

Spring Mystery Part 3

Welcome back!

I hope you've been having fun with the appliqué center and that you've selected your first border. I hope your piecing went smoothly and you're liking your selection. It's going to be a lot of fun seeing all the different variations everyone comes up with!

This month we'll be choosing the setting triangles used to set the basket center "up right"

I know I told you there were going to be three options, but as I was working on this segment, I realized there really needed to be four.

Option 1 is un-pieced quarter square triangles. I would use these if I wanted to showcase some fancy quilting, or a super nice background fabric. These plain spaces gives your quilt some "breathing" a nice place for your eyes to rest before they move on to other areas of the quilt.

If you choose this option you will cut the background fabric into 16 ¾" square. Place your ruler diagonally across the square; cut the fabric in half to form 2 triangles. Don't pick up your fabric or move it. Place your ruler across the opposite diagonal corners and cut to form 4 equal size triangles.

Sew one of these triangles to opposite sides of your center unit. Press the seams to the large triangles. Repeat to add the other two triangles to the center unit. Whenever possible, I slightly over size my setting triangles and then square the unit. These cutting directions take this into account. Place your cutting ruler ¼" beyond the junction of your setting triangles and square the piece to 21 ½".

Option 2 is a variation on the un-pieced setting triangle. I've added a small accent piece that adds a little visual interest to this rather large area. This too, is a good option if you want to a quiet place on your quilt to show off some quilting, your background fabric. There is going to be some option appliqué on the subsequent borders. Either of the first two options would be the best option if you plan on adding appliqué, especially the more complex of the two motifs. I promise, neither appliqué option will be difficult!

Here is what the completed triangle will look like:



:

Cutting directions:

Background:

1 9/4" square cut into quarter square triangles "C"

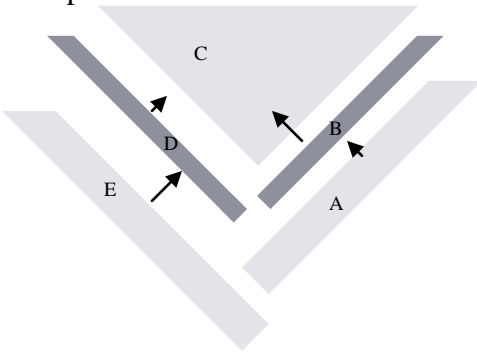
4 strips 2 1/2" x 9 1/2" "A"

4 strips 2 1/2" x 8 1/2" "E"

Accent fabric

4 strips 7" x 1" "B"

4 strips 7 1/2" x 1" "D"



Here is how your setting triangles will go together.

1. Sew the B strip to the C triangle, press seam toward the accent fabric
2. Sew the D strip to the opposite side of the C triangle, press to the accent fabric
3. Sew the A strip to the completed triangle unit, press to the background fabric
4. Sew the E strip to the completed triangle unit; press to the background.

Repeat to create 4 units. Align the 45 degree angle line on your ruler with the outside edge of the complete unit and trim off any dog ears. Join these units to opposite sides of your center unit and press the setting triangle. Join the remaining two units to the other two opposite sides of the center unit. Press to the setting triangles.

Your quilt should now measure 21 1/2"

Option 3 has a little bit more difficult piecing, but it still offers some nice open space to give your quilt some breathing room. This option would work with the simple of the two appliqué options, or if you choose to omit any further appliqué. Here is a peak at what the units will look like when they're complete.



Cutting Directions

Background

1 7/4" square cut into quarter square triangles "C"

4 2 7/8" squares cut into half square triangles "B"

4 strip 2" x 10 1/4" "F"

4 strip 2" x 12 1/4" "G"

Place these two strips right sides together and cut at a 45 degree angle

Accent 1

8 strips 5 1/8" X 1 7/8" Place right sides together and cut one end at a 45 degree angle
"A" and "A(r)"

Accent 2 (darkest)

4 strips 1 1/4 "x 7 1/4" "E"

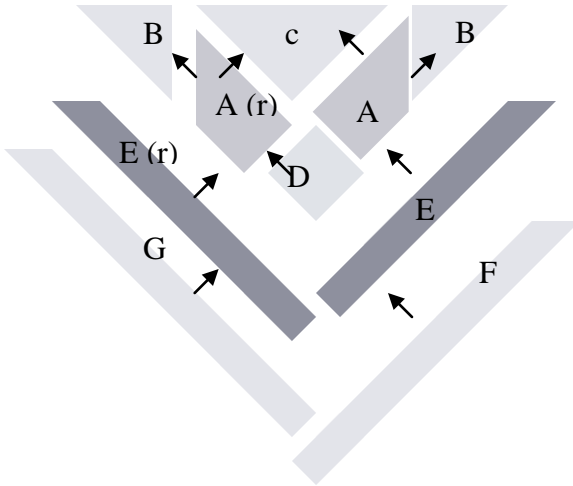
4 strip 1 1/4" x 8" "E (r)"

Place these two strips right sides together and cut one end at a 45 degree angle

Accent 3

4 square 1 7/8" "D"

Here is how we'll assemble this setting triangle

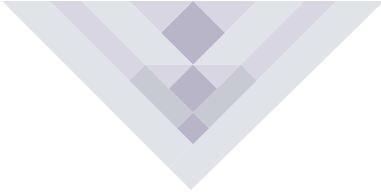


1. Join the "B" half square triangles to the ends of the A and A (r) strips where you cut the 45 degree angle; press to the B triangles. Join the D square the A(r) B unit as shown above
2. Join the "AB" unit to one side of the "C" triangle, press to the "C" triangle
3. Join the "A(r),B,D" to the opposite side of the "C" triangle, press to the "C" triangle
4. Join the E shape to the completed "ABCD" triangle, press to the "E"
5. Join the E(r) shape to the completed unit, press to the "E (r)"
6. Join the F and then G background strips to the completed setting triangle as described in Steps 4 and 5 above.

Repeat to create 4 units. Align the 45 degree angle line on your ruler with the outside edge of the complete unit and trim off any dog ears. Join these units to opposite sides of your center unit and press the setting triangle. Join the remaining two units to the other two opposite sides of the center unit. Press to the setting triangles

Your quilt should now measure 21 1/2"

Option 4 Features more piecing than the other choices I've given you so far. I would recommend this setting triangle if you aren't planning on adding much, if any appliqué to the outer border. If you were to use this and add appliqué, I think your quilt would be very "busy". See what I mean, here is a peak at what the setting triangle will look like,



This block uses one accent fabric, your background fabric, and two coordinating fabrics in slightly darker tones than the background

Cutting Directions:

Background:

8 strips $1\frac{7}{8}$ " x 6" Place right sides together and cut one end at a 45 degree angle."B" and "B(r)"

4 strips 2" x $10\frac{1}{4}$ " "I"

4 strips 2" x $12\frac{1}{4}$ " "J"

Place these two strips right sides together and cut at a 45 degree angle

Background 2

$2\frac{3}{4}$ " squares cut into quarter square triangles "C"

$2\frac{3}{4}$ " squares cut into quarter square triangles "F"

Note, these are going to be similar in size, so be careful to keep them in their correct places

8 strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " place right sides together and cut one end at a 45 degree angle "A and A(r)"

Background 3

8 strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{3}{8}$ " "G:"

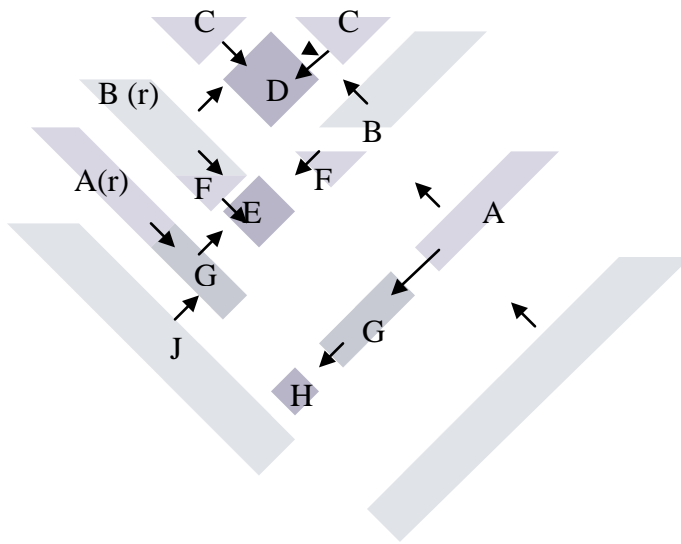
Accent

4 squares $2\frac{1}{4}$ " "D"

4 squares $1\frac{7}{8}$ " "E"

4 squares $1\frac{1}{2}$ " "H"

Here is how we'll put these setting triangles together.



Assembly instructions

1. Join one "C" quarter square triangle (QST) to the "D" square; Join One "F" quarter square triangle to the "E" square. Press to the QST.
2. Join one "D" to the "CD" unit created above; join one "F" to the "EF" unit; press to the QST. Set these aside.
3. Join "G" to "A" unit press to the "G" rectangle and set aside
4. Join "G" and "A(r)" as above; press to the "G" rectangle
5. Add the "H" square to the "A(r)/G" unit; press to the "H" unit, set aside
6. Sew the "B" and "B(r)" Shapes to opposite sides of the "CDC" unit created in Step 1; press to the "B"
7. Add the "FEF" unit also created in Step 1 to the unit created in Step 6
8. Add the "AG" and "A(r)GH" units to opposite side of the setting triangle; press to the "AG" units
9. Join the "I" strip to the setting triangle and press to the "I"
10. Join the "J" strip to the unit created above and press to the "J"

Repeat to create 4 units. Align the 45 degree angle line on your ruler with the outside edge of the complete unit and trim off any dog ears. Join these units to opposite sides of your center unit and press the setting triangle. Join the remaining two units to the other two opposite sides of the center unit. Press to the setting triangles

Your quilt should now measure 21 1/2"

You have some fun decision to make this month! I can't wait to see everyone's choices!!

Next month we'll adding a couple inner borders and discussing some appliqué choices.

Now it's time to get to our machines and start sewing !

Jo