

Friendship Garden Mystery Quilt 2018 - Block # 4

by Kathleen Tracy

Block/Step 4 – Make 8 half-square triangles that finish at 3" x 3". Please read all instructions through before you begin to cut and sew.

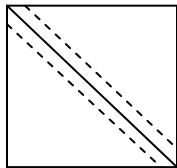
1. Cut 4 squares from a light print - 3 7/8" x 3 7/8".
2. Cut 4 squares from a medium or dark print - 3 7/8" x 3 7/8".

Here's where the fun starts. For this next step, you have the option of making half-square triangles that have space to include a signature. I named this mystery quilt Friendship Garden because it's your choice to make it into a friendship/signature quilt using signed blocks from friends or family.

If you choose to do this, cut 4 squares 3 7/8" x 3 7/8" from a muslin or light print. These will be used to make the 8 blocks that will be signed so a muslin or solid light fabric is a good choice.

If you choose not to make signature blocks, then use 2 different prints of your choice to make the 8 half-square triangles.

3. Here's how to make the half-square triangles: Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner across the back of each light print 3 7/8" square. Layer each light print square with a 3 7/8" medium or dark print square, right sides together, with the lighter square on top. Stitch 1/4" away from the line on both sides. Cut along the drawn line. Flip open and press seams toward the darker fabric.

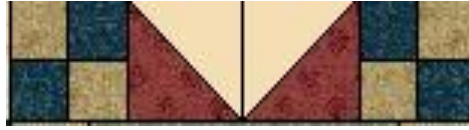


Make 8 half-square triangle blocks.

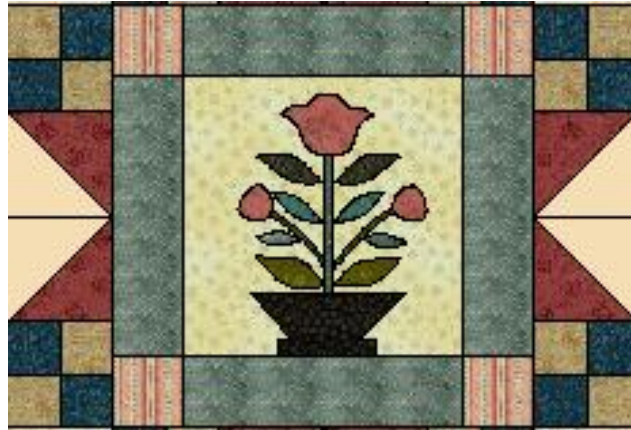
4. If you are going to have your blocks signed, then you may want to iron a small piece of freezer paper to the back of the muslin or light print portion of the blocks to stabilize them before signing. Use a fine point, permanent ink pen to sign a name and/or date. When I make signature blocks, I like to use a Sakura Micron Pigma pen, found at quilt shops or craft/art supply stores. If you've never used one of these pens before, practice on a piece of scrap fabric so that you can get a feel for writing on cloth. After signing, remove the freezer paper and press with a warm iron to set the ink.



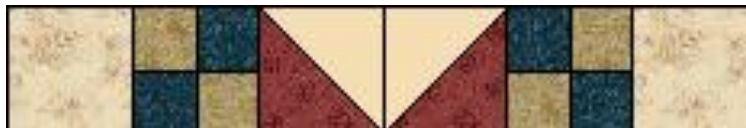
5. Next, take out the blocks you completed in March (Block 3). You will now combine them with the half-square triangles or signature blocks. Sew 2 four-patch blocks together with two of the half-square triangles, making sure that the darker squares in your four patches and the half-square triangles are positioned exactly as shown. Make 4 of these units.



6. Sew two of these units to the sides of your finished appliqué (or star) block as shown.



7. Next, sew the 4 plain squares that you set aside from Block/Step 3 last month to opposite ends of the remaining two units, as shown.



Make 2.

8. Sew these units to the top and bottom of your quilt. We're making some progress now! Until next month . . .

