

Block of the Month: September 2016

Improv Strips



This month try your hand at “Improv”. This block is created by free flow layout and cutting. Use 1/4” seam allowance (but it is not important here). Press your seams to the strips. Always press after each seam.

FABRICS NEEDED:

Background: One 10” square in a solid or reads-as solid fabric of any bright color that will show off the black-white sticks.

Sticks: Black and White fabric strips in a variety of values (some more black, some more white). You need: One (1) to four (4) 1”- to 2”-wide strips (used different width) 12” long to cover the entire square; some maybe shorter if they only cover the corners.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Take your 10” square and your first black-and-white strip. Lay the strip on the background where you want to insert it.
2. Now, cut your square along the side of the first strip.
3. Sew in the strip with a 1/4” seam. Press seams to strip. Sew the other piece (a triangle if you cut on diagonal) of your background square to the strip. Press seam to strip.
4. Now place your second strip on the newly created fabric. Cut the fabric where you want to insert the second strip. Sew strip to the larger piece of background. Press seam. If you had cut thru the first strip, you want to make sure to match the imaginable line of the first strip thru the new insert. I pin 1/4” seam at that intersection, turn over the fabric and see if it is lined up. If not, I move the fabric into the direction to get the best line-up possible. Sew on second background piece. Press.

Continue in this method if you want to add more strips. I added four strips to my yellow block and only two strips to the green as I found that pleasing.

Last step, **trim your block to 9 1/2” x 9 1/2”**. It should be larger as you started with a larger square and inserted fabric.

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Remember, we appreciate a VARIETY of blocks. So if you make multiple blocks, please use different fabrics. This BOM is due at the guild meeting on September 12, 2016. More info on the BOM on our [web site](http://www.mpgg.org/activities/block_of_the_month/) at www.mpgg.org/activities/block_of_the_month/

