

Block of the Month: December 2015 Instructions

Pine Tree or 16-Patch

This month we have an easy 16-patch Block or a Tree Block with some measuring and marking - hopefully you can fit making one of these (or both) into your busy pre-holiday season.

16-patch Block - 8 1/2" unfinished

You will need sixteen 2 1/2" fabric squares in holiday/Christmas colors.

Sew squares together in pairs, then each pair to another pair to make a row. Then sew the rows together to make the 16-patch.

Tree - 8 1/2" unfinished

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Tree: Use any green, teal or mix of 1, 2 or 3 fabrics. Cut (3) rectangles as such: 4 1/2" x 2 1/2", 6" x 2 1/2", and 8" x 2 1/2".

Trunk: Brown, gray, black: (1) 1 3/4" x 2 1/2" piece.

Background (BG): Use any contrasting color. Cut: (2) 4 1/2" x 2 1/2", (2) 3 3/4" x 2 1/2", (2) 2 3/4" x 2 1/2", (2) 4" x 2 1/2"

ASSEMBLY:

Trunk: Take the two 4" x 2 1/2" BG pieces and sew one on each side of the trunk piece along the 2 1/2" sides - trim to 8 1/2" long.

Tree: Take the smallest tree piece (4 1/2" x 2 1/2") right side up. Place longest BG piece (4 1/2" x 2 1/2") on top, right side down, with the 2 1/2" side lined up with top edge and you can see the bottom edges intersect. Draw a 45 degree line from top corner to bottom intersection as shown.

Pin in place with the raw edges lined up. Sew a hairpin above marked line. Press seams toward tree fabric and trim. Then repeat drawing diagonal line on other 4 1/2" x 2 1/2" BG piece:

To make things efficient, you can draw all of the diagonal lines and pin the pieces together and then chain piece. background pieces 3 3/4" x 2 1/2" go onto 6" tree piece, background pieces 2 3/4" x 2 1/2" go onto 8" tree piece. Mark lines, sew just above line, press, and trim. You will end with 3 branch units.

Assembly by arranging the branch and trunk units in order and sew together in rows.

You will end up with a 8 1/2" square. Admire!

Make one or several of these blocks (each should be different, please) and bring to the December 7 meeting to collect points to win all BOM made by guild members. 5 points/blocks will get you to enter your name into the drawing pot. See specific BOM guidelines on how to collect points at http://www.mpgg.org/activities/block_of_the_month/.

Special Thank you to Julie Cefalu aka The Crafty Quilter for allowing us to use her tutorial on the tree assembly for this block. Please see her tutorial and blog here: <http://thecraftyquilter.com/2012/11/holiday-mug-rug-tutorial/>

