

Northwest Quilters 2009-2010
Block of the Month
"A Walk Through the Garden"

This is the information for the Block of the Month for 2009-2010. The block patterns will be the same each month. I've kept the blocks simple, to encourage participation.

The theme is "A Walk Through the Garden". As you might suspect, these blocks will contain focus fabric that reminds us of plants found in the garden. I am asking that you find fabric that is typical of what you would find in a garden each month. (See suggestion list below.) You will also need a small amount of white on white each month, plus a tone on tone or marble fabric that reads as a solid to coordinate with your focus fabric.



These are my August blocks. Geraniums are the fabric I chose for this month, but it could easily have been roses, nasturtiums, daisies, ferns, marigolds, petunias, clematis, verbena, fuchsias, impatiens, etc.

I am keeping a set for myself each month and at the end of the year I'll have 24 - 9" blocks to use to make a quilt. With 2" sashing and 6" borders, I will be able to make a quilt approximately 56 x 78! By making two blocks each month, the 9 patch and the bordered square, there should be enough blocks in the drawing each month to easily make a small lap or wall hanging with that would portray seasonal flowers. I can see these set with lattice style sashing in either black or dark green, or possibly even white. A garden maze setting would also be nice. They could also just be set side by side without a sashing.

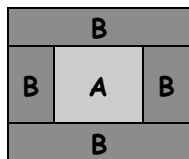
Fabric and Cutting:

this will yield 4 blocks, 2 to keep and 2 to bring to the meeting for the drawing.

- 1 fat quarter of focus fabric. (1/4 yard WOF will work as well) Fabric A
cut two (2) $5 \frac{1}{2}$ " squares and eight (8) $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- 1 - $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " strip of coordinating tone on tone or marble - Fabric B
cut two (2) $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " squares and four (4) rectangles $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " x $5 \frac{1}{2}$ "
- 1 - $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " strip of coordinating tone on tone or marble - Fabric B
cut four (4) rectangles $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " x $9 \frac{1}{2}$ "
- 1 - $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " strip of bright white, tone on tone - Fabric C
cut eight (8) $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " squares

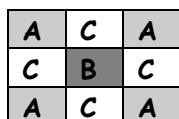
Note: If you prefer to strip piece, you will want four (4) $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " x 15" strips of fabric A rather than the eight (8) $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " squares, and two (2) $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " x 15" strips and two (2) $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " squares of fabric C.

Sewing the border squares: Use a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam to make this a full $9\frac{1}{2}$ " unfinished block.
Make 2



Stitch the two $5\frac{1}{2}$ " strips of (B) to opposite sides of the focal (A) $5\frac{1}{2}$ " square. Press seams to the outsides. Stitch the two $9\frac{1}{2}$ " strips to the other two sides of the square. Press seams to the outside. Square your block to $9\frac{1}{2}$ ".
 Simple

Sewing the nine patch blocks: Use a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam to make this a full $9\frac{1}{2}$ " unfinished block.
Make 2



Stitch the 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " squares together to form the nine patch. Press seams to the darker Fabric where possible. Use the focal fabric on the corners and the coordinate in the Middle. Square your block to $9\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Monthly focal fabric suggestions....

August	Geraniums, roses, impatiens, daisies, clematis, lavender, salvia, petunias, marigolds, hydrangeas, zinnias, cosmos, day lilies, gladiolus, etc
September	Dahlias, sunflowers, black-eyed susans, asters, mums, etc. plus the list from August
October	Dahlias, sunflowers, asters, mums, pansies, autumn leaves, etc.
November	Mums, pansies, autumn leaves, seed pods, grasses, etc.
December	Evergreen boughs, holly, berries, pine cones, etc.
January	Bare twigs, possibly snow covered tree branches... evergreen boughs, berries, pinecones, (not Christmas looking)
February	Helebores, crocus, primroses, lily of the valley, other early spring bloomers, etc.
March	Daffodils, Hyacinths, forsythia, forget-me-nots, Iris, primroses, pansies, violets, dogwood, Cherry blossoms, etc.
April	Forget-me-nots, Iris, pansies, camellias, foxgloves, columbine, bleeding hearts, etc.
May	Sweet peas, peonies, snapdragons, poppies, roses, wisteria, dianthus, columbine, rhodies, azaleas, ferns, etc.
June	Pick from the May or July lists! There is so much in bloom this time of year!
July -draw at June Mtg.	Hydrangeas, Geraniums, roses, impatiens, daisies, clematis, lavender, salvia, petunias, marigolds, etc see August also....

Most of all, have fun!

These are only guidelines and suggestions. If you are lucky enough to have other floral fabrics in your stash that we see in our gardens, feel free to use it on the appropriate month.

If you have any questions, please contact me...

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