

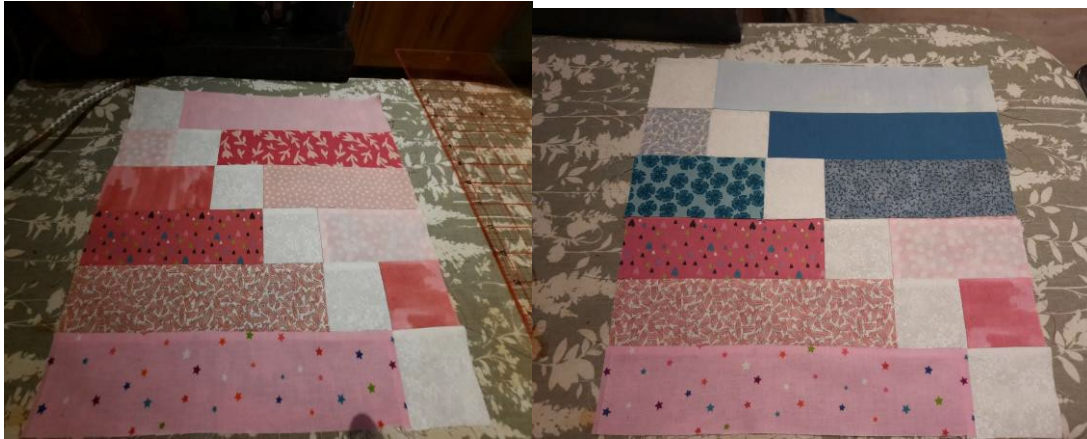
Sticks and stones Belated Birthday Block.

Our “traditional” block to celebrate our formation in October. This block uses 2.5” strips but of course you can cut from yardage.

The white or white on white “stone” is the same in each block

Pink or blue fabrics are our sticks this time. Your choice of either all pinks, or all blues, OR 1 side pinks, t'other blues in each block.

Try to have at least 4 different fabrics in each block for the “sticks”, patterned or plain but please, no large florals.



I'm using these and in this formation

For each block cut

6 x 2.5” squares in your white for the stones

From your coloured fabrics cut the following :-

Two 2.5” x 2.5”

Two 4.5”x 2.5”

Two 6.5”x 2.5”

Two 8.5”x2.5”

two 10.5”x2.5”

When putting the block together, please be careful to check and use 1/4” seams and press to the side away from the white stone.



I would strongly suggest that you press the stick/stone seam fully before you attempt any joining of the strips, and be very careful not to stretch the material. Seams need to be as accurate as you can or the block won't finish the correct size, 12 1/2”. Finger pressing of these seams isn't always enough to make them lie flat and true.

Method

Lay your chosen materials out as described below. Each of the 6 strips has a white "stone" in it.

On the top line, the 10.5" strip lies with a white stone to its left

2nd line, the stone has a 2.5" strip on its left side and an 8.5" strip on the right.

3rd line, the stone has a 4.5" strip on left side and a 6.5" strip on the right

4th line, the stone has a 6.5" strip on the left side and the last 4.5" strip on the right

5th line, the stone has 8.5" strip on the left side, and the 2.5" on the right

6th line, the stone has the 10.5" strip on its right.

Then:

Join the 2 fabrics on the top line, and press the seam away from the white stone

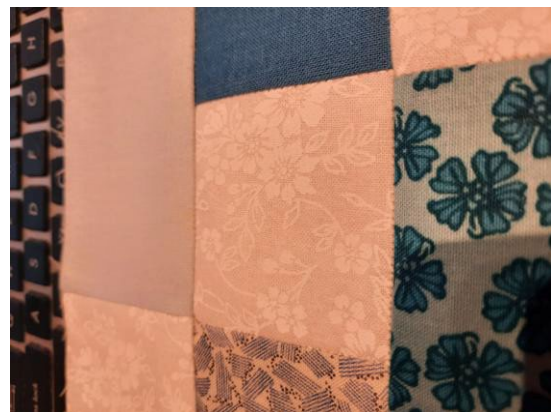
Work all 6 strips the same way.

Join the strips so the white stones cross from top left to bottom right with the strips horizontal.

I work the strips to make 2 groups, as below :-



Turn the 2nd group of 3 strips around 180 degrees, so that its stones now run mid left to bottom right. Sew the 2 groups together.



Be careful to match the seams where the white stones meet.

Keep those ¼" seams !! As there are lots of seams in this block it is easy to loose some depth.

Also, it's easy to stretch the lines, making the square squiffy. Ask me how I know.....

Check block measures 12.5"x 12.5"