

MODERN ART QUILTERS

Block of the Month



Block Three - Tiger Tiger

Gentle improv curves make two blocks at a time...



A



B

Start by cutting two pieces 7 by 5 inches (for 4-inch finished blocks) (A)

Keep the pieces on your mat by your machine, and the right way up and the right way round all the time - you will find your first tiger blocks are easier if you use printed-on-one-side fabric!

Lay them on your mat **RIGHT SIDES UP**, right on top of each other, and make **four** cuts across the shorter dimension, making gentle curves. Tiger blocks will come out in your style rather than mine, they are, like most Improv ideas, a bit like handwriting, no two people's the same... (B)

Set your sewing machine for a short stitch and check that the tension is lovely before you start to sew.

You absolutely do not want to unpick these, so work on not needing to...



C

Re-arrange the pieces like so, keeping them the right way up and the right way round. (C)

Take the first two pieces from one set and put them face to face - they will not match after the first 1/2 inch but that's OK (D)



D

Sew (use a consistent seam, more important than a perfect 1/4 inch, but do aim for 1/4 inch-ish) gently aligning the top piece with the underneath, right sides together, and taking it slowly. Don't pull the edges too much, as they are now on the bias and will stretch

E



When you get to the bottom of the first seam, leave the pieces attached to the thread, and pick up the first pair from the other block. Sew from the first pair straight onto the second, gently aligning as before. (E)



F

When you get to the bottom of the second pair, snip the top pair off and bring them forward, then add piece three from the first block (F)



G

Keep on doing this, adding the next piece each time, until you have made all the seams and have two blocks like this... (G)

Because there is a big contrast of colours in some of my blocks, I pressed to the dark side of each seam. Where your colours are closer you can press all to one side

No seam will need snipping, and PLEASE do not attempt to press them open...

You will note that the two blocks look utterly different - this is why four cuts/five pieces works so well

Trim the block (when you are ready to sew them together), to 4-1/2 inches (H)

Set your little blocks alternate ways to make the big block, see the image at the top...

Pressing the big block - on this block you will get the best result by pressing the little blocks in each row towards the "unpieced" side on each seam. When you sew the rows together these will nest nicely. Press the row seams in one direction... (J)

Other sizes...

For 6-inch finished blocks, start with 9 by 7 inch pieces and trim to 6-1/2 inches

For 4-inch finished blocks, start with 7 by 5 inch pieces and trim to 4-1/2 inches

For 3-inch finished blocks, start with 5-1/2 by 4 inch pieces and trim to 3-1/2 inches

For other sizes, allow 2 inches sideways and one inch up and down from your desired finished size...



H



J