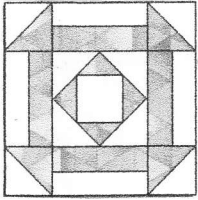


Block Party March, 2011



Magic Box
Block

This block is a little more difficult, but still fairly easy for advanced beginners. This can be made from scraps or fat quarters - whatever you have. It will yield an 8 inch finished block - or 8 1/2 inch unfinished block.

What you will need:

Color 1 - Red solid or print: One 2 3/8" x 4 3/4" strip AND one 2 7/8" x 5 3/4" strip AND one 1 1/2" x 18" strip

Color 2 - White or off-white: Two 2 7/8" x 5 3/4" strips AND one 2 1/2" square AND one 1 1/2" x 18" strip

Instructions:

1. Cut the color 1 (red) 2 3/8 inch x 4 3/4 inch strip into two 2 3/8 inch squares. Cut each square into two half-square triangles to yield 4 half-square triangles.
2. Cut one of the color 2 (white/off-white) 2 7/8 inch x 5 3/4 inch strips into two 2 7/8 inch squares. Cut each square into two half-square triangles to yield 4 half-square triangles.
3. Next speed piece the remaining half squares by stacking the color one and color two 2 7/8 inch x 5 3/4 inch strips, right sides together with white/off-white on top, and all edges aligned. On the back of the white/off-white strip, lightly mark the 2 7/8 inch halfway point AND mark the diagonals from this center point on the bottom to the top corner on each half of the rectangle. Now sew a SCANT 1/4 inch on both sides of the diagonal marked line. Cut these apart on the half 2 7/8 inch line as well as on the diagonal line on each square. This will give you four half-squares. Press seam allowances toward the darker fabric. Check size to make sure that each square measures 2 1/2 inches.
4. Make the center section by making a square-in-a-square block - Sew a red half-square triangle made in step 1 to opposite sides of the center color 2 white/off-white 2 1/2 inch square. Press seams toward the red fabric. Then sew the other two red half-square triangles to the other opposite sides. Press seams toward the red fabric.
5. Now add the color 2 white/off-white triangles made in step 2 to this center square in the same manner that you did in step 4, but pressing the seams toward the white fabric. This completes the center part of the block.
6. Sew the two 2 1/2 inch x 18 inch strips together, right sides together, along the long edge. Press seam toward the red fabric. Cut this strip into four 4 1/2 inch rectangles.
7. Now lay out the block and sew together the segments and you're done!

Block taken from quilterscache.com

(You may check this website if you have any questions as to these instructions.)

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