

PQG Block of the Month February 2022

Make a Duck Tracks Quilt Block

From our Free Quilt Block Pattern Library

If it walks like a duck...

Quacks like a duck...

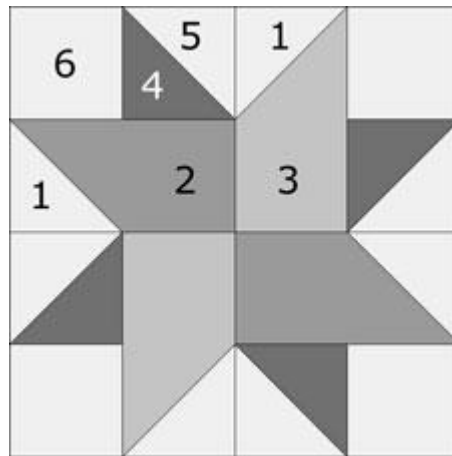
It must be...

...a Duck Tracks quilt block!

Use a colorful background and solids for then star. Make the 12 ½” unfinished size



General Instructions



The Duck Tracks pattern

Sample Size: 12" finished /12½" unfinished

Patch		Fabric		Qty		Finished Block Size			
						4"	6"	8"	12"
1, 6		Bac		8	1½" x 1½"	2" x 2"	2½" x 2½"	3½" x 3½"	
2		A		2	1½" x 2½"	2" x 3½"	2½" x 4½"	3½" x 6½"	
3		B		2	1½" x 2½"	2" x 3½"	2½" x 4½"	3½" x 6½"	
4*		C		2	1⅞" x 1⅞"	2⅜" x 2⅜"	2⅞" x 2⅞"	3⅞" x 3⅞"	
5*		Bac		2	1⅞" x 1⅞"	2⅜" x 2⅜"	2⅞" x 2⅞"	3⅞" x 3⅞"	
Unfinished Block Size					4½"	6½"	8½"	12½"	
Grid Size					1"	1½"	2"	3"	



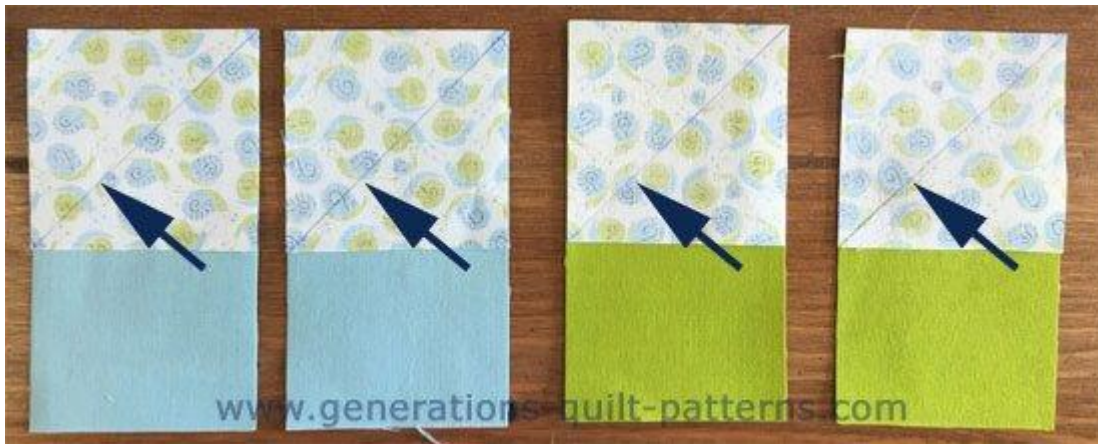
Step 2: Create the units

Connector Corner Rectangles

Make 2 each with #2 and #3

It's a good idea to lay out the #1 light squares, #2 and #3 rectangular patches as shown below. It's much too easy to turn the #1 squares the other way. (The drawn line should touch the upper right corner of the short side of the rectangular patches.)

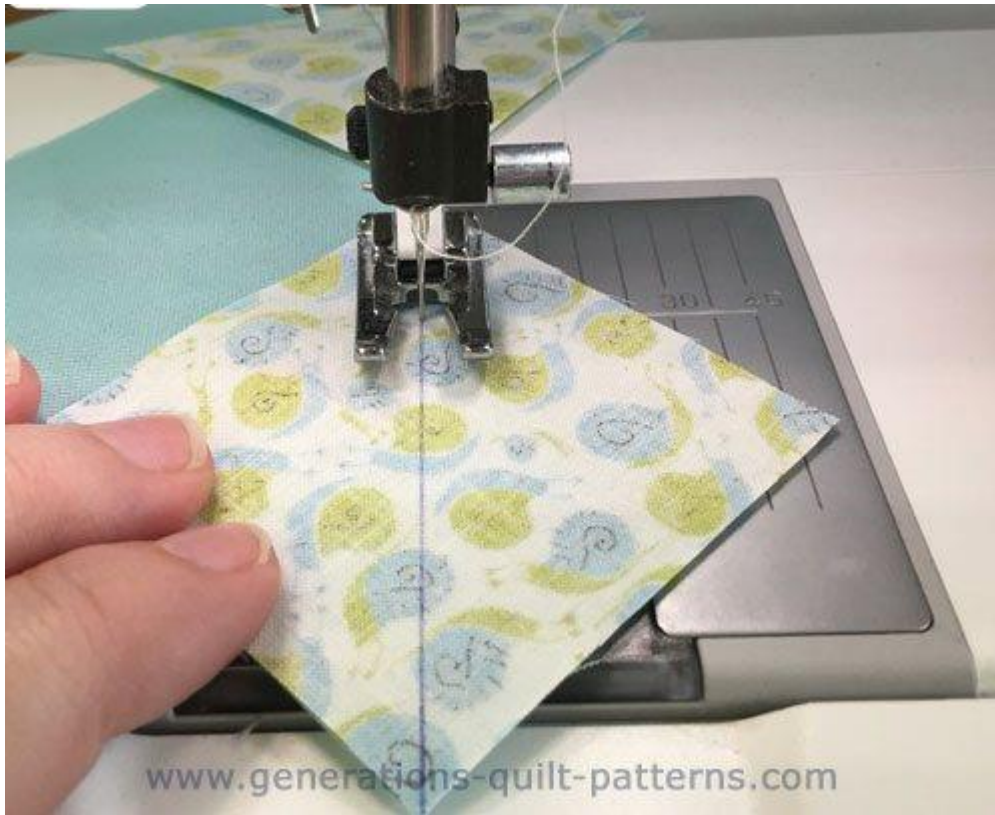
Ripping is not my idea of a good time.



Draw the

line only as dark as you need to see it.

Sew on the drawn line. I prefer my open toe applique foot for this. It sure is easy to see that line, isn't it!



Your line should just

dark enough for you to see. Here I've used a pen to mark (a no-no) so that you could see the line clearly—one of those 'do as I say, not as I do' moments...

Trim away the excess #1 (light square) fabric from the #2s and #3s, leaving behind a quarter inch seam allowance. Eyeballing this cut and using a scissor is good enough.

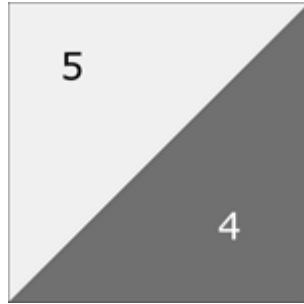
Press the units flat to set the seam and then with the #1 opened and towards the corner.



*Repeat for all 4 units—two blue
and two green for our sample Duck Tracks block.*

Half Square Triangles (HST)

Make 4



We're using the Quick Pieced method for our HST units.

I've used the [Quick Quarter Ruler](#) to mark the stitching lines. Sewing with an open toe applique foot makes the lines easier to see.



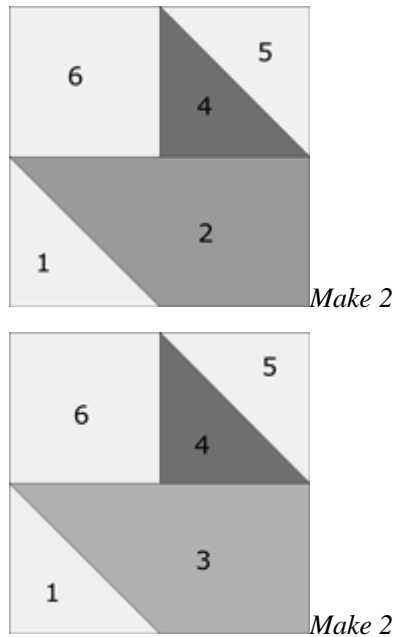
Again, I've used pen so that you can see the lines. For your project, use something a bit less permanent. My marker of choice is the Bohin Mechanical Chalk pencil.

Finished Block Size	Trim HSTs to...
12"	3-1/2"

Duck Tracks units

Make two units with #2 and two with #3

From this point forward use your favorite quarter inch foot.



With RST, stitch a HST to a #6 background square. Press the SA away from the HST. (Arrow 1)

Stitch this to the Connector Corner unit. Press SA toward the Connector corner unit. (Arrow 2)



Press SA in the

direction of the arrows.

12"	6-1/2" x 6-1/2"
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Make any adjustments you need before assembling the block

The units are rotated a 1/4 turn as you move around the block.

Stitch the units into rows.

I urge my students to make a sample block when starting a new quilt pattern.

This particular block illustrates one of the reasons why.

I anticipated pressing the seams that join the blocks into rows **AWAY** from the connector corner units (away from the bright green and towards the light blue) to minimize bulk.

I was totally wrong.

Press the SA **TOWARD** the green(#3) and in the direction of the arrows.

To complete the block, sew the rows together. Use pins to help you match those points if needed. ([Click here if you need help pin matching your points.](#))

Ta-Da! It's finished!



