



Our Stash Buster Block:

Dandy Block Size: 6" fin. size (6-1/2" unfin.) or 9" fin. Size (9-1/2" unfin.)

All seams are 1/4" seam allowance.

To help us BUST our stash, I have chosen the *Dandy* block. It will also serve as its own alternate block to create a more interesting overall scrappy quilt. Just how scrappy? This will be up to you as the stash buster.

Why did I select this block? This block created a distinct look and it is important to me that each Stash Buster Challenge year be different from the last. I like to provide the chance to use a large variety of fabrics in a very successful way as well as wonderful quilt layouts to help you think outside the box. This block is also great for the 'non-scrappy' quilter as each fabric has a chance to be itself. Blocks can be 'matchy-poo' or not – so do not stress about micromanaging your choice of fabrics.

The diagrams are shown in gray and white so that the 'value' of the different fabrics demonstrate how it affects the block. The gray represents your medium to dark fabrics and the white represents your light fabrics, of course.

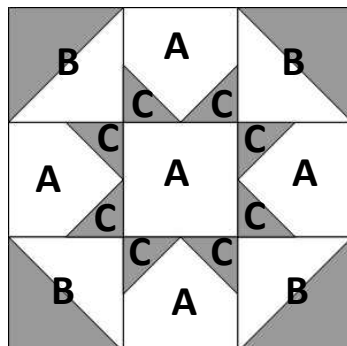
How you choose to use these fabrics is up to you. Here are some suggestions to use for each block:

- Use only two or three different fabrics – every block would be a different combination.
- Use a variety of lights but the same medium/dark fabric within one block.
- Use a variety of different fabrics keeping within the proper colour value for each unit within each block.

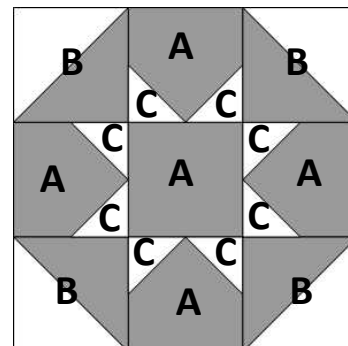
Cutting Requirements:

Choose which block size you would like to make for your quilt: 6" or 9" finished sized blocks and proceed with the appropriate cutting instructions.

Main Block



Alternate Block



For EACH Block:	6" fin. size (6-1/2" unfin.)	9" fin. size (9-1/2" unfin.)
A:	Cut (5) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" pcs.	Cut (5) 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" pcs.
B: For HSTs	From EACH fabric Light & Dark: Cut (2) 2-7/8" x 2-7/8" pcs.	From EACH fabric Light & Dark) Cut (2) 3-7/8" x 3-7/8" pcs.
C:	Cut (8) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" pcs.	Cut (8) 2" x 2" pcs.



Border Creek Station Pattern Company

• www.bordercreekstation.com •

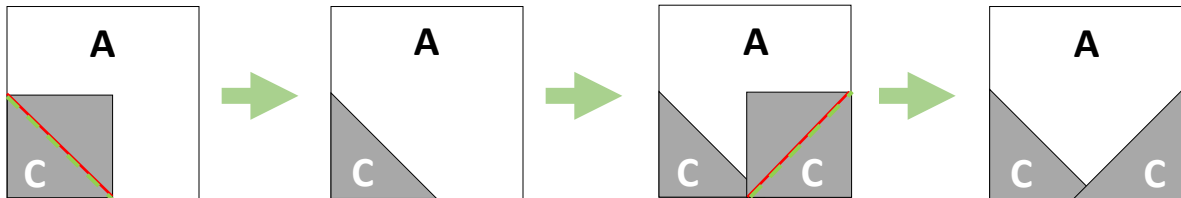
The Challenge Plan:

The Stash Buster Challenge's goal is to sew a minimum of 1 block each week for one year. That will give you 52 blocks to qualify for the Challenge – of course you can sew as many blocks as you want! Bust as much stash as you wish! You have the entire year. Please check out the Quilt Layout diagrams included for creative ideas to use this *Dandy* block and an idea of the quilt sizes using the different blocks.

Block Assembly:

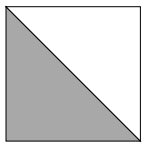
Making the Star Points

1. Using a 'flip & sew' method, lightly draw a line diagonally on the wrong side on all of the (8) C squares.
2. With right sides together, join one C square to the larger A square exactly as shown. Stitch corner to corner just along the outer edge of the drawn line (this gives room for the fold of the seam).
3. Trim 1/4" away from the seam to remove the two back fabrics. Press C back as shown in the diagram below. Repeat for the other C square for form the star points on this unit.
4. Trim to tidy the edges. This Star Point unit should measure:
 - **For the 6" block:** 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" unfin.
 - **For the 9" block:** 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" unfin.



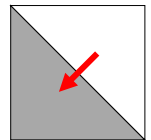
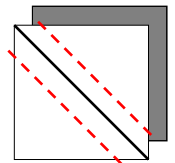
5. Repeat the above step to make a total of (4) Star Point units for each block.

Making the Half Square Triangles (HST) - Simple Traditional Method



This method is probably the most used technique for making half-square triangles (HST) and will make two identical HSTs at the same time. This method is also easy to cut larger square then to trim when sewn for a perfect outcome.

1. With pencil lightly mark on the wrong side of the lighter fabric square **diagonally from corner to corner** as shown by the black line in the diagram.
2. With **right sides together**, place marked lighter fabric square on top of darker fabric square. As per the **red lines** (shown in diagram) stitch 1/4" away from drawn line. Repeat with all remaining squares. Chain stitching is recommended for speed.
3. Cut apart on black line as shown on diagram. Open and press seam to the darker fabric as shown by the arrow. This will make 2 identical HSTs from each sewn square pair. Repeat to make a total of 4 HSTs.



It may be necessary to trim each HST to tidy using the 45-degree line of ruler on the diagonal seam. Each HST square should be trimmed to measure:

- **For the 6" block:** 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" unfin.
- **For the 9" block:** 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" unfin.

HST Methods: You can use any method you wish to make these HSTs. Just remember to adjust your fabric cutting accordingly to suit your preferred method.



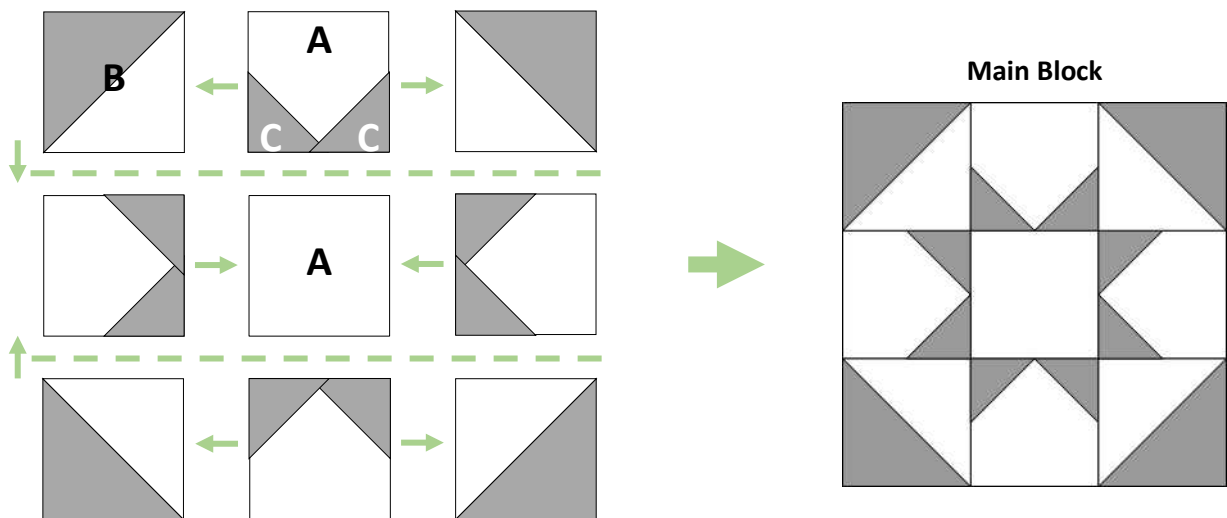
Border Creek Station Pattern Company

• www.bordercreekstation.com •

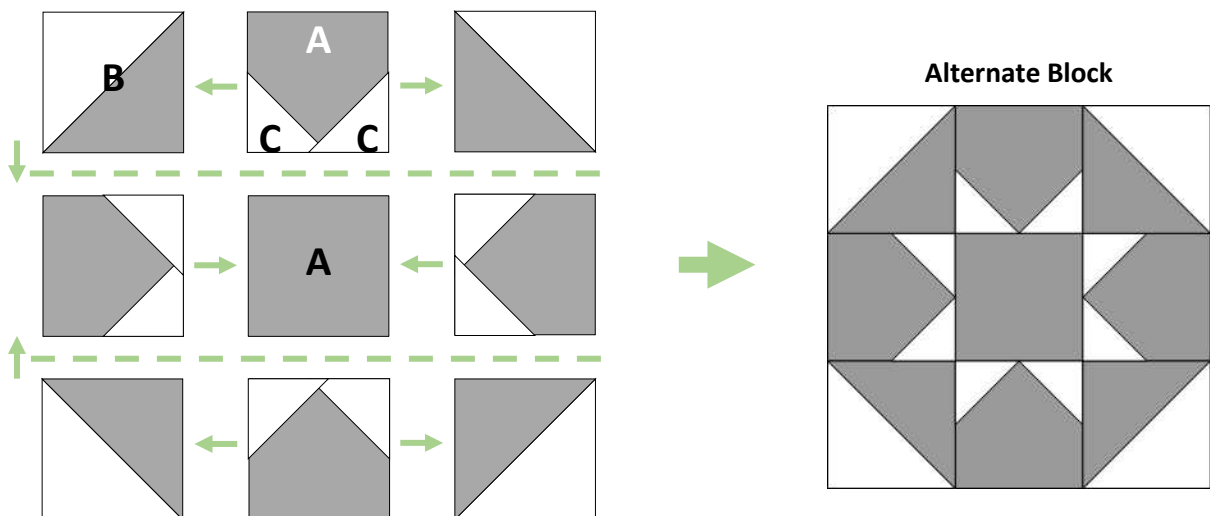
Making the Block:

1. Referring to the block diagram below for the Main and the Alternate *Dandy* block, carefully lay the sewn half square triangles, the Star Point units and the cut **A** center square for the block.
2. Check the position of each of the units. Are you making the Main (light) block or the Alternate (dark) block? Make sure all units are positioned correctly – they can be tricky and who wants to ‘reverse sew’?
3. Using a 1/4" seam allowance, join the units together forming the horizontal rows. Press seams as shown by the arrows. Now join the rows together nesting seams to form the block.
4. Trim to tidy the edges if necessary. This *Dandy* block should measure:
 - For the 6" block: 6-1/2" x 6-1/2" unfin.
 - For the 9" block: 9-1/2" x 9-1/2" unfin.

Layout for the Main (light) Block:



Layout for the Alternate (dark) Block:



Border Creek Station Pattern Company

• www.bordercreekstation.com •

The Scrap Buster Quilt Layout Options:

The following quilt layouts show 100 blocks (10 blocks per row wide x 10 rows long) to demonstrate the pattern formed by the positioning of this year's Challenge **Dandy** blocks. You can make your quilt any size, add borders (or not) to make a quilt that you want, love and importantly that will BUST THAT STASH!

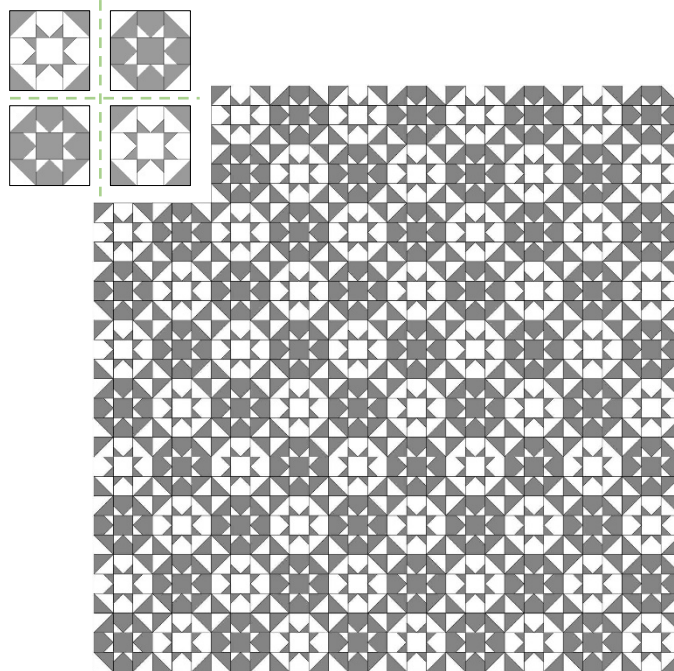
Quilt size measurements for 10 blocks x 10 rows:

For the 6" fin. size block the quilt center would measure 60" x 60" fin size.

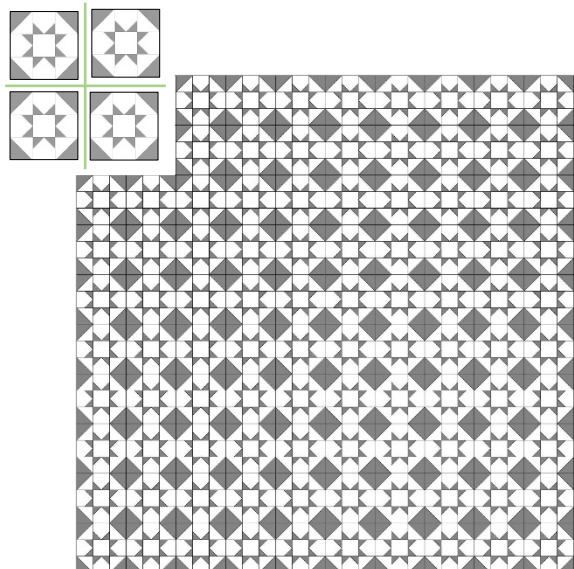
For the 9" fin. size block the quilt center would measure 90" x 90" fin. size.

Please note: I have only used 2 shades of colour to demonstrate these layouts.

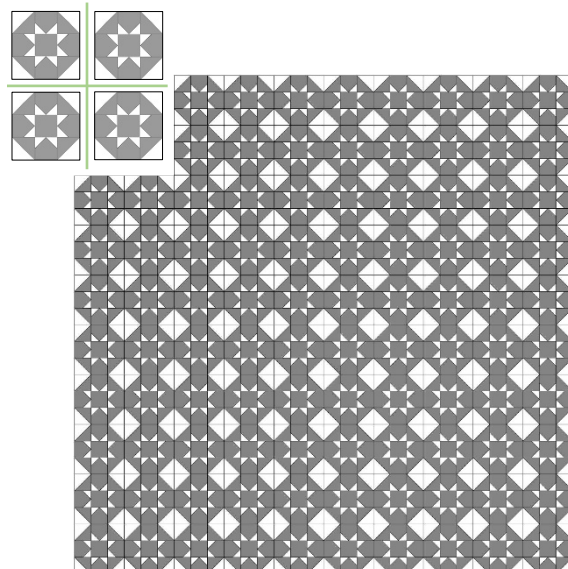
Layout 1: Using both the Main and Alternate Blocks



Layout 2: Using only the Main Blocks



Layout 3: Using only the Alternate Blocks



Border Creek Station Pattern Company

• www.bordercreekstation.com •

Do you want to add Sashing?

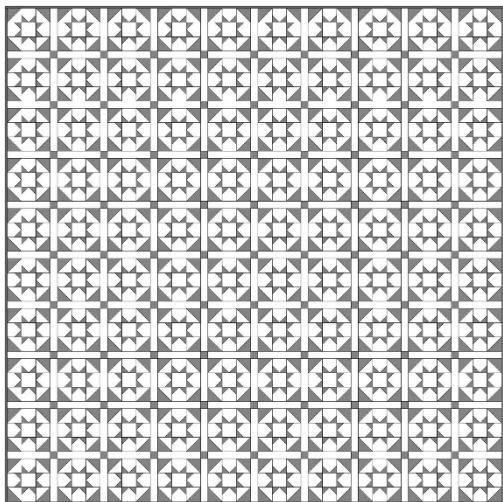
Sashing can be any size or colour (light or dark or scrappy) that you wish. Audition all of your options and choose the one that suits your quilt the best.

Sashing Width suggestions:

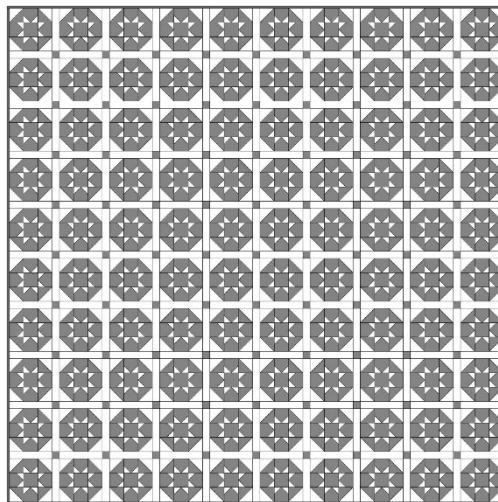
For use with the 6" fin. size block you can use cut widths of: 1-1/2" or 2" or 2-1/2" width.

For use with the 9" fin. size block you can use cut widths of: 1-1/2" or 2" width.

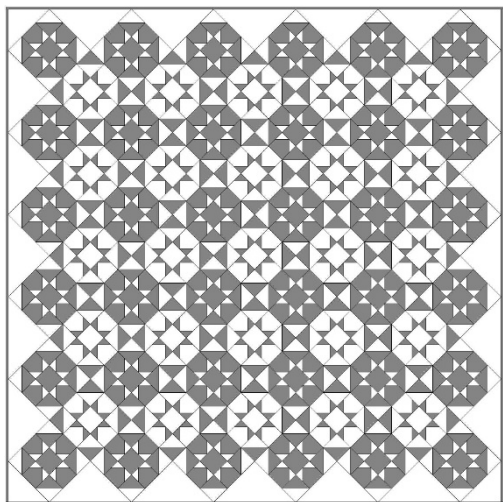
Layout 4: Using only Main Blocks with Sashing



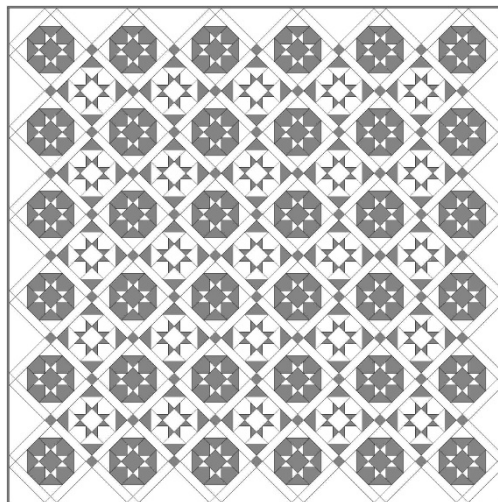
Layout 5: Using only Alternate blocks with Sashing



Layout 6: On Point with Main & Alternate Blocks



Layout 7: On Point with Main, Alternate & Sashing



Thank you for sewing along with me on this
Stash Busting adventure!
Sew... Let's BUST THAT STASH!



Border Creek Station Pattern Company

• www.bordercreekstation.com •