



Q4CL Block drive
June 2024
Dancing rectangles
Debbie Smith



A simple but effective block using 2.5inch strips, requiring a feature fabric and either black or white background. Can be made using yardage, precuts, jelly roll strips, left over strips from binding or from your stash.

Fabric requirements:

For background fabric: Plain black **or** white fabric: 2.5 inch x 27.5 inch total (subcuts below)
 Please use black or white fabric, plain/solid/tone on tone all fine but must read as solid.

For Feature fabric: 2.5 inch x 26 inch total (subcuts below)

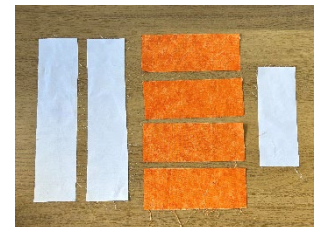
You can use plain, solid, blender, batiks or tone on tone prints. Small patterns are also ok but please ensure the feature fabric 'reads' as a single colour.

Any colour of fabric but please ensure good contrast between feature fabric and the background – the contrast is what makes this pattern work.

If you have a darker colour feature fabric I'd suggest a white background.

Please do not use anything other than quilting weight cotton fabric i.e. no curtaining, stretch, suiting or upholstery fabrics. We are also unable to use blocks that include licensed fabrics.

Please use a ¼ inch seam allowance throughout.



Step 1:

Cut your background and feature fabrics to size

Feature fabric: 4 strips 2.5 x 6.5 inches (same fabric for all strips please)

Background fabric 1 strip 2.5 x 6.5 inches

2 strips 2.5 x 10.5 inches

Step 2: Using a ¼ inch seam allowance, sew a 6.5 inch feature fabric strip to either size of the 2.5 x 6.5 inch background strip, making a 6.5 x 6.5 inch square. Press seams to the dark side (see note below).

Front

Back

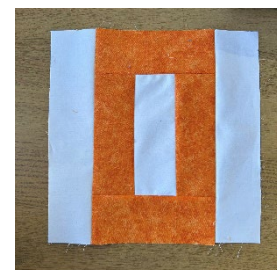
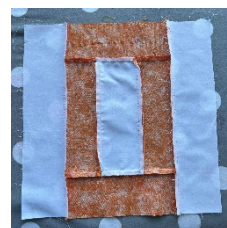


Step 3: Sew the two remaining feature strips to the top and bottom of the square, creating a 6.5 x 10.5 rectangle with the background fabric inside. Press seams to dark side.



Step 4: Sew the two 10.5 inch background strips along the long edge of the rectangle, creating a 10.5 x 10.5 inch square. Press seams to dark side.

You should now have a 10.5 x 10.5 inch square. If it comes out larger or smaller please send anyway as I'm sure I'll find it some friends.



Ironing note:

As we are using high contrast fabrics to avoid seeing shadows of the seams, please press seams to towards the darker fabric (if using a black background this will be towards the black, if using a white background this will be towards the feature fabric, as seen here).

Feel free to make as many as you like. Each block should have either black or white background in, but you can of course make more blocks with either colour background.

Each quilt top will need 30 blocks. They may be placed 'on point' with the feature rectangles in alternating directions, dancing over the quilt.

Postage

Please carefully check the postage – cost depends on size, weight and thickness of the envelope. A standard stamp only covers 100g, 0.5cm thick letter. A large letter stamp only covers up to 100g. For anything heavier than 100g, you'll need a different stamp. Under payment incurs penalty charges (currently around £1.50 per parcel) which stack up quickly. Also standard stamps without the barcode strips are no longer valid. Please don't use them or penalty charges will be imposed by Royal Mail. If in doubt, please check at a post office.

