

## BLOCK OF THE MONTH July 2018

### BLACK & WHITE DIAMONDS



We've made Black and White blocks in the past, and they have been SO versatile for making quilts for our Aussie Heroes. They represent Sport teams that are requested, sometimes by adding one more colour to the quilt, and they also make a great background to add appliqués meeting the Requests. The girls in the Coffs Harbour Sewing Team often ask "Do we have any more of the Black and White ones, they'll be just right for this quilt" or "...for this part of my quilt".

You don't need to make equal quantities of each block.

### FABRICS TO USE

- plain black and plain white fabric
- both BLACK and WHITE with prints of the opposite colour BUT the black fabric should be predominantly BLACK and the white fabric should be predominantly WHITE so that there is contrast between the fabrics to show the design elements
- Gender neutral prints
- tone-on-tone prints in either WHITE or BLACK
- combinations of the above fabrics eg. plain BLACK with printed WHITE fabric or tone-on-tone BLACK with a printed WHITE
- 100% cotton fabric

These are a few fabrics in my collection I considered using for the blocks (the two tone-on-tone prints haven't shown their interesting prints... 😊)



I like to use white thread in blocks that have white fabric so that loose threads on the back don't shadow behind the white fabric.

Use 1/4 inch seam allowance

**PLEASE NOTE**

*After making my blocks, I decided they should be a little larger.*

**USE THE MEASUREMENTS GIVEN**

*You will notice in my pictures, that my background squares are a little smaller than the ones you are making.*

Let's go...

**CUTTING OUT THE WHITE BACKGROUND BLOCK**

**WHITE FABRIC**

Two squares 9 1/2 x 9 1/2 inch

One square 2 3/4 x 2 3/4 inch

Two strips 1 1/4 x 2 3/4 inch

One strip 1 1/4 x 6 inch

**BLACK FABRIC**

Four rectangles 2 3/4 x 3 1/2 inch

Two strips 1 1/4 x 6 inch

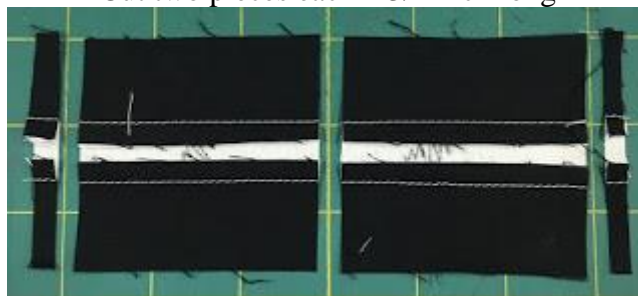


### SEWING THE WHITE BACKGROUND BLOCK

Join the strips, then press the seam allowances onto the centre strip to make it "pop"



Cut two pieces each 2 3/4 inch long



Layout the block pieces as shown



Sew the pieces together to make three rows



Sew the rows together and press the seam allowances towards the centre



Cut both large squares from point to point, creating four triangles



Fold block in half and mark the midpoint with a pin, as shown  
Fold triangle in half with WRONG sides together  
Lay triangle on the block with the fold line matching the pin





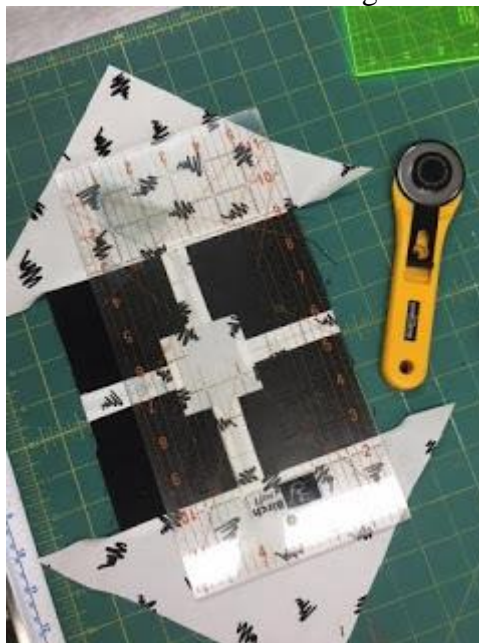
Open out the triangle and pin with edges together, sew the seam and press the triangle outwards with the seam allowance under the triangle



Repeat for the opposite side of the block



Place block on the cutting mat with the edge of the block on a guideline.  
Position ruler along the guideline and the edge of the block.  
Trim off the little triangles.



Using the same method as before, mark the centre of the side of the block with a pin,  
fold the triangle in half with wrong sides together,  
match the fold to the pin, open out the triangle and pin in place. Sew and press.



Repeat for the last triangle





Notice here how my edge doesn't quite make a straight line?

No problem. Don't trim!

EVERY block will be trimmed to make it the right size for the quilt it is going to be a part of.

REMEMBER...*your block will be a little bigger than the pictured one.*



Here it is! The finished WHITE background block.



### CUTTING OUT THE BLACK BACKGROUND BLOCK

#### BLACK FABRIC

Two squares 9 1/2 x 9 1/2 inch

One square 2 3/4 x 2 3/4 inch

Two strips 1 1/4 x 2 3/4 inch

One strip 1 1/4 x 6 inch (yes, there are two in the pic!)

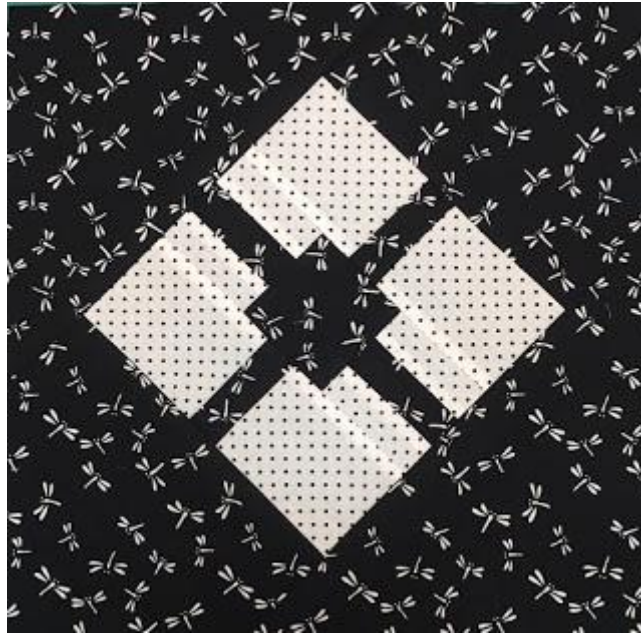
#### WHITE FABRIC

Four rectangles 2 3/4 x 3 1/2 inch

Two strips 1 1/4 x 6 inch



Use the instructions for the White background block, reversing the colour positions.



Aren't they stunning blocks!

Please post your blocks to

Aussie Hero Quilts

PO Box 248

Cherrybrook, NSW, 2126

Thank you for your contributions.

Remember to include your email address and I'll contact you when your blocks arrive.

No email? No problem! Every Wednesday, check out the BOM Happy Mail to see the blocks that have arrived in the previous week.

Until next time,

Sandy