

## Pattern of the Month Topsy-Turvy Square in a Square

Karen G. Fisher

**Except** the central piece isn't actually a square, which is where the Topsy-Turvy part comes in!

I know this is a simple variation on a very simple pattern. Where I had fun with it was figuring out ways to play with color and value, and make lots of blocks quickly.

I tried dark prints coordinated with medium value tone-on-tones, and light value prints coordinated with light value tone-on-tones. I also think it would be fabulous in black and white, with half black-background fabrics, and half white-background fabrics. Or go monochromatic, or even totally random. The whole point of all these color variations is to make lots of blocks fast, and end up with a fun, quick quilt. These smaller blocks also combine easily with 8" or 12" blocks if you want to add variety to another pattern.

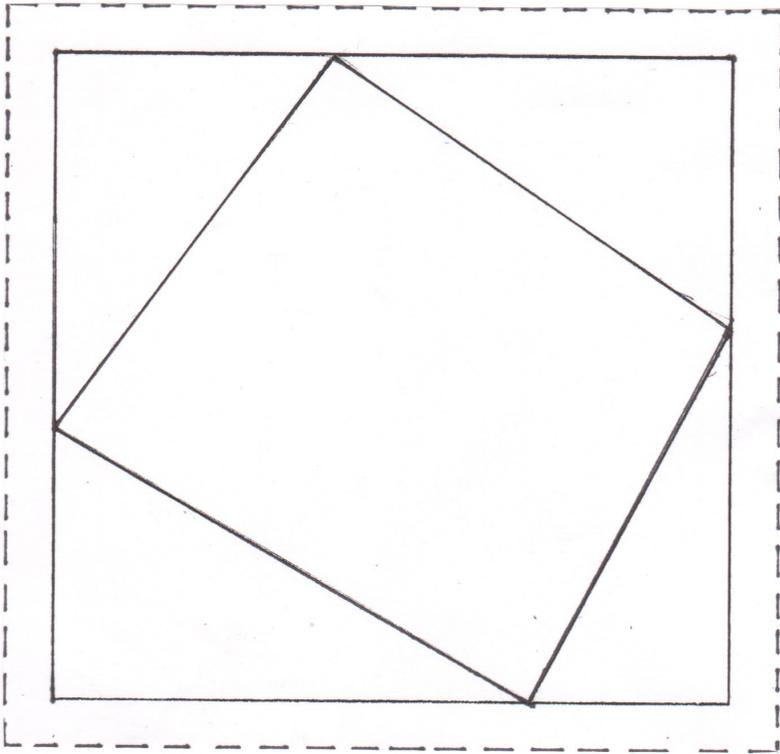
Like many simple blocks, it can be traditionally pieced or foundation (paper) pieced. For foundation piecing a 4" block, start with the center, and add the four corners in any order. To use the basic pattern for a 6" block, increase the size on your copier to 150%.

### Cutting for regular piecing:

Use the following patterns (for 4" blocks), to make two sets of coordinated color/value arrangements.

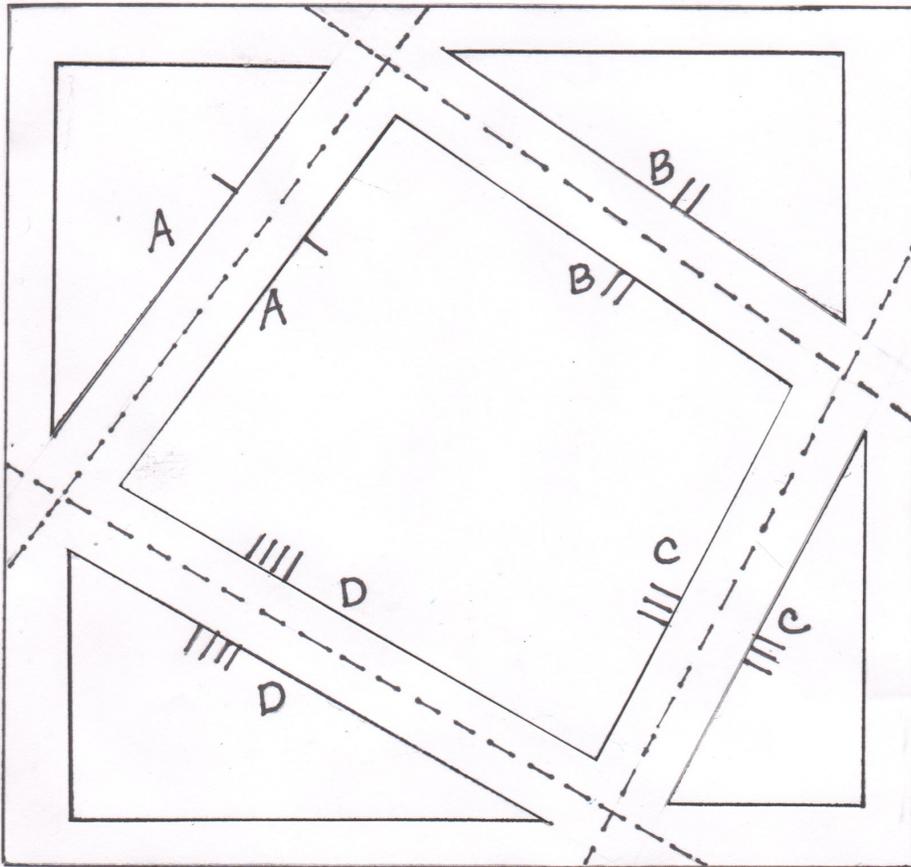
Cut **five each** of an assortment of dark prints, and an assortment of medium tone-on-tone coordinating colors. This will make a total of a total of ten blocks, five with dark centers, and five with lighter centers. These will make a nine-patch and one leftover. When you are cutting for regular piecing, remember that **THE CORNERS ARE NOT INTERCHANGEABLE**. I marked each side of the center and its coordinating corner with matching letters.





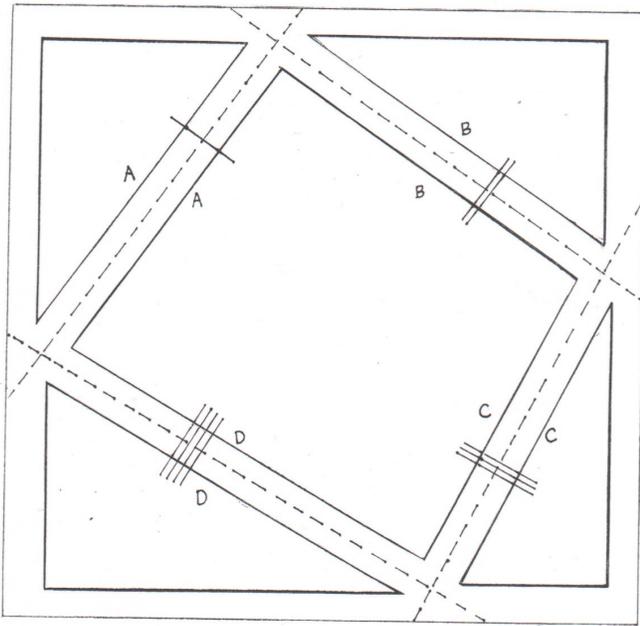
**Paper-Piecing:  
Full-size pattern  
for 4" block**

Enlarge 150% for  
6" block



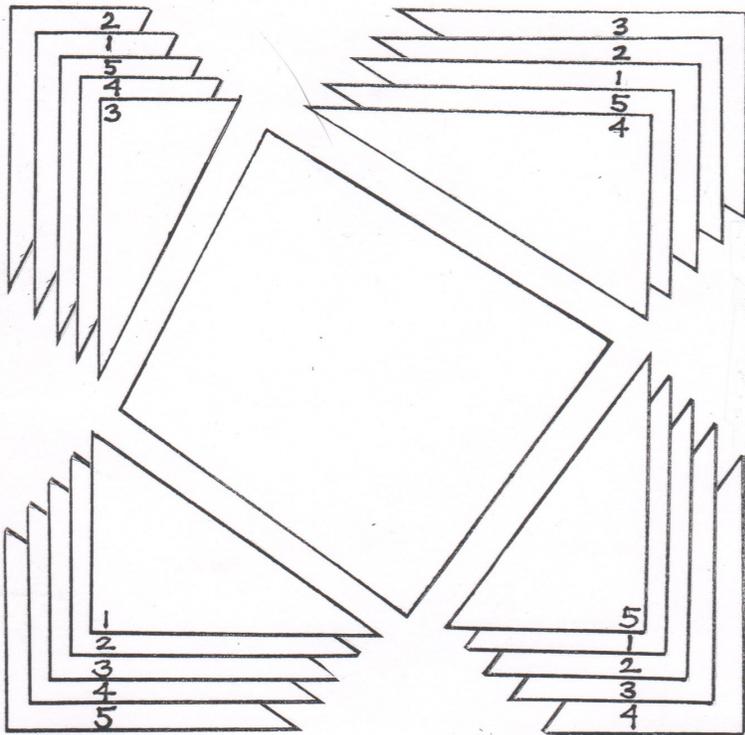
**Cut multiple  
fabrics to make  
as many blocks  
as needed  
Switch light and  
dark centers to  
go with opposite  
value corners**

**Full size cutting  
diagram for:  
4" block (4 1/2" x 4 1/2")**



**Cutting diagram  
for 6" block  
Enlarge 200%**





**Restack**  
 corner sections  
 to have different  
 fabric progressions  
 around each center

