

Block of The Month 2019: Block #11

Can you believe this is block 11! This year has flown by and so far no one has cut off any fingers. Our block this month is called Honeycomb. Now the housekeeping details: if you are turning in blocks at the guild meeting, the focus fabric this year is Modern Movement by Henry Glass (available at the meetings for \$2 per fat quarter.) The other fabrics you need are a coordinating fabric based on the colors in the focus fabric, a gray fabric and a white fabric. The blocks are due at the January 2020 meeting. If you are just making blocks for yourself – we suggest that you find a focus fabric to tie together blocks when making your quilt.

We encourage you to make two blocks, so you have one to keep. The Guild's Facebook page should have a post directing you to the YouTube instructions for this block.

Cut list -- For one block:

Focus fabric: one 3" X 5" rectangle

Gray fabric: seven 3" X 5" rectangles

White fabric: four 3.5" X 6.5" rectangles

Coordinating-color fabric: four 3.5" X 6.5" rectangles

Now, take the gray and focus fabric rectangles and stack them in even number groups, facing together. Use a ruler and make a diagonal cut through all these rectangles. They need to be facing so that you have the same number of pieces of each cut (they are different depending on which way you cut.) Sort the pieces, right sides up, so you have a stack of each of the triangles (two stacks.)

Assembling the block:

Please watch the YouTube video if you are confused. We go into more detail in the video.

- Fold the remaining rectangles (all the white and coordinating fabric) in half through the long side and then in half again the same direction. Press these folds. This marks with creases, the quarters along the 6.5" side. We need to cut off two corners of the rectangles, so unfold once-- it should now be folded in half. Use a ruler and place one end at the first crease and the other end diagonally toward the open end, $\frac{1}{4}$ " up from the bottom. Cut along the ruler and you will have cut off corners on either side. See photo 2. Repeat for each of these rectangles.
- At this point you can try to plan out your block, but the easiest way is to wait and just put the new corners on the blocks. To put on the corners, unfold one of the pieces you just cut the corners off of with the cut corners up. Take one triangle from each stack. Right sides together, place the 5" side of the triangles along the diagonal cut, then move each it up slightly so it is about $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the other piece and pin in place. The triangle pieces should overlap each other quite a bit in the center (photo 3.) If they don't, check to see you have the correct side of the triangle against the cut edge. Now sew these corners on. It is easier to sew if you start at the top end as shown in photo 3 (not the narrow part of the triangle.) Press corners out. Repeat for the other seven rectangles.
- Now we need to trim these back to 3.5" X 6.5" rectangles. Use a ruler that is at least 6.5" wide. Use the uncut edge and the press mark down the middle. Measure 3.25" from the center crease to find the side edges and the uncut top and bottom to trim those sides even. See photo 4.
- Arrange your rectangles to form the honeycomb block shown in



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4

photo 1. You can arrange them in any order you like, just make sure that there are two vertical rows of four that measure 12.5" when sewn together. Sew with a scant or exact 1/4" seam pressing as you go.

- Use your 12.5" square-up ruler to verify the block is 12½" X 12½". Repeat to make a second block to keep!

The winner of the blocks at the January meeting was Ida Colvin

Adriane Ridder & Shelly McNeely
Block of the Month Coordinators