

# Delaware Quilts



## Miniature Baskets

In 2001 my local quilt guild asked me to do a demonstration on Miniature Quilting. I did and had a lot of fun with it and have used the miniature blocks over and over again. One of the most popular was the miniature baskets, so I've decided to share that pattern with you this month.

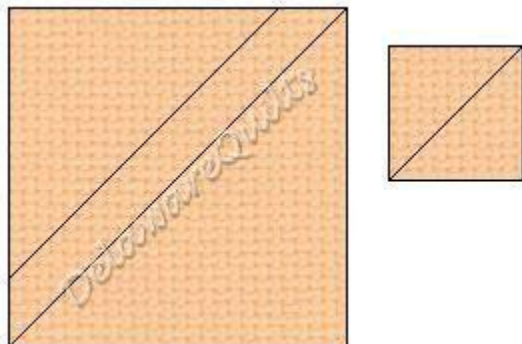
When making a miniature block, accuracy is extremely important. Measure accurately and cut accurately. Sew straight accurate seam allowances. Press gently, and do not smooch or distort the blocks when you iron them. It is highly recommended that you use only 100% cotton on miniatures, and if you ever plan to wash your miniature I suggest you prewash your fabrics, 1% shrinkage could ruin a miniature quilt.

Your seam allowance is critical in a miniature quilt block. Just the slightest waver in the seam can make a block not go together correctly. Sew straight accurate seam allowances. For this block I use a 1/4 inch seam allowance.

And don't rush. Take your time, sew slowly. There is no race, and the slower you sew, the more accurate you can be. Take your time and create a miniature masterpiece.

## Baskets

For each basket make the following cuts —  
Cut from your basket fabric



One 3 1/8 inch square cut in half diagonally, one half is the bottom of the basket. From the leftover half, cut a one inch strip from the longest side of the triangle. This is your basket handle.

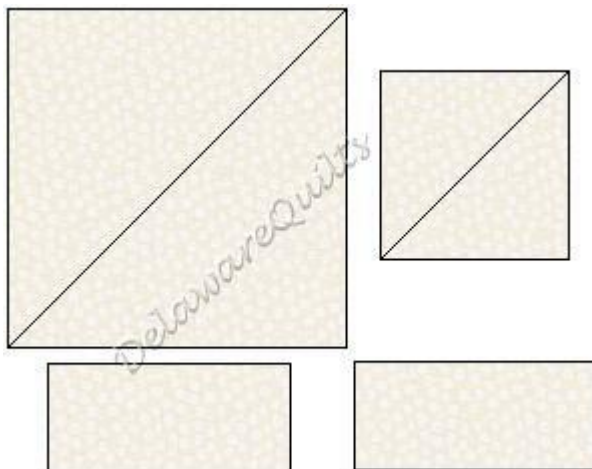
Also cut 1 3/8 inch square, cut in half diagonally

Cut from your background:

One 3 1/8 inch square, cut in half diagonally. (Enough for two baskets)

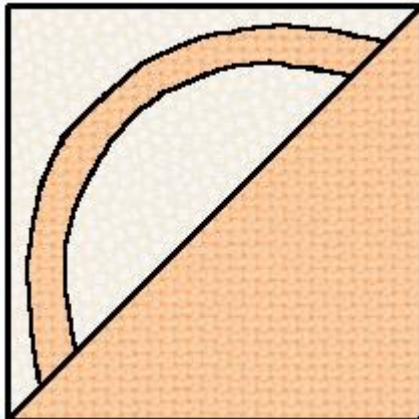
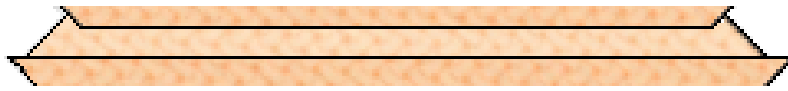
One 1 7/8 inch square, which you will cut in half diagonally. (Enough for two baskets)

Two 1 inch by 2 1/4 inch strips



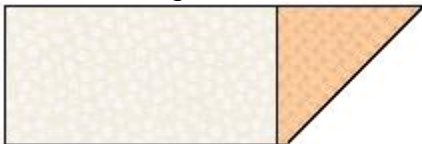
Using the 1 inch strip cut from the triangle of basket fabric, fold the edges over

carefully and press.



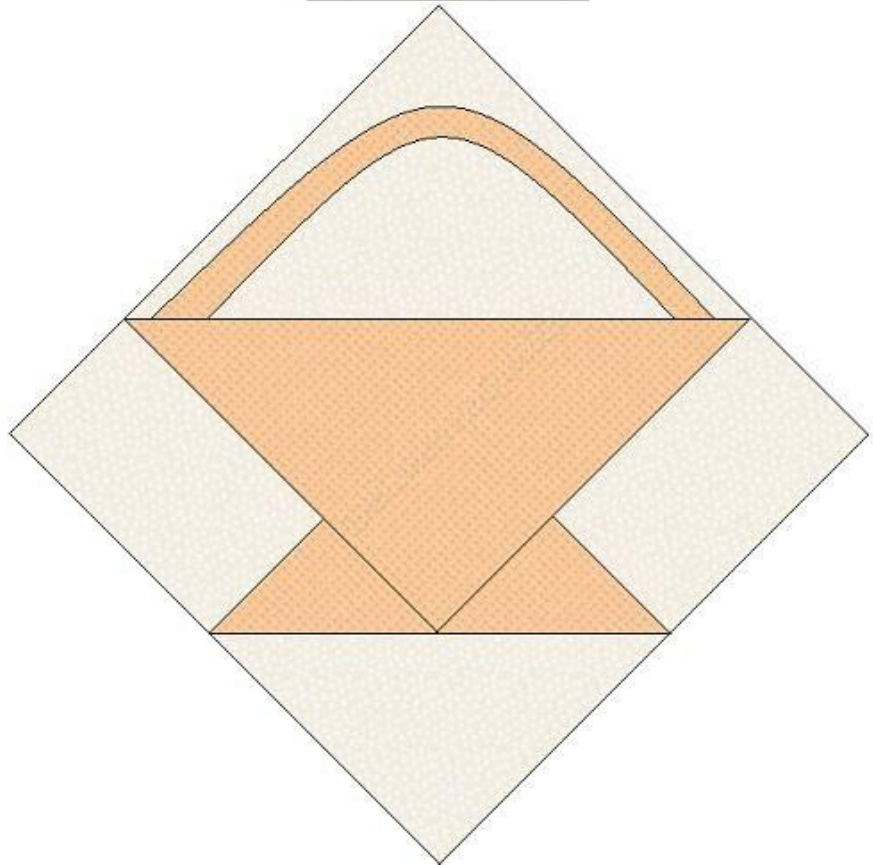
Then place the pressed strip between the basket and background triangles, and sew together with a 1/4 inch seam.

Attach the smaller triangles made from the 1 3/8 inch basket fabric with the background rectangles.



Join those to the sides of the basket unit made first.

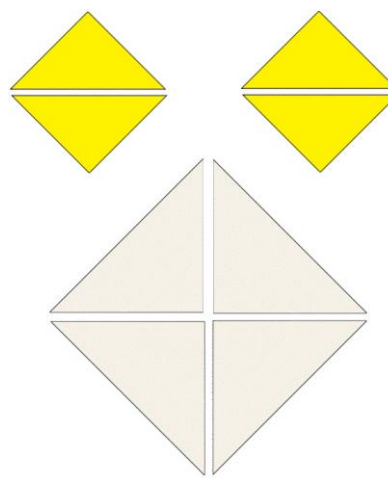
Then add the background triangle to the bottom and your basket is finished.



Because these are diagonally set blocks, you will also need to cut a few squares from the background for the side triangles and corners to finish the wall hanging.

The diagram below shows a little wall hanging made with just five baskets. The yellow triangles are the corners and are cut from two 3 inch squares while are cut in half diagonally. The side triangles are made from a 5 1/4 inch square which is cut in quarters diagonally.

First you put together the center row. The arrows in the diagram show the center row. Next would be the other two rows and then the last two corners (And of course the corners would be background fabric, the yellow is just so you can see it easier.)



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