

MODERN ART QUILTERS

Block of the Month



Block Two - City Lights

Squares-in-Squares



A

For 4-inch finished blocks - HH started with a centre 2-1/2 inches square in one fabric for each block, then added two pieces 1-1/2 by 2-1/2 inches, and two pieces 1-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches for each (A)

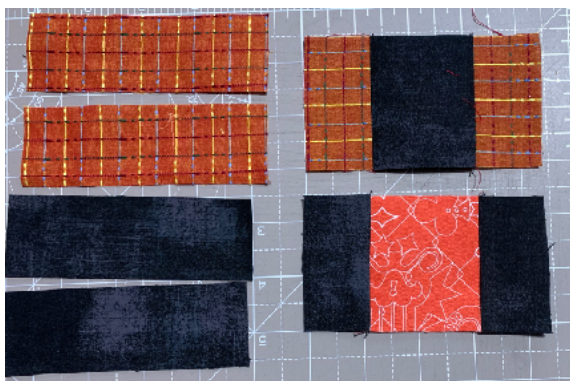
See notes at the end about HB's blocks

These blocks are good for teaching you about 1/4 inch seams - when you sew the first two seams on either side of the centre, you will soon see if your seams are too big or too small, as the longer outer pieces will not match exactly...

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

Use a toning cotton thread

Sew the two shorter outside pieces to either side of the centre square and press to the darker fabric (you will see one is pressed inwards and one outwards here, towards the black each time) (B)



B



C

Sew the longer pieces on the remaining two sides and press towards these strips

Your blocks should be 4-1/2 inches square, and you will need 16 if you make them all the same size (C)

HB's blocks were made with a 2-inch centre square and two 2 x 2 inch and two 2 x 5 inch strips. The blocks were then trimmed to 4-1/2 inches square making sure to centre the square in the middle

For a variation, HH made a bigger block in the centre. Starting with the first sizes of fabric, she made a centre square.

Then cut four 1-1/2 inch squares for the corners, and four 4-1/2 by 1-1/2 inch strips. (D)

D



E

Sew the corners onto two of the strips and press towards the long strip (E)

Sew the two pieces without corners onto the centre, note how the pieces are set for best results and least bulk. Press outwards again. Your block should now measure 8-1/2 inches and will substitute for four of the smaller blocks

Then add the pieces with corners, matching the seams nicely, and press outwards



F

For the last round, cut four more 1-1/2 inch square corners, and four strips 6-1/2 inches by 1-1/2 inches and sew as the previous round (F)

Arrange the sub-blocks when you are ready to assemble your quilt...

