

Any Size You Want

Delaware Quilts



You can make this block *ANY* size you want. Yep, you pick your size and go for it. Of course that means I can't give you yardages and such, but it will mean that you can do your own thing. This block will look great anywhere from 3 inches to 12.

And you can use whatever color combination you want, as long as they contrast. You need two values, either a light and a dark or a dark and a light.

Size Options

Finished Block	3 inch	6 inch	9 inch	12 inch
Rectangles	1 1/2 x 2 1/2	2 1/2 x 4 1/2	3 1/2 x 6 1/2	4 1/2 x 8 1/2
Squares	1 1/2	2 1/2	3 1/2	4 1/2

This project can be done totally scrappy, all lights and darks. If you want to limit your colors I will suggest you use all one background and eight or more colors which contrast to the background. This would be a good use for coordinated fat quarters, as long as they meet the value requirements. You really want lights and darks.

Precutting:

I will be showing how to make a 16 block project, however depending on which size block you picked, that could be anywhere from a wall hanging to a 48 inch square lap quilt. Once you get started you can make it as large as you want just by adding more blocks. You can make a rectangular quilt or square, even or odd rows.

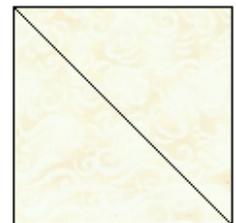
Before you start cutting, you need to decide light or dark. If you want a light background, then cut light squares and dark rectangles. If you want a dark background, cut dark squares and light rectangles. Either way works. Want to go half and half, then cut half light squares and half dark squares and half light rectangles and half dark rectangles.

Using the chart above to choose your block size, cut the **sixty-four rectangles** and **eighty squares**. (Remember this is for 16 blocks, just to get you started.)

Step One:

You will be sewing from corner to corner diagonally through **SOME** of your squares. You need to set aside 16 squares and **NOT** mark them.

If you are making a smaller block or have confidence in your sewing skills, you can skip this step. Otherwise you need to mark a line diagonally from corner to corner on the remaining 64 squares.



This will be a sewing line, so mark so you can see it. If your fabric is dark, use a white marker.



Here is another way to go from corner to corner without marking. This tip came from one of my pattern testers. Placing a marker on your machine bed gives you a guide to help glide from corner to corner easier.

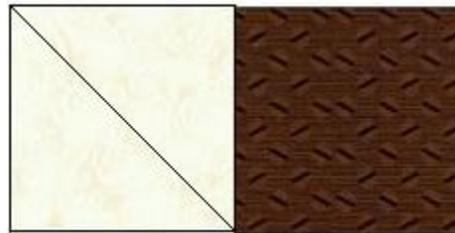
You could also lightly press the square in half diagonally and follow the fold line.

If I was doing a larger block using 3 1/2 or 4 1/2 inch squares I would mark them with a pencil line. Since I am using 2 1/2 inch squares, I just finger pressed. I simply folded my square in half diagonally right sides together and pressed by pinching in three spots to “mark” them. I did this as I sewed so the marks stayed and were easy to see.



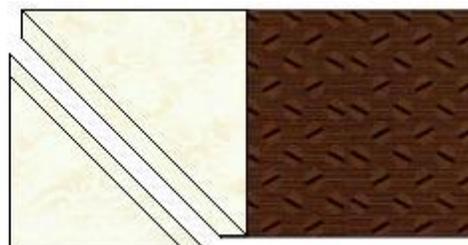
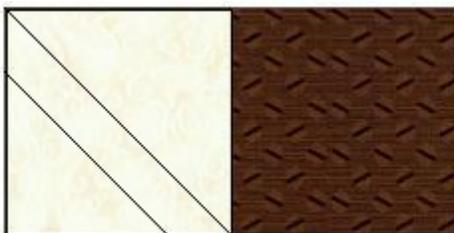
That’s it, no sewing in this step, so when you are ready, move on to Step Two.

Step Two:



Place a square on the end of a rectangle, right sides together and sew from corner to corner as shown.

NOTE: If you are making a larger block, you might want to make bonus DHSs with the excess. Mark a second diagonal line 1/2 inch away from your first line, and sew on that. Then cut between the two sewn lines, leaving a 1/4 inch seam allowance on each.



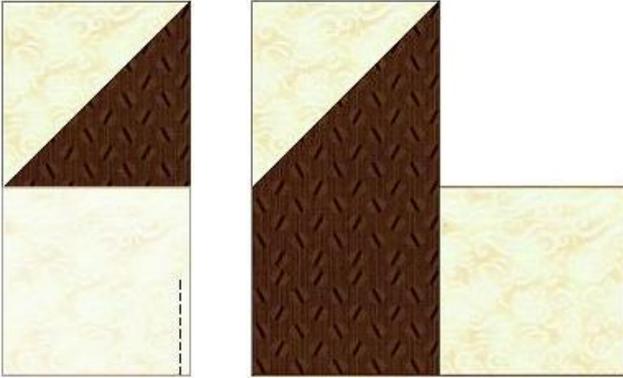
Press to the dark fabric.



Use all 64 rectangles and 64 marked squares. When this unit is finished it should be the same size as the rectangle was when you started.

Step Three:

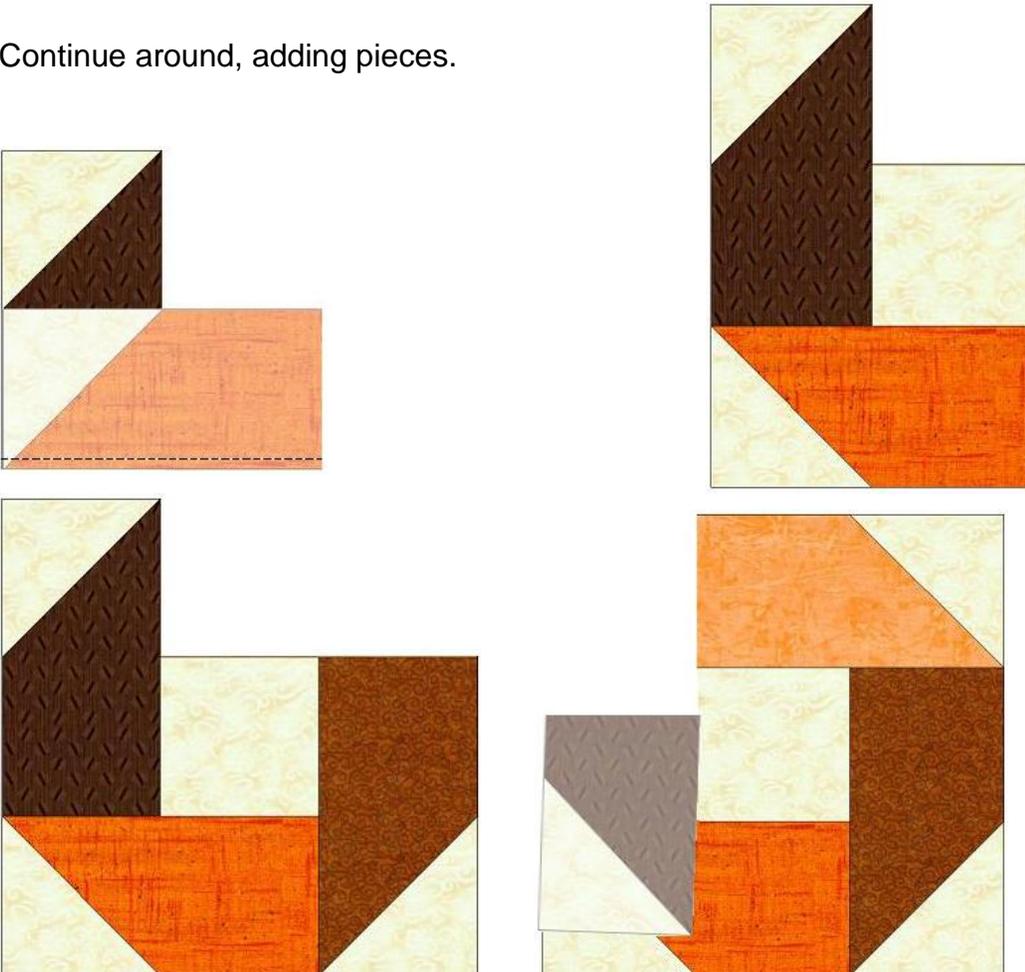
Now comes what some people call the tricky part, but it isn't really that hard. Sew your first unit to the square, but only a little over half way! This is very important. You'll come back and finish it later. (If you are making the 3 inch or 6 inch blocks, I suggest you sew about 3/4 of the way, which will make it easier when you join them later.)



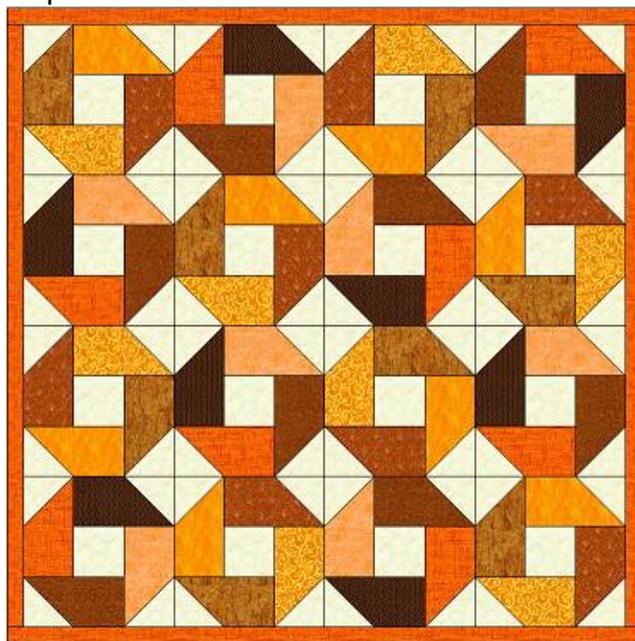
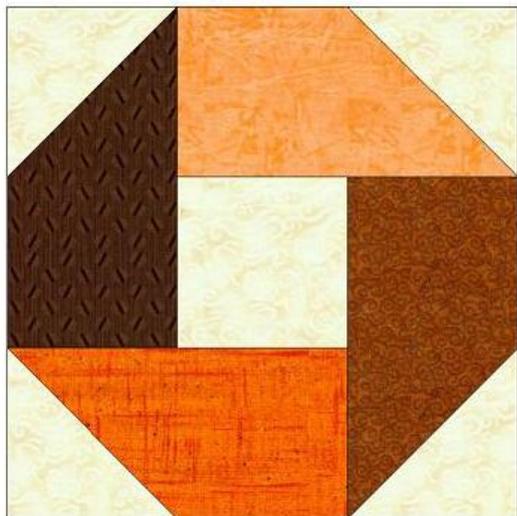
I pressed to the rectangle because I had light center squares. Either way is ok.

Step Four:

Continue around, adding pieces.



Now go back and finish sewing the first strip.



Your finished block size will depend on your seam allowance and which size block you were making. If needed, measure them all and square them to the same size. That's all there is to it! Now you can assemble your quilt. Add borders as desired.

Below are two of my favorite Any Size You Want quilts, my own and Bonnie's.

