

SPLIT NINE PATCH

This is another way to make the split nine patch without having to make half square triangles. It is a method I learned from watching Jackie Robinson's video "Strip and Slash". You will need 6 dark fabrics and 6 light fabrics. You will do the same procedure for both the light and the dark fabrics. Be sure you make your cuts accurate and use a scant quarter inch seam allowance.

1. Cut two $3\frac{1}{4}$ " strips 6" long from two of the fabrics (fat strips)
2. Cut four $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strips 6" long from the other four fabrics (skinny strips)
- Now sew one skinny strip to each side of one of the fat strips. (Unit A)
- Sew two skinny strips to the right side of the remaining 2 fat strips. (Unit Bs)

PRESSING SEAMS IN THE CORRECT DIRECTION IS IMPORTANT HERE. On Unit A, press the seams to the outside. On Unit B, press the seams to the inside.

3. NOW cut these pressed units A and B into $2\frac{1}{2}$ " slices.
4. Placing the slice with the fat center in the middle, sew two skinny skinny, fat slices on either side, keeping the fat to the bottom, nesting the seams and then stitch. You now have a 9 patch, with the larger squares running from the top left thru the center to the bottom right.
5. Where the fat square meets the other fat square, snip the seam allowance to the stitching line about a $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge which will allow the seams to fall in the direction you need to press them.

REPEAT FOR THE DARK FABRICS (or light if you started with the dark).

6. Using a ruler with a 45 degree angle, place the mark where the 45° line intersects the $1/4$ " mark at the bottom right corner of the block, the 45 degree line will run along the bottom of the block. You will notice that the ruler runs across the block, intersecting the middle fat square at roughly $\frac{1}{4}$ " at the top and bottom. Make the cut with your rotary cutter.
7. Now sew a light half to a dark half, nesting the seams and stitching. Now you have a split nine patch 😊

*** If you are unsure of the placement of the ruler, you can bring your dark and light blocks to the next meeting and I will assist you in cutting them ... sewing the two halves together is the easy part or if you are at the retreat next weekend, just ask and I will be happy to show you.