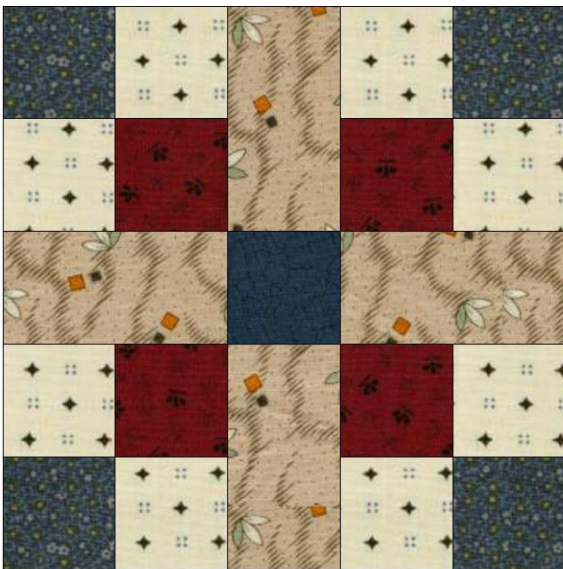


2020 Mystery Quilt – Step # 4

By Kathleen Tracy

Here are the three blocks for this month. Please read through all of the directions before you begin. Make sure to cut your pieces accurately and take your time when sewing together with a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. The directions are given to match the colors in the diagram shown. Use fabrics of your choice. It will work best if you follow the same color scheme you used to make your previous blocks.

Block #1 - Country Lanes (5" x 5" finished)



Make 1.

Cutting

From a light fabric, cut

8 squares, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

From a red print, cut

4 squares, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

From a blue print, cut

4 squares, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

From a different blue print, cut

1 square, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

From a tan print, cut

4 rectangles, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ "

Block #2 - Sisters Choice (5" x 5" finished)



Make 1.

Cutting

From a light print, cut

4 squares, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

From a red print, cut

4 squares, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

From a black or dark print, cut

4 squares, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

From a different dark print, cut

4 squares, $1\frac{7}{8}$ " x $1\frac{7}{8}$ "

From a tan print, cut

4 squares, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

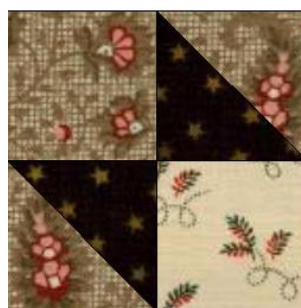
4 squares, $1\frac{7}{8}$ " x $1\frac{7}{8}$ "

From a blue print, cut

1 square, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

1. Make 8 half-square triangles from the 1 7/8" tan and 1 7/8" dark print squares. See directions for making the half-square triangles in Step 1 of the Mystery quilt for January. Remember to cut your squares 1 7/8" for this step.

2. Sew one half-square triangle together with a tan print square and sew one half-square triangle together with a light print square as shown. Sew the units together to make the unit below. Make 4.



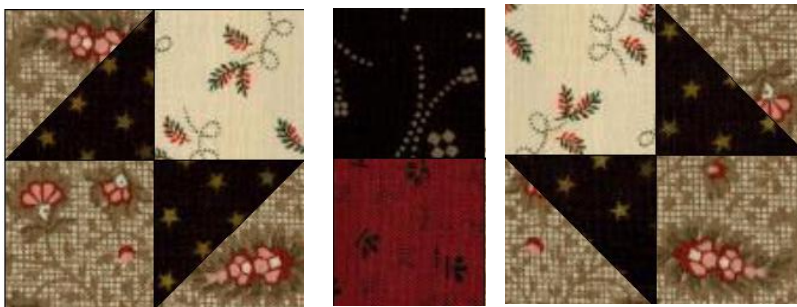
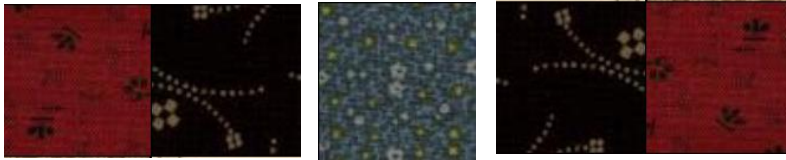
Make 4.

3. Sew a red 1 1/2" square together with a black or dark print 1 1/2" square. Make 4.



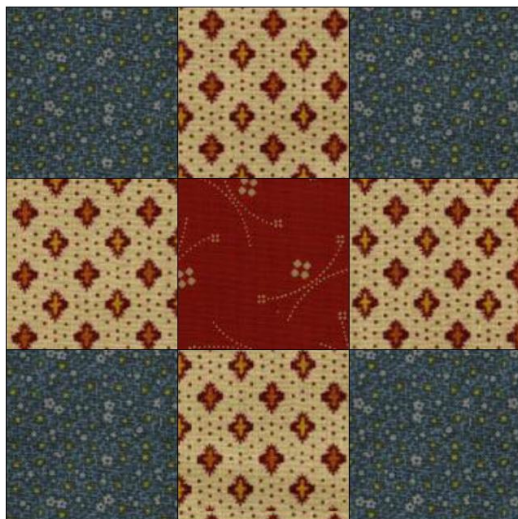
Make 4.

4. Sew 2 units from step 2 together with a red and black unit in the middle as shown below. Make 2. Sew two red and black units from step 3 together with a blue square in the middle. Assemble the units in three rows as shown below to make the block.



Make 1.

Block 3 - Nine Patch (3" x 3" finished)



Make 2.

Cutting

From a tan print, cut

4 squares, 1 1/2" x 1 1/2"

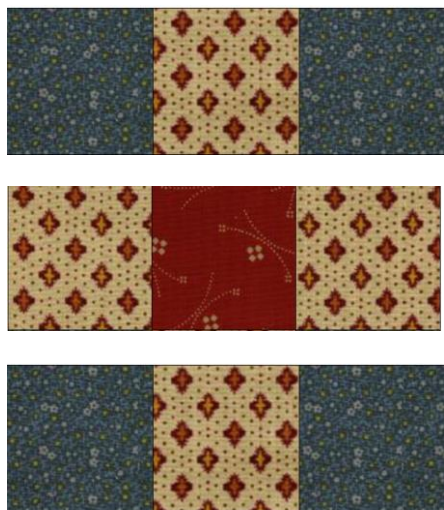
From a blue print, cut

4 squares, 1 ½" x 1 ½"

From a red print, cut

1 square, 1 ½" x 1 ½"

1. Make a nine-patch block from the 1 ½" blue squares, the 1 ½" light squares and the 1 ½" red square. Make 2 blocks the same or use different fabrics for each block.



Make 2.

PLEASE READ

This concludes all of the pieced blocks for our Mystery Quilt. In about 2 weeks, I'll show you how to put the center of the quilt together and then add an inner border. For this, you will need about 1/4 yard of a coordinating print that is not too busy to separate the blocks from the outer border. I'll be giving you some simple applique for the outer border in May.

In June, I'll give you instructions for sewing the pieces of the border together. If you're new to applique, when you finish the blocks for this step and have a little time, perhaps watch a few YouTube videos or practice some applique techniques so you'll be ready. You will find directions for my favorite applique method - starch and template - in the Quilting Basics section of both my *Prairie Journey* and *Small & Scrappy* books. I know that applique is not for everyone and if you decide that you're really not keen on it, don't stress. There will be other options for you to make the border using pretty fabrics and your quilt will still look great.