

## Block of the Month

August

### Martha Washington's Start



For this block you need 4 different fabrics

If I did this again I would swap the dark and patterned fabrics in the centre - I think the contrast would be better - Hey ho!



The squares round the outside use  
Fabrics A (light) and (B) dark

A and B      Cut 1 x 8in square

A      Cut 4 x 3 1/2 in squares



The central motif uses fabrics A (light), C (patterned) and D (Darkest)

A and C      cut 1 x 5 in square  
D      cut 2 x 5 in squares

Use your 2 x 8in squares to make 8 half square triangles - just like we did in June, when we made the Flock of Geese.



A



These 8 HSTs will combine with the 4 x 3 1/2 in squares to make the border of the block.  
(Don't join at this stage)

For the centre motif we are going to make 4 x split quarter squares

This is a bit tricky and you may find this you tube video helpful:

<https://youtu.be/ZQ4KClozSt8?si=aeq1iQFSvgzzJmMt>



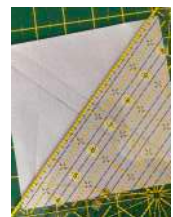
To start we use the 5 in squares in A and C to make 2 half square triangles, like we did in the Windmill in May and June's Flock of Geese.

Then place D squares right sides together with these HSTs



There are 2 ways to mark your stitching lines for this stage.  
If you have a quilter's quarter ruler line up the centre of the ruler with the corners and draw diagonal lines each side of the ruler.

OR, using any quilting ruler line up the 1/4 in line with the centre of the square, draw one diagonal line then repeat other side of the centre.



Mark both diagonals in this way.

Mark the centre lines in the centre of the cross formed by your lines



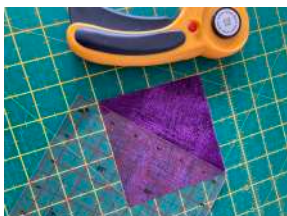
Stitch on the left hand line on the first diagonal down to the centre.  
Then stitch across the centre to right hand line and complete stitching this diagonal on this line.

Repeat on the other diagonal.

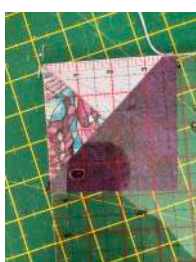
I have stitched the two lines in different colours to help you see where to stitch.



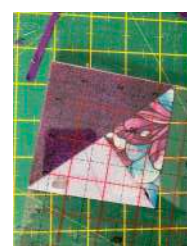
Cut through the centre of diagonal lines to make 4 triangles.



Cut squares D in half diagonally.  
Place right sides together with each of the split triangles  
Stitch together.



Press open and trim to 3 1/2 inches,  
taking care to keep the diagonals central.





These 4 split quarter square triangles (SQST) will make the central motif.

You can put the block together row by row as we've done before.

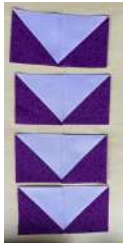
OR



Because of the way my brain works I chose to put the central motif together first and then build the border around it.

Join split quarter squares in pairs

Join the pairs to make a square



Join the HSTs in pairs



Join a Pair of HSTs each side of the centre



Join a square to each end of each of the remaining pairs of HSTs



Join these strips to top and bottom of centre to complete the block.