

# 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 black “stone” is the same in each block. PLEASE do not use black batik for the stones.

Any batik fabrics are used for our sticks this time. Try to have at least 5 or 6 different fabrics in each block for the “sticks”, patterned or plain but please, no florals if possible.

I’m using my fabrics in this formation:



Figure A

## Cut

6 x 2.5” squares in black for the stones

From your batiks 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”

Please be careful to check and use 1/4” seams and press to the dark side. 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. Finger pressing of these seams isn’t always enough to make them lie flat and true.



## Method

Lay your chosen materials out as in Figure A. Each of the 6 strips has a black “stone” in it.

On the top line, the 10.5” strip lies with a black stone to its left

2<sup>nd</sup> line, the stone has a 2.5” strip on its left side and an 8.5” strip on the other.

3<sup>rd</sup> line, the stone has a 4.5” strip on left side and a 6.5” strip on the other

4<sup>th</sup> line, the stone has a 6.5" strip on the left side and the last 4.5" strip on the other  
5<sup>th</sup> line, the stone has 8.5" strip on the left side, and the 2.5" on the other  
6<sup>th</sup> line, the stone has the 10.5" strip on its right.

Then:

Join the 2 fabrics on the top line, and press to the dark side

Work all 6 strips the same way.

You end up with 6 strips all 12.5" long.



Showing SEAM/rear side of the block

Join the strips so that when you look at the **right side** of the block, the black stones cross from top left to bottom right with the strips horizontal (as in Figure A) Press all of the strips in the same direction.

Be careful to match the seams where the black stones are. 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"

Enjoy !!