

San Joaquin Valley Quilters' Guild November 2021 - Block of the Month

We've provided directions for 2 blocks this month, each measuring 10" x 10". Complete as many as you want. Refer to attached photos for color placement in each design.

Present

The present background should be a neutral color, but the bow and box can be any color that coordinates if you plan to donate the blocks to be used for a Guild comfort quilt.



Background

Cut 1 piece 3 1/2" x 1"

2 pieces 4" x 2 1/2"

1 piece 2 3/8" x 2 3/8" cut in half to form 2 triangles

Box

4 pieces 4 1/2" x 3 1/2"

Ribbon

2 pieces 4 1/2" x 2 1/2"

1 piece 2 3/8" x 2 3/8" cut in half to form 2 triangles

1 piece 8 1/2" x 2 1/2"

Instructions for assembling the Present block: ALL SEAMS are 1/4". Sew the background and ribbon half-square triangles to form squares (bow). Trim to 2" x 2", if needed, and press. Starting with the top, lay out your fabrics according to the colors indicated in the photo. Sew each fabric with a 1/4" seam allowance to complete the first row. Press.

Sew the top part of the box to the smaller ribbon piece. Sew this piece to a box bottom. Repeat for the right side of the present. Join both sides of the box to the center ribbon. Press. Join the top to the box bottom. Press.

Tree

We would like the background to be neutral and the trees green if you plan to donate the blocks for a comfort quilt.

Background - neutral

10 pieces 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

2 pieces 2 1/2" x 3 1/2"

2 pieces 1 1/2" x 2 1/2"

2 pieces 2 1/2" x 4 1/2"

2 pieces 2 1/2" x 1"



Tree branches - Green

1 piece 2 1/2" x 4 1/2"

1 piece 2 1/2" x 6 1/2"

1 piece 2 1/2" x 8 1/2"

1 Piece 2 1/2" x 9 1/2"

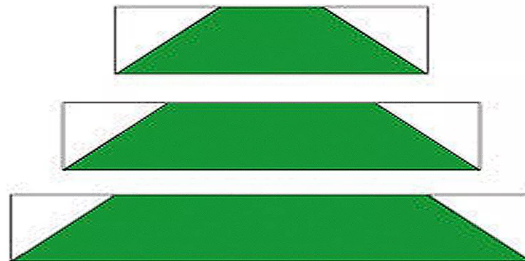
Tree trunk - Brown

1 piece 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

Instructions for tree block: ALL SEAMS are 1/4". You will be making flying geese units.



Use the Quick-Pieced Snowball Tip Method to Sew Background Squares to All Tree Boughs



1. Gather your 2-1/2" background squares and your green tree strips.
2. Draw a line from one corner to the opposite corner on the reverse side of each square.
3. Align a square with the right end of the shortest tree strip as shown in the upper left of the illustration, right sides of the fabrics together. Be sure to position the drawn line as shown.
4. Sew a seam directly on the drawn line. [Press to set the seam.](#)
5. Trim away the excess fabric, leaving about 1/4" of both layers extending past the seam line as shown. Flip the triangle right side up, [pressing the seam allowance](#) either direction.
6. Repeat to sew another square to the opposite end of the green strip, positioning the line as shown. Trim and press.
7. Repeat to sew tips on the remaining three green strips.

Finish Sewing the Tree Block

Arrange the **Tree block components** with shortest branches to longest working downward. Next add the **background strips** as follows:

2 ½" x 3 ½" background strips on each side of the shortest tree strip unit

2 ½" x 2 ½" background square on each side of the 6 ½" long tree strip unit

1 ½" x 2 ½" background strip on each side of the 8 ½" long tree strip unit; the 2 ½" edge will be sewn to the tree.

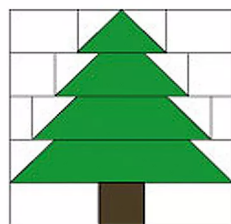
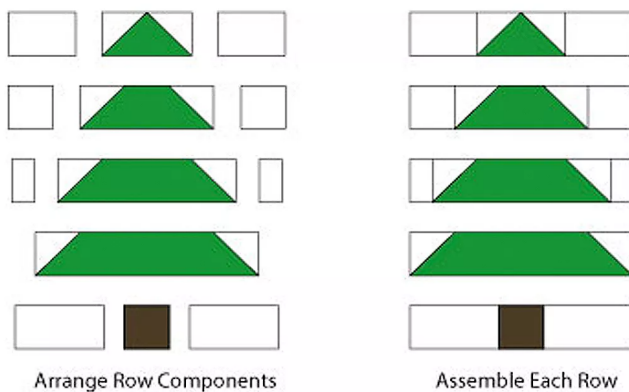
Sew a 1" X 2 ½" square on each end of the 9 ½" long tree strip with the 2 ½" edge sewn to the tree. This does not show in the image below, but is necessary.

Sew these strips to each tree block component using ¼" seams.

Place a 2 ½" x 4 ½" background strip on each side of the 2 1/2" brown square.

Press seam allowances in tree branch units towards the background strips. Press seam allowances in the trunk unit towards the brown trunk.

Sew all five rows together, aligning strips carefully. Press the block.



Sew Rows Together
to Complete the
Quilt Block

Questions?

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