

MODERN ART QUILTERS

Block of the Month



Putting Everything Together

From two pretty much identical sets of makings we made two entirely different quilts.

We hope you will be inspired to use the blocks for other projects, perhaps repeating a particular favourite for a bigger quilt, or, if something really doesn't appeal, using only the blocks you prefer.

Odd ones make lovely cushions (add a border to any block for a good-sized cushion) and tote bags, and the little sub-blocks are useful for all sorts of use-it-up and put-it-together projects...

If you have completed all nine parts of our Block of the Month programme you will now have nine 16-inch square blocks. Of course these can be put together in numerous different ways and we certainly encourage you to make this quilt uniquely yours by creating an individual layout.

If you particularly like the way we have built up one of our quilts (above) we have each written some additional instructions to help you to make something similar from your blocks.

At the most basic level, if you sew the nine blocks in three rows of three you will make a respectable lap quilt approximately 48-inches square.

We have not included detailed instructions here for quilting your masterpiece – there are many excellent tutorials on the internet, and books written on the subject. However, please see the free tutorials on the MAQ website about **layering** and **binding** your quilt:

<https://www.modernartquilters.co.uk/patterns.html>

Basic notes:

All seams are made by placing the fabrics Right Sides Together and stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the edge unless otherwise stated

Press all blocks and pin seams carefully before sewing them together

HB's Two Colour Version

with the blocks at the edges breaking out into the plain border

I made my nine 16-inch blocks and stitched these together in three rows of three to form the central panel of this quilt. I extended the panel's size by adding a 6-inch wide border all around and softened the join between centre and border by including some additional small sub-blocks. It is important to cut the border sections exactly the right length (ie the same as the centre panel) before stitching them in place or you will find the borders ripple in a very distressing fashion. For information of how to add a border, see the free tutorial on my website:

<https://www.littlepatchpockets.co.uk/patterns/tutorials/handyhints.html>



I used the turquoise (outer) colour and the navy blue which forms the border to make my extra blocks. Because most of my nine large blocks are broken down in to sixteen regular 4-inch square blocks it is quite easy to cut the border strips to the right size. Make the two side borders first, followed by the top and bottom ones.

To give you an idea of how this works the diagram below shows a breakdown of the left-hand border:

Cut the following from your border fabric

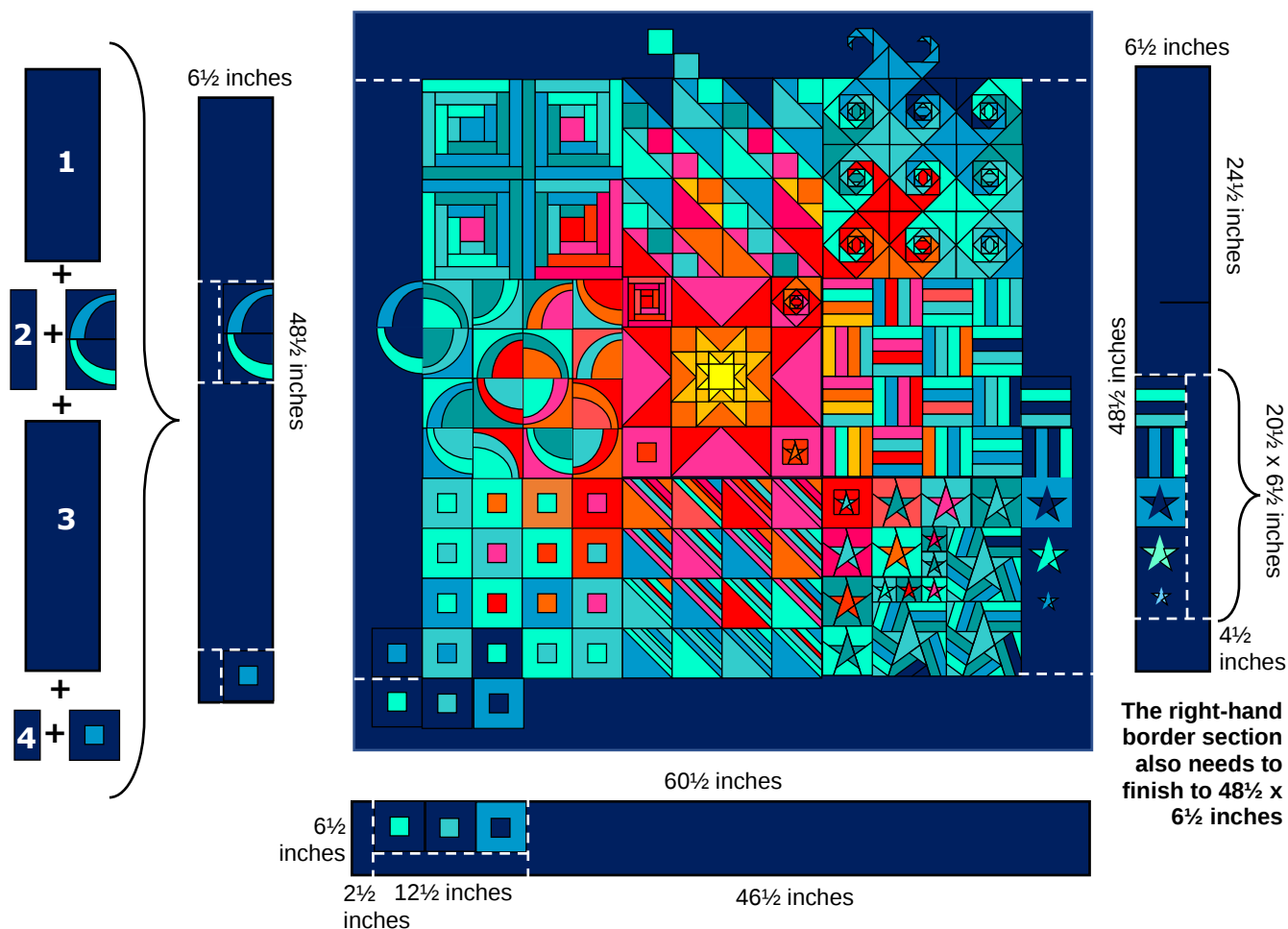
1. One piece $16\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches
2. One piece $8\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches
3. One piece $20\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches
4. One piece $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches

Start by stitching the narrow strips (2 and 4) to the corresponding blocks to extend them both to $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide.

Press the seams away from the pieced blocks

Stitch the pieces together to form one tall column. Again press the seams away from the pieced sections

If accurately sewn, this first finished column, or border section, will be $48\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches and will fit exactly against the left-hand edge of the central panel. Stitch in place and press the seam towards the border.



The top and bottom border sections each need to finish to $60\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches

HH's rainbow-coloured quilt

a fairly traditional version with sashings and corner-stones...

Make sure your blocks are all the same size, (trim if required) then cut sashings exactly to that length by 1-1/2 inches.

The quilt has triple sashes with two rows of the background colour (black on HHs quilt) and a row of a colour to tone with the adjacent block... Sew the sets of three together, pinning to keep them aligned.

There are 24 sets for the layout above, I did each set in a colour to tone with the blocks they were next to, and used an ombre purple for the centre block

The corner-stones are little City Lights blocks - see part two!



For each cornerstone, (you will need 16 for the layout above):-

Cut two pieces 1-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches and two pieces 1-1/2 inches square in the outer colour, plus one piece 1-1/2 inches square for the centre in the background colour...

Sew together as shown in Month 2

Set your quilt out and check all is the right way up and the right way round.

There are four rows with corner-stones alternating with horizontal sashings, and three rows with vertical sashings alternating with the big blocks. Press towards the sashings in each row, then pin very nicely and sew the rows together...

There are lots of other fun and different ways you could make sashings for this quilt, have a look at the SASHES board on my PINTEREST page:

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/helenhowes146/sashes/>