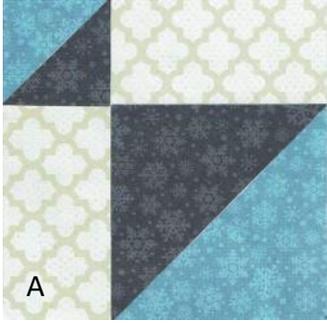
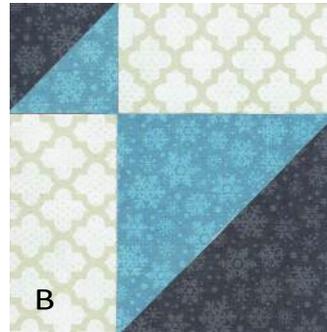


# October Block of the Month

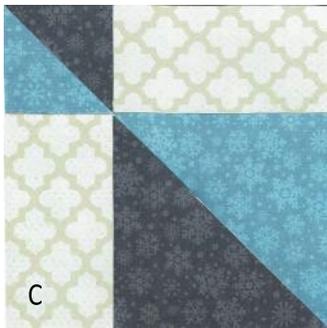
by Karen Fisher



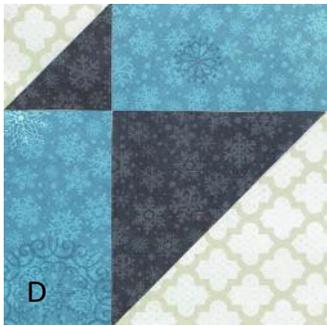
This block was originally published in the May 2020 newsletter. I decided to revisit it to respect my own encounter with Covid, which has now been going on for two weeks. I am recovering, but still exhausted. Thank heaven for Science and Vaccines! I had them all, so this has been most like an over-the-top really nasty cold. But I had lots of fun with the block, trying every “mutation” I could think of!



This asymmetric block can create a variety of really pretty patterns, as do many traditional quilt blocks. However, while stuck at home, and spending lots of time changing value “mutations” and the diagonal direction, the possibilities of how to use this block just kept expanding!



Each variation uses the same shapes and three values. By moving the values around or even changing the direction of the diagonal, I have made five “mutations” of this block, and I expect there are many more. By putting the blocks together differently, I created several four-block designs, see the next page for those. The basic block is 9” x 9”; four of them together make an 18” x 18” square. You will be up to a good-sized quilt in no time. Directions below make four 9” x 9” blocks. Select where you want your values to go before cutting your fabrics. I also used theme prints, food and florals (see samples), for my medium value. Using solids could make for a very “modern” look, and reproduction fabrics could take it in a whole new direction.



To make four 9”x 9” blocks, cut:

8—3 ½” by 6 ½” rectangles in chosen focus value

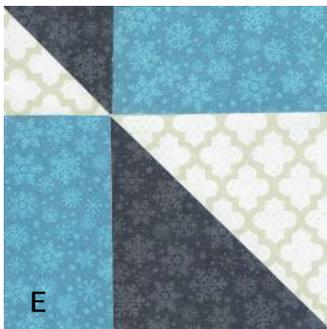
4—7” x 7” squares in one value; cut into 8 half-square triangles

4—7” x 7” squares in second value; cut into 8 half-square triangles Assemble these ½-square triangles into squares. Trim to 6 ½” squares.

4—4” x 4” squares in one—value; cut into 8 half-square triangles

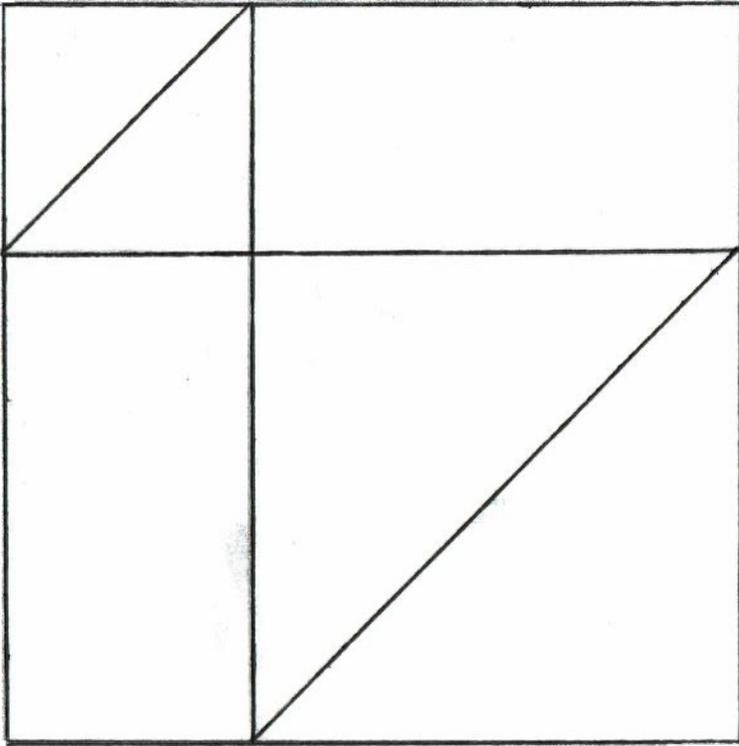
4—4” x 4” squares in second value; cut into 8 half-square triangles Assemble these smaller ½-square triangles into squares. Trim to 3 ½” squares.

Using the block “mutation” you have chosen, assemble the elements of your four blocks. Assemble all four blocks into a “cluster” of your choice.

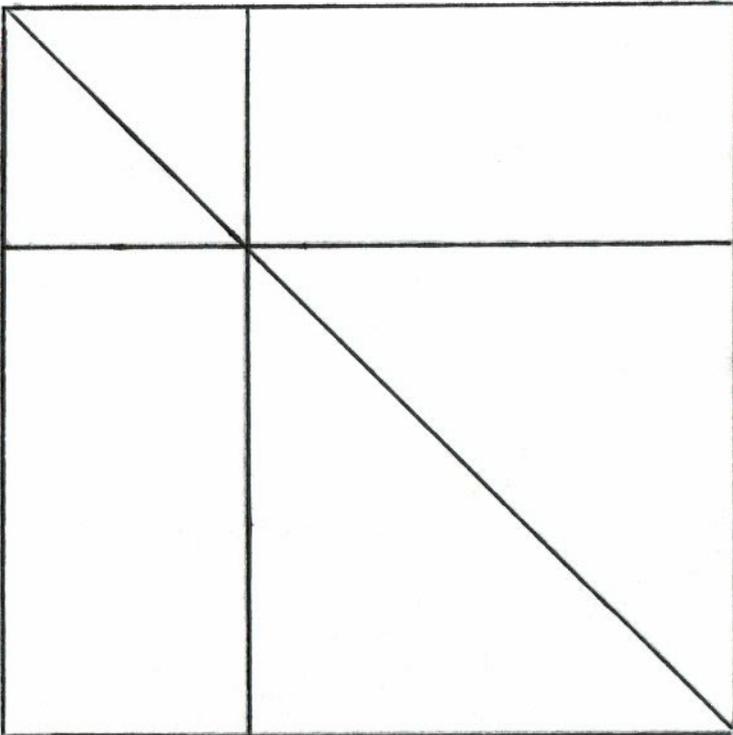


I have included plain line drawings (see next page) so you can make copies and color in three different values/colors, to play with arrangements. Each variation has the same number of pieces. Think outside the box, use four different values/colors!

Template 1



Template 2



I used Template 1 to make “mutations” A, B, and D on the previous page. Here are some “clusters” you can get from this block.



Mutation A



Mutation B



Mutation D

I used Template 2 to make “mutations” C and E on the previous page. Here are some “clusters” you can get from this block.

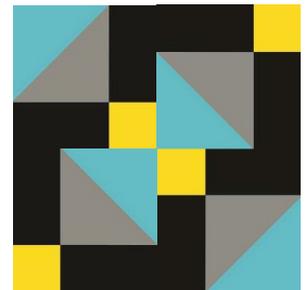


Mutation C



Mutation E

Go ahead, try four values/prints!





This is the photo of my finished quilt, **Covid 19**, which was included in the book **Quarantine Quilts, Creativity in the Midst of Chaos**, by Sandra Sider. I went on to show the Quilt in our Tucson show, probably in 2022.