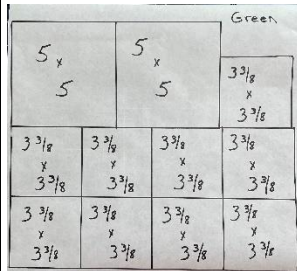


Illinois Block

Materials Needed:

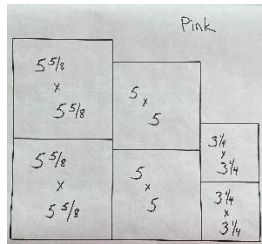
Fabric 1: Green

- A. Two 5 inch squares
- B. Nine 3 3/8 inch squares



Fabric 2: Pink

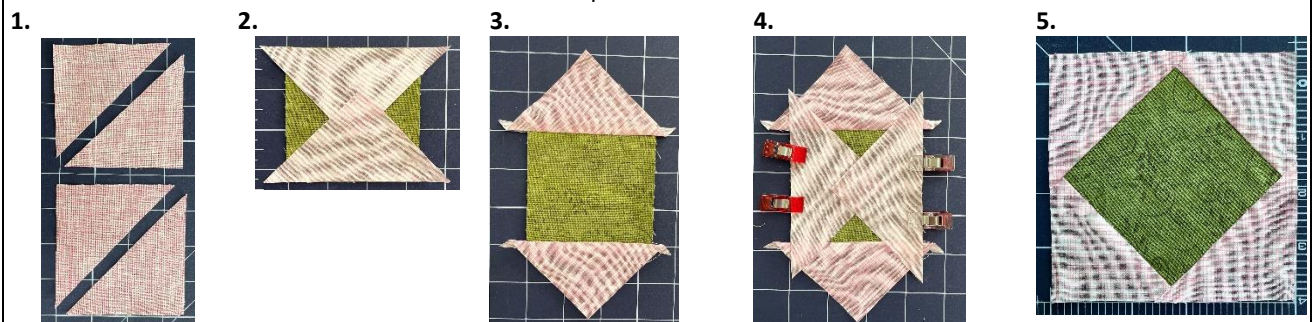
- C. Two 5 5/8 inch squares
- D. Two 5 inch squares
- E. Two 3 1/4 inch squares



Block size: 12 1/2 inches unfinished

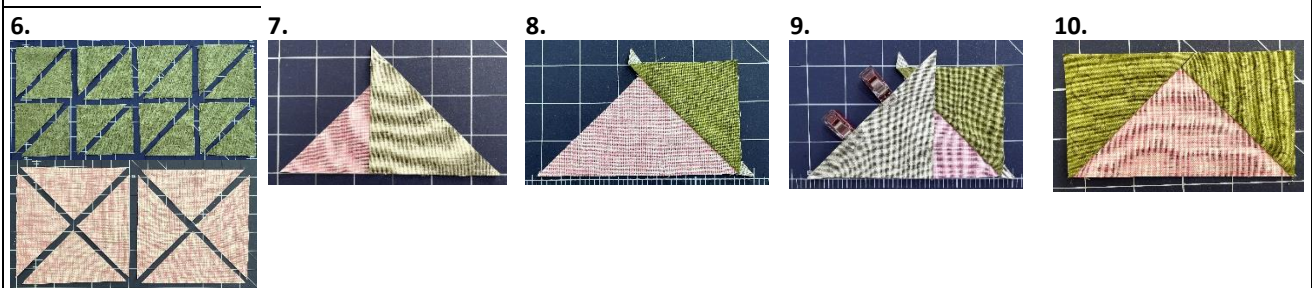
Step 1: Make the center diamond

Cut the two 3 1/4 inch squares (E) in half on the diagonal as shown in photo 1. Place two of the triangles on opposite sides of one of the B square, with the points of the triangles extending equally on each side of the square, as shown in photo 2. Stitch and press toward the triangles. See photo 3. Place the remaining two triangles on the other two sides of the B square, lining up as before. See photo 4. Stitch and press toward the triangles. THIS UNIT MUST BE TRIMMED SO THAT IT IS EXACTLY 4 1/2 INCHES. LINE UP 2 1/4 INCHES ON YOUR RULER AT THE CENTER POINTS OF THE SQUARE AND TRIM ONE SIDE. REPEAT WITH THE OTHER SIDES. See photo 5. Set aside.



Step 2: Make the flying geese units

Cut the two C squares twice on the diagonal, and cut the remaining eight B squares once on the diagonal as shown in photo 6. Line up one B triangle on the right side of a C triangle, lining up the bottom and side edges. Stitch, and press toward the green triangle. Line up another B triangle on the left side of the C triangle, lining up the bottom and left sides. Stitch and press toward the green triangle. Repeat with the remaining C and B triangles; you should have eight total flying geese when you are done. THESE RECTANGLES MUST BE TRIMMED TO EXACTLY 2 1/2 X 4 1/2 INCHES. LINE UP THE CENTER POINT OF THE PINK TRIANGLE ON YOUR CUTTING MAT, AND TRIM THE SIDES 2 1/4 INCHES FROM THE CENTER POINT. THEN TRIM THE TOP 1/4 INCH ABOVE THE POINT OF THE PINK TRIANGLE. FINALLY TRIM THE BOTTOM PARALLEL TO THE TOP, 2 1/2 INCHES FROM THE TOP EDGE. Set aside.



Illinois Block

Step 3: Make the half square triangles

Mark the two D squares on the diagonal as shown in photo 11. Right sides together, layer the D and A squares. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from each side of the drawn diagonal line. Cut on the line. Press toward the green. Trim each square to exactly $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. LINE UP THE SQUARE WITH THE DIAGONAL SEAM ON THE DIAGONAL LINE ON YOUR CUTTING MAT, WITH A SLIGHT AMOUNT OF OVERLAP ON EACH SIDE OF THE SQUARE. TRIM THE TOP AND RIGHT SIDE FIRST, THEN ROTATE 180 DEGREES, LINE UP, AND TRIM THE TOP AND RIGHT SIDES AGAIN. BE SURE TO KEEP THE DIAGONAL SEAM DIRECTLY ON THE DIAGONAL LINE ON YOUR MAT. See photo 13. You should have four half square triangles that measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, as shown in photo 14.

11.



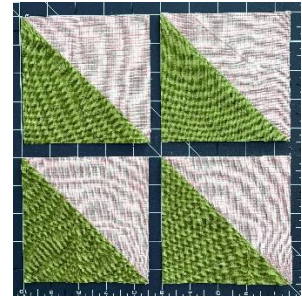
12.



13.



14.



Step 4: Assembling the block

First combine the flying geese into pairs. Take two flying geese and line up as shown in photo 15. Flip the top over, and line up the seam; stitch and press toward the top unit. Repeat with the other three sets. See photo 16.

Next, line up all squares as shown in photo 17. Join together the top three squares; be sure to line up the points of the triangles so they are at the seam. Stitch and press the seams toward the center. Repeat with the middle row, but press the seams toward the side squares. Repeat with the bottom row, pressing toward the center.

Finally, join the top and bottom rows to the center row, lining up the seams and aligning the points of the triangles.

15.



16.



17.



18.

