

FEBUARY BLOCK OF THE MONTH

THIS IS CALLED THE "ZIG ZAG" BLOCK BY "FRESHLY PIECED"
THE FINISHED BLOCK IS 12 1/2"

THIS IS ANOTHER SCRAP BUSTER; WE'RE USING A CREAM AND ANYTHING YOU HAVE LAYING AROUND THAT YOU LIKE.

I TEND TO CUT A LARGE 8" SQUARE AND DO SHORT CUTS TO MAKE THEM 4" SQUARES. YOU MAY CUT ALL YOUR SQUARES 4" INCHES IF YOU LIKE, BUT I'M ALL ABOUT SPEED!

MARK A LINE DIAGONALLY, CORNER TO CORNER ON THE CREAM COLOR SQUARE, THIS IS YOUR GUIDE.

CHECK YOUR SEAM ALLOWANCE! I HAVE TWO MACHINES AND THEY MEASURE DIFFENTLY SO I MARKED THEM TO BE THE SAME. WE WILL BE MATCHING WITH OTHER SEWERS. I KNOW I'M PREACHING TO THE CHOIR BUT I LEARNED THE HARD WAY. :>(SEW A 1/4" SEAM FROM THIS LINE, (**NOT A SCANT 1/4**).

I CHAIN STITCH ALL MY SQUARES.

SNIP THREADS AND CUT YOUR SQUARES ON THE MARKED LINE, YOU WILL HAVE 2 COMPLETED 1/2 SQUARE TRIANGLES.

I USE SPRAY STARCH AND PRESS MY SEAMS TO THE DARK SIDE, IF YOU WANT TO OPEN YOUR SEAMS FEEL FREE, THAT'S WHAT THE INSTRUCTION SAID; I DIDN'T AND IT CAME OUT FINE. IT'S VERY HARD TO UNPRESS AND REPRESS YOUR SEAM ALLOWANCE THE RIGHT WAY, IT HAS MEMORY AND DOESN'T WANT TO GO THE RIGHT WAY, LAY YOUR DARK SIDE OF YOUR TRIANGLE UP AND PRESS SEAM AWAY FROM YOU.

TRIM YOUR TWO COLORED SQUARES TO 3 1/2". TRIM DOG EARS.

FOLLOW THE DIAGRAM FOR YOUR LAYOUT AND STITCH TOGETHER. CHECK YOUR LAYOUT BEFORE YOU STITCH; I HAD TO DO A COUPLE OF FROG STITCHES HERE BECAUSE I DIDN'T PAY ATTENTION. I CHAINED STITCHED THESE. SPRAY STARCH AGAIN AND PRESS THE SEAMS OPEN.

WHEN DOING YOUR LAYOUT MAKE SURE YOUR SEAM ALLOWANCES ALTERNATE SO YOU WON'T HAVE A THICK BUMP AT YOUR POINTS. NEST YOUR SEAM ALLOWANCES TOGETHER; IF YOU HAVE THE CUT ON TOP GOING AWAY FROM YOU IT PUSHES IT INTO THE BOTTOM SEAM ALLOWANCE PERFECTLY.

STITCH YOUR SQUARES TOGETHER TO END UP WITH A 12 1/2 "ZIG ZAG SQUARE".

1. Start with 16 – 4" squares. You'll need 8 background squares (I'm using white) and 8 colored squares (my prints).



2. Using a pencil, mark the diagonal on the back of your colored squares.



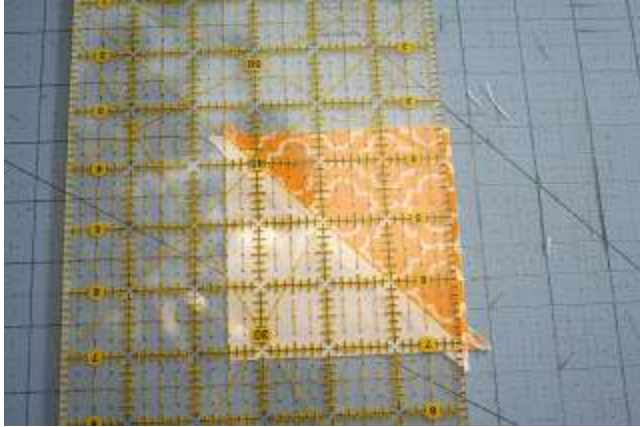
3. Pair up each colored square with a background square, right sides facing. Sew 1/4" away from the marked diagonal, on each side of the line.



4. Cut on the marked lines. You should now have a total of 16 half-square triangle units (HSTs).



5. Press the HSTs open. I always press bias seam allowances open.



6. Trim your HSTs down to 3.5" square, using the 45-degree angle on your ruler or cutting mat.



7. Pair up your HSTs, and sew each pair together so that you have 8 sewn pairs. Make sure all of your HSTs angle in the same direction, as shown above. I accidentally reversed the blue HSTs when I originally sewed this block, and had to tear them out and re-do. The block won't come together correctly if you mix it up!



8. Now pair up your newly-sewn double-HST units. Lay them right-sides facing. Sew your pairs together so that you have four 4-patch units that look like the one above.



9. Now arrange your completed 4-patches as shown above and sew, to complete your Mosaic block. Your block should finish at 12.5" square.