Creating and Designing with Disappearing Blocks—Mary Scarlato 10/27/26

Example 1: Nine Patch

Use 5 inch squares
Fabric A for center and corners
Fabric B for horizontal positions
Fabric C for vertical positions
After making the 9 patch, cut through center, vertically and horizontally, to produce a 4 patch. Arrange in various ways.

Example 2: Two Nine Patches

Make two nine patch blocks using 5 inch squares.

For one block, use Fabric A (for example, cream) in the corners and the center position; for the other block, use Fabric B (for example, black) in the corners and the center position. In the remaining positions in both blocks, use identical fabric, Fabric C.

Sew these two nine-patch blocks. Then, cut through the center vertically and again horizontally; then, but the block diagonally. Re-arrange!

Example 3: Hour Glass

Use two 10 inch squares of contrasting fabric.
With right sides together, sew 1/4” from edges.
Cut on diagonals.
Produces four Half Square Triangles.
Trim according to video’s instructions (6.25” half square triangle patch)
Sew to form Hour Glass block.
Cut according to video’s instructions.

Example 4: Pinwheel

Repeat Example 3 EXCEPT arrange the half square triangles into a Pinwheel.
Follow same trimming and cutting procedures described in video.
Rearrange to form several different blocks.

Example 5: Courthouse Steps

Use two contrasting fabrics. Final block measures 17.25” square. Make 2 of Block 1 and 4 of Block 2. Fat Quarters work well; two fat quarters used.

**** Block 1—–Make 2.***

From Fabric A, cut (2) 2.5” squares and strips 3” wide strips
From Fabric B, cut 1.75” wide strips
Create Courthouse Steps sewing 1.75” strips around 2.5” square and then add 3” strip around.
Make two blocks. Square up to 9.5” block. Next, cut each block on diagonal, producing 4 triangles.

**** Block 2–Make 4.***

Cut four 4.75” squares from Fabric A.

Cut four 5.25” squares from Fabric B. Next, cut these on the diagonal.

See video for adding two Fabric B triangles to each Fabric A square, producing four triangles equivalent in size to triangles produced for Block A. Trim to match Block 1 triangles.

Arrange in a variety of ways for a 17.25” block.

Additional Video Links to Disappearing Blocks below:

Also, check out “Vinuta Sewing” on Youtube—Super creative—with very little!