

# Fall Mini Quilt Sew Along 2025

## Darting Birds Quilt

By Kathleen Tracy



Finished block: 4 ½" x 4 ½"

**Welcome** to another mini quilt sew along! We'll be making a very simple and scrappy quilt this time using a little block called Darting Birds. You'll have several options for making your quilt. You can make a six-block quilt or a nine-block quilt. OR, you can make a quilt using smaller 3" blocks. (Directions for those blocks are listed below.) Whichever quilt you decide to make, each block will use scraps of 3 different prints - light, medium and dark colors. No cut piece you will be larger than 3" x 3" (unless you count the borders) but you may need to cut several squares from the same print for the same block. Let's get started!

### Materials

Assorted reproduction fabric scraps in light, medium and dark prints to make the blocks. Fabric for borders if desired. Depending upon how wide you like your borders, 1/8 yd of fabric should be enough.

### Cutting for each 4 ½" block

From a **light print**, cut

1 square 2" x 2"

3 squares, 2 3/8" x 2 3/8"

From a **medium print**, cut

1 square 2" x 2"

1 square, 2 3/8" x 2 3/8"

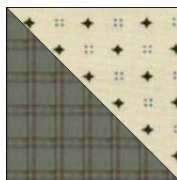
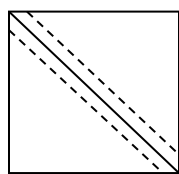
From a **dark print**, cut

1 square 2" x 2"

2 squares, 2 3/8" x 2 3/8"

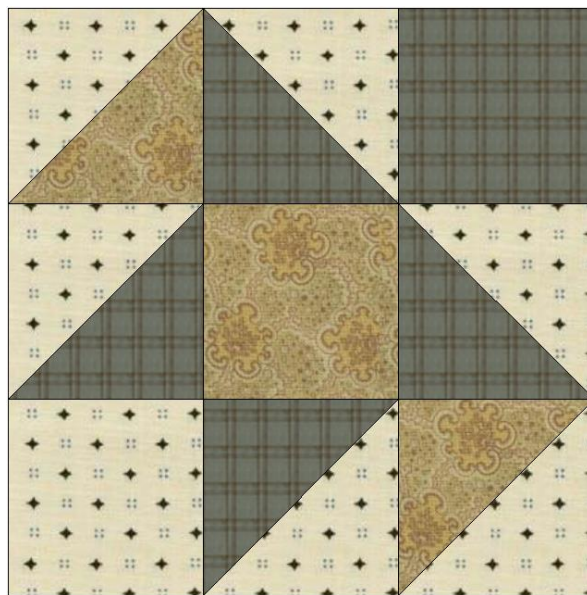
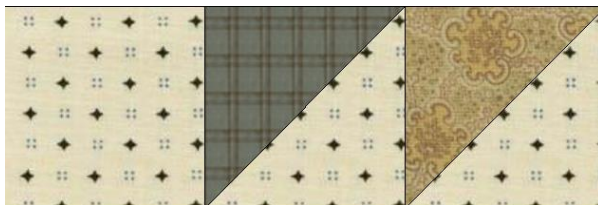
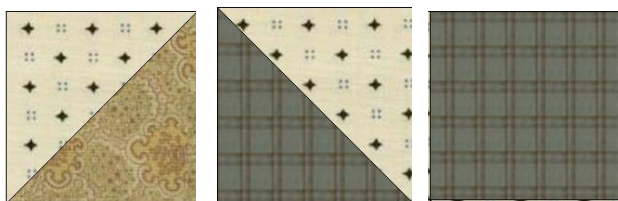
## Make the Block

1. To make the half square triangles, layer one light print  $2\frac{3}{8}$ " square on top of a medium print  $2\frac{3}{8}$ " square, right sides together. Next, layer 2 light print  $2\frac{3}{8}$ " squares on top of 2 dark print  $2\frac{3}{8}$ " squares, right sides together. Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner across the back of each light square. Stitch  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the line on both sides and cut on the drawn line. Flip open and press seams toward the darker fabric. Make six half-square triangle units, 2 medium and light and 4 dark and light. Trim each unit to  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ".



Make 6 units.

2. Arrange the HST (half-square triangle) units together with the light, medium and dark print  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares as shown. Sew three units together into three rows. Sew the rows together to make the block. Decide on a setting for your blocks and then make as many blocks as you like for your quilt.



Make 6 or 9 blocks.

If you're feeling adventurous and want to go even smaller with your blocks, **here are instructions for a 3" x 3" block**. Following the cutting directions for the 4 1/2" blocks above, substitute 1 1/2" squares for the 2" squares, and 1 7/8" squares for the 2 3/8" squares. Then assemble the same way.

### Assemble the Quilt

Sew your blocks together into rows, arranging them to look like a flock of darting birds. Add borders if you like by measuring your top and cutting strips the same length. I often cut strips 2 1/2" wide for my small quilt borders. This will give a finished border of 2".





