



Pattern of the Month December 2018

By Evelyn George

Divided 9-Patch Block

9" finished size

This classic block has many layout possibilities, like a log cabin block, and it's even quicker to make! The diagonal division between light and dark is what gives a "log cabin" effect. Black, white and red gives our scrappy version an ageless look. Grays can be used too, just decide whether they belong in the light or dark category. Or, you might want to choose lots of different colors from your stash. For a successful scrappy look, use many different lights and darks; when choosing squares for each block, aim to have each patch from a **different** fabric.



CUTTING (for 1 block)

Red or other bright - cut 1 center square 3½" x 3½"

Assorted Darks - cut 3 - 3½" squares and 1 - 4" square

Assorted Lights - cut 3 - 3½" squares and 1 - 4" square

Sew accurate ¼" seam allowance. Block should be 9½" unfinished (9" finished, in a quilt).

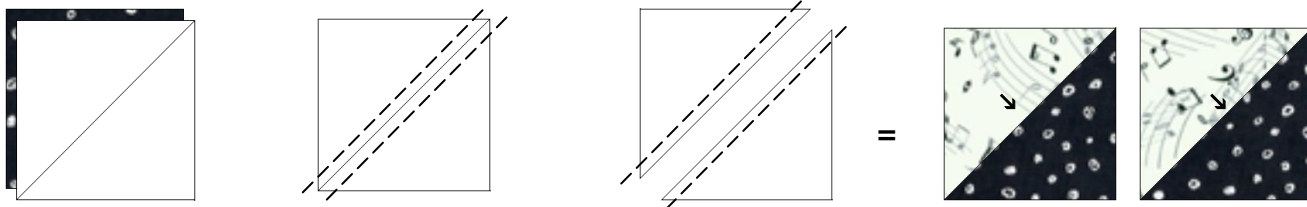
FIRST --USING JUST THE 4" SQUARES -- MAKE THE HALF-SQUARE TRIANGLE UNITS:

On the **wrong** side of a 4" light square, draw a diagonal line from corner to corner.

Place it on top of a 4" dark square, **right sides together**.

Stitch ¼" away from the line, on **both** sides of the line.

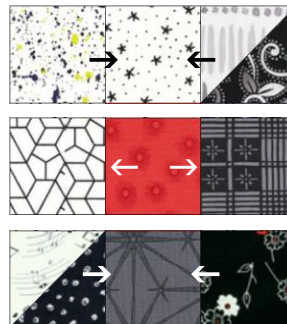
Cut on the drawn line, open up squares and press seams toward the dark. Makes 2 half-square triangles.



Important: The 2 resulting half-square triangle units are slightly oversize. Trim and square them to EXACTLY 3½", keeping the diagonal seam line centered from corner to corner.

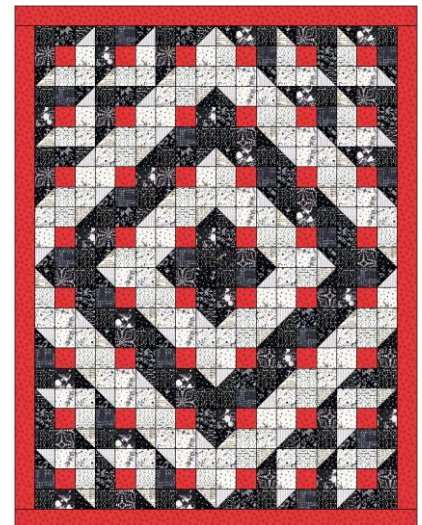
NOW, MAKE THE 9- PATCH BLOCK:

Using an assortment, arrange 3 light, 3 dark, and 1 red square plus 2 light/dark half-square triangle units so all light patches are in one half of block, all darks in the other half, and red square in the center, as shown at right →



Stitch the 9 squares together in 3 rows as shown, taking care not to rotate the triangle units as you handle them. Join the 3 rows to make the nine patch block.

Suggested pressing directions are indicated by arrows. (The row seams may be pressed in either direction. They can later be re-pressed if needed to go in opposite directions, in order to reduce bulk, when you are joining the blocks to make a quilt.)



Quilt at right shows one of many possible layouts; with 48 blocks and 3" borders, it measures 60" x 78".