 2.75"	6.5" 3"	7.5" 3.5"	Using a quarter inch seam, sew the long strip of Red to the long strip of White, forming a strip set that is __ wide. Press the seam toward the darker color. Cross-cut four __ sections from that.	
Step 2	3.5"	4.5"	6"	6.5"	7.5"	Place the two sections right sides together with the edges matching, <i>NOT THE SEAMS</i> . Stitch, with a quarter inch seam. <i>Hint: It makes no difference how you sew these together, but I found it easiest to have the large piece leading into the machine, as the feed dogs keep the under seam positioned correctly, and your fingers, the upper seam.</i> Snip to, but not through the allowance for the long seam line between the two short seams. Press seam toward the darker color. This should be __ wide.	

<p>Step 3</p>	<p>Mark the stitching line on the wrong side of one of these pieces by placing the 45° line on a ruler along the bottom edge of. Slide the line on this edge until the straight edge of the ruler is on the intersection of the stitching line. Draw the line, and repeat for the top and the other piece.</p> <p><i>Hint: I found it easiest to put my pencil tip at the intersection, and then slide the ruler with the edge against the pencil tip and the line on the bottom of the four-patch.</i></p>	
<p>Step 4</p>	<p>Cut the Blue piece in half, creating two pieces that are the same size as the pieces from Step 3. Put with the pieces from Step 3 right sides together. Stitch on the drawn lines. Cut between the seams. If you wish, trim to 1/4" You will have two parts of the block from each set.</p>	
<p>Step 5</p>	<p>Sew two pairs of the squares from Step 4 together, then sew the four pairs together. Be sure to keep the orientation as indicated on the right.</p>	

This is one way of putting the blocks together:



Quilt is 53"x65.5", block size 10"

Electric Quilt calculated yardage for this:

Blue	1 7/8 yards
Red	1 yard
White	1 1/2 yards

Plus binding and backing.

Finished sizes of the borders:

White	2.5"
Red	1.5"
Blue	5"