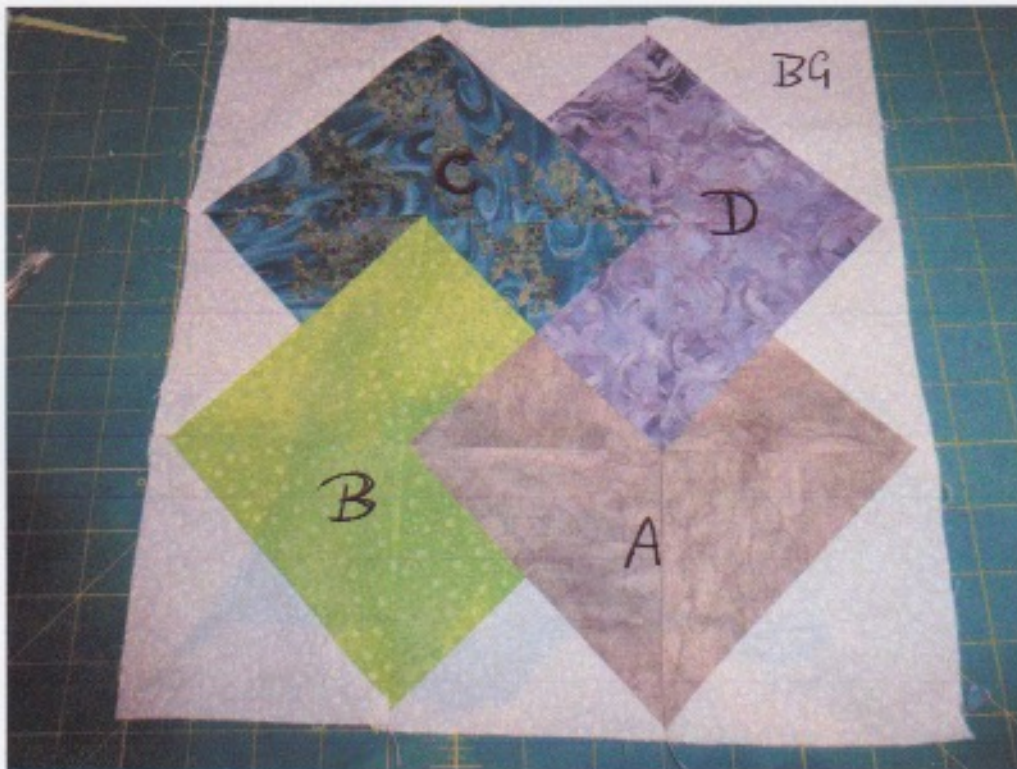


## SEPTEMBER BLOCK OF THE MONTH

### THE CARD TRICK

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There seems some disagreement about how old this block is but it definitely appeared during the 1970's and Jeff Gutcheon included it in a book from that period.



There are several ways to put the block together, and although it is easier to use squares and rectangles, the end result is not as pleasing as if we use triangles, so I have given instructions for that. **Note that several seams will be sewn on the bias, so be careful not to stretch the fabric as you sew.**

Choose four coordinating fabrics and label them A,B,C and D in the order you want them to appear in the block. (See figure 1 ) Select an off-white for the background (BG).

### Cutting:

Background fabric (BG): Two 5 1/4" squares  
One 5 1/2" square

Fabrics A,B,C and D: One 5 1/4 square  
One 5 1/2" square

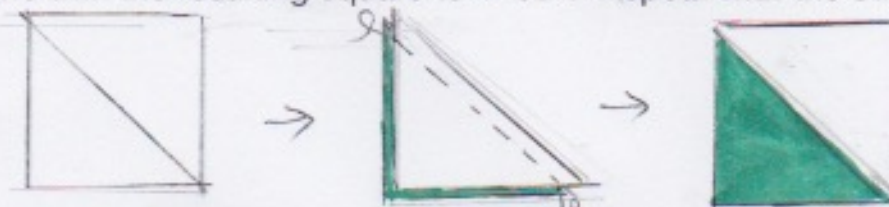
**NOTE: As the squares are so close in size, it's a good idea to label them as you work, so that they do not get mixed up. The same goes for the triangles when you cut them.**

The block is fairly quick to make, but it is a good idea to refer to figure 1 regularly in order to get the orientation of each section correct.

### Assembly:

#### **First make the corner squares.**

Cut the 5 1/4" squares from corner to corner so that you will have 2 triangles of each colour and 4 of the background (BG). Set aside one of each colour and label them. Place one colour triangle on one (BG) and sew down the long side. Press open and trim the resulting square to 4 1/2". Repeat with the other 3 colours.



#### **Next make the 3-patch QST's (quarter square triangles):**

Cut across the diagonals of the 5 1/2" triangles to make 4 triangles of each.



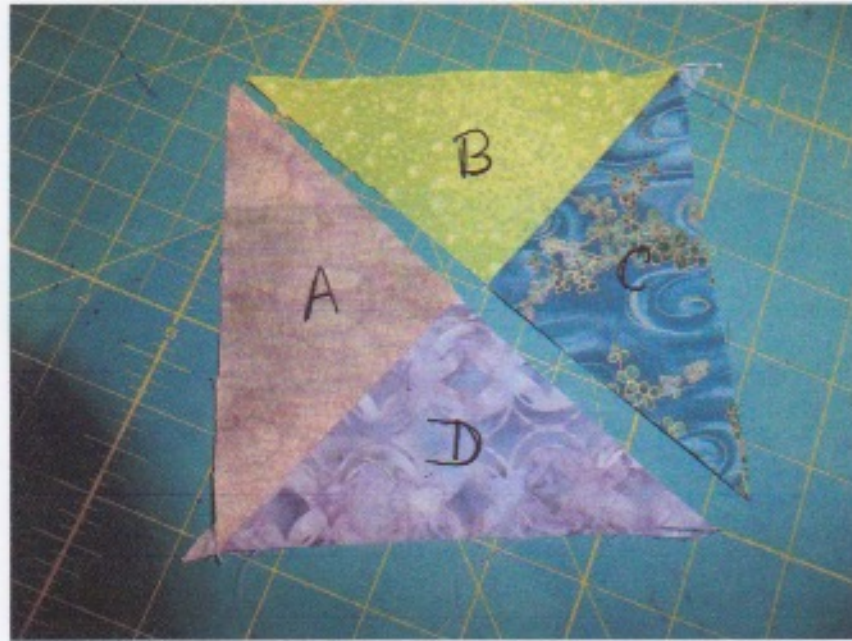
Put a background (BG) triangle on top of one of each of the coloured triangles, right sides together, and stitch along the short side of the triangle, **making sure you have the colours on the same side of the triangle as shown.** Press open.



Now place each of these combination triangles, right sides together, on the remaining triangles that were set aside from the smaller squares. Do this in the following order: (BG) with colour B combination to triangle A ; (BG) with C to triangle B; (BG) with D to triangle C; (BG) with A to triangle D  
Sew along the long edge and trim the resulting square to 4 1/2", making sure the join is at the centre point.



**Assemble the 4-fabric centre QST** using one triangle each of A, B, C and D, making sure the colours are in the order shown in the photo. Trim the square to 4 1/2".



Lay all your squares out and join to make a 12 1/2" block.

(You will have 2 triangles of each colour left. This is because it is easier to cut triangles from a square)

