

Disappearing 4 patch, uneven 9 patch or Puss in the Corner.

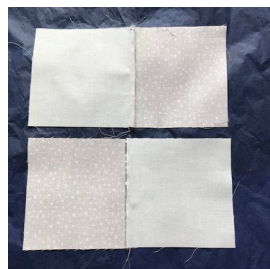
This is a simple, but very effective block but for it to work it needs accurate seam allowances and careful pressing. However, if you can sew a straight line and cut a straight line you can make this block.

Requirements

Two 5 inch squares in each of two fabrics, fabric A and B. (colour choices are discussed after the method)

Method

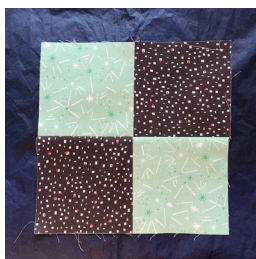
Sew each fabric A square to each fabric B square, using a 0.25 inch seam allowance.



Press seam allowance towards fabric B

Measure to check that your seam allowance is accurate. Each rectangle should measure 9.5 x 5 inches.

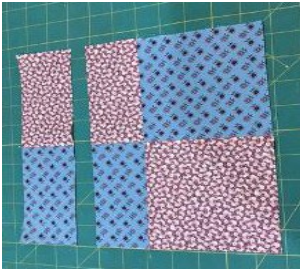
Rotate one of the pairs and nesting the seam allowances sew together to make a 4 patch.



This 4 patch now measures (9.5 inches square). Press carefully.



Place the 4 patch on the cutting board with fabric A on the top left and bottom right, cut a 2.5 inch strip from the left hand edge.



Place this strip on the right hand side of the block and sew in place



Press the seam towards the middle.

The piece now measures 9 x 9.5 inches



Taking care to ensure that Fabric A is on the outer sides on the upper half, cut a 2.5 inch strip off the top.

Re press the seam allowances on the strip to face the opposite way.



Move the strip cut off to the top to the bottom, and nesting the seams, sew to complete the block.

You now have a 9 inch square, and the 4 patch has disappeared and is now a completed uneven 9 patch.



Fabric Choice.

I have chosen this block to use up unloved charm packs and layer cakes, but equally 5 inch squares can easily be cut from larger scraps, fat quarters, or yardage.

I would like two alternatives

a) anything and white. This can be white, white on white or off white, I just want it to read as white next to the other fabric. I want a mixture of squares with white as fabric A or fabric B.



b) anything goes (but only two fabrics per block)! However, much as I love scrappy looking quilts and love putting colours together, it is much better if you pair muted colours with muted colours, and brights with brights. This will enable the finished quilts look much more cohesive. Again the lighter fabrics needs to be in either Fabric A or fabric B to give variety of finished blocks. (see example below)



